

roald dahl the man from the south

roald dahl the man from the south is a classic short story that masterfully blends suspense, psychological intrigue, and unexpected twists—hallmarks of Roald Dahl's narrative excellence. This article explores the fascinating background of the story, its plot, memorable characters, and the themes that have made "The Man from the South" a staple in literary discussions and classic anthologies. You will discover the story's origins, its critical reception, adaptations in popular media, and why it continues to captivate readers and audiences worldwide. Whether you are a fan of Roald Dahl's works, a student analyzing the text, or a newcomer seeking to understand its enduring appeal, this comprehensive guide provides everything you need to know about "The Man from the South." Delve into this gripping tale, uncover its deeper meanings, and appreciate why Roald Dahl remains a master storyteller in the suspense genre.

- Background of Roald Dahl and The Man from the South
- Plot Summary of The Man from the South
- Analysis of Main Characters
- Major Themes and Literary Devices
- Critical Reception and Legacy
- Adaptations and Media Appearances
- Interesting Facts About The Man from the South

Background of Roald Dahl and The Man from the South

Roald Dahl is widely recognized as one of the most influential British writers of the 20th century. Known for his vivid imagination, dark humor, and unexpected endings, Dahl's works span children's literature and adult fiction. "The Man from the South" was first published in 1948 in Collier's magazine and later became one of the standout stories in his collection "Someone Like You." This short story exemplifies Dahl's unique style and mastery of suspense, offering readers a tense and psychological experience that lingers long after the final sentence.

The story's postwar origins reflect Dahl's fascination with human nature and the unpredictability of fate. Set in a seemingly ordinary location, it quickly draws readers into a high-stakes psychological game that explores risk, deception, and the limits of trust. Through "The Man from the South," Roald Dahl cemented his reputation for crafting unforgettable tales with powerful twists.

Plot Summary of The Man from the South

"The Man from the South" unfolds in a hotel in Jamaica, where an unnamed narrator encounters a peculiar elderly South American man named Carlos. The plot centers on a tense wager proposed by Carlos to a young American naval cadet. The bet is simple yet chilling: if the young man can successfully light his cigarette lighter ten times in a row, he will win Carlos's luxurious Cadillac. If he fails, Carlos will cut off the young man's little finger.

As the bet commences, the atmosphere grows increasingly tense, with a sense of dread permeating the room. Just as the outcome seems inevitable, a surprising interruption by a woman claiming to be Carlos's wife reveals a shocking backstory and the true danger of the wager. The abrupt ending leaves readers pondering the fates of the characters and the motivations behind such a macabre game.

Analysis of Main Characters

Roald Dahl's "The Man from the South" features a small cast of characters, each adding depth and intrigue to the narrative. Their interactions drive the suspense and psychological tension throughout the story.

The Narrator

The unnamed narrator serves as the reader's guide, observing the events and providing a neutral perspective. His curiosity and unease help build suspense, as he becomes an unwilling witness to the unfolding drama.

Carlos (The Man from the South)

Carlos is the enigmatic antagonist whose calm demeanor masks a dangerous obsession with high-stakes wagers. His polite, almost charming approach contrasts starkly with the sinister nature of his bet, making him one of Roald Dahl's most memorable villains.

The American Cadet

The young naval cadet embodies youth, confidence, and a willingness to take risks. Drawn into Carlos's game by bravado and the lure of a Cadillac, he represents the theme of temptation and the perils of reckless behavior.

Carlos's Wife

The sudden appearance of Carlos's wife is pivotal, revealing his history of dangerous bets and ultimately preventing a tragic outcome. Her presence provides crucial context and delivers the story's final twist.

- The characters' psychological depth enhances the suspense.
- The contrast between Carlos's appearance and his true intentions adds to the story's impact.
- The narrator's neutrality allows readers to form their own judgments about the events.

Major Themes and Literary Devices in The Man from the South

Roald Dahl skillfully weaves several themes and literary devices into "The Man from the South," contributing to its ongoing popularity and critical acclaim.

Suspense and Tension

Suspense is at the core of the story, with Dahl meticulously building tension through dialogue, pacing, and the ever-present threat of violence. The reader is kept on edge, uncertain of what will happen next.

Risk and Temptation

The narrative explores human fascination with risk and the willingness to gamble with one's safety for material gain. The Cadillac represents temptation, while the potential loss (a finger) underscores the dangers of reckless decisions.

Deception and Appearances

Characters in the story are not always what they seem. Carlos's genteel exterior hides sinister motives, while the dramatic entrance of his wife exposes the reality behind his bets.

Irony and Surprise Endings

Dahl is renowned for his use of irony and surprise endings. "The Man from the South" exemplifies this with its unexpected resolution, which leaves the reader questioning assumptions and outcomes.

Critical Reception and Legacy

Since its publication, "The Man from the South" has been widely praised for its masterful suspense and psychological depth. Critics and readers alike have lauded Roald Dahl's ability to craft tightly plotted stories with memorable characters and shocking conclusions.

The story has been included in numerous anthologies and is frequently studied in literature courses for its exemplary use of tension, character development, and narrative structure. Its influence extends to modern suspense and horror genres, inspiring writers and filmmakers to explore similar themes.

Adaptations and Media Appearances

"The Man from the South" has enjoyed considerable success beyond the printed page, with several notable adaptations in television and film.

Alfred Hitchcock Presents

One of the most famous adaptations appeared in the television series "Alfred Hitchcock Presents" in 1960. The episode faithfully recreates the story's suspense and maintains the chilling atmosphere of Dahl's original work.

Tales of the Unexpected

Roald Dahl's own television series, "Tales of the Unexpected," featured "The Man from the South" as an episode, further cementing its status as a classic tale of suspense.

Other Film and TV Adaptations

Other versions have appeared over the years, including a segment in the film "Four Rooms" (1995) directed by Quentin Tarantino. Each adaptation brings its own interpretation while preserving the core elements of tension and surprise.

- Alfred Hitchcock Presents (1960)
- Tales of the Unexpected (1979)
- Four Rooms film segment (1995)
- Multiple radio dramatizations

Interesting Facts About The Man from the South

"The Man from the South" continues to intrigue readers and scholars with its unique backstory and lasting impact.

1. Roald Dahl based elements of the story on real-life gambling anecdotes he heard during his travels.
2. The story's ambiguous ending has led to numerous interpretations and debates among readers.
3. It remains one of the most anthologized short stories in modern literature.
4. The story's use of psychological suspense has influenced many contemporary thriller writers.
5. Roald Dahl's own fascination with luck and chance is reflected in the narrative's central wager.

Conclusion

Roald Dahl's "The Man from the South" is a timeless masterpiece of suspense fiction. Its compelling plot, nuanced characters, and exploration of human psychology have secured its place in literary history. The story's legacy is evident in its continued presence in anthologies, classrooms, and adaptations across media. Whether you are revisiting the tale or discovering it for the first time, "The Man from the South" offers a gripping exploration of risk, temptation, and the unpredictable nature of fate.

Q: What is the main plot of Roald Dahl's "The Man from the South"?

A: The story centers on a tense bet between an elderly man named Carlos and a young American cadet. Carlos wagers his Cadillac against the cadet's little finger, challenging him to light his cigarette lighter ten times in a row without failure.

Q: Who are the main characters in "The Man from the South"?

A: The main characters include the unnamed narrator, Carlos (the man from the south), the young American cadet, and Carlos's wife, who intervenes at a crucial moment in the story.

Q: What themes are explored in "The Man from the South"?

A: Key themes include suspense, risk, temptation, deception, and the unpredictability of human behavior, all set against the backdrop of a high-stakes wager.

Q: When was "The Man from the South" first published, and where?

A: "The Man from the South" was first published in 1948 in Collier's magazine and later included in Roald Dahl's short story collection "Someone Like You."

Q: Has "The Man from the South" been adapted for television or film?

A: Yes, the story has been adapted multiple times, most notably in "Alfred Hitchcock Presents," "Tales of the Unexpected," and as a film segment in "Four Rooms."

Q: What makes Carlos a memorable villain in the story?

A: Carlos's calm demeanor, obsession with dangerous bets, and polite exterior hide a sinister intent, making him a complex and memorable antagonist.

Q: Why is the ending of "The Man from the South" considered ambiguous?

A: The story ends abruptly with the intervention of Carlos's wife, revealing more about his past but leaving the ultimate outcome of the bet and the fate of the characters open to interpretation.

Q: What literary devices does Roald Dahl use in "The Man from the South"?

A: Dahl employs suspense, irony, foreshadowing, and surprise endings, all of which contribute to the story's enduring appeal.

Q: Why is "The Man from the South" considered a classic in

suspense fiction?

A: Its masterful construction of tension, memorable characters, and thought-provoking themes have made it a benchmark in the suspense and psychological thriller genres.

Q: What impact has "The Man from the South" had on popular culture?

A: The story has influenced numerous writers and filmmakers, inspired adaptations, and remains widely studied and enjoyed by audiences around the world.

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Roald Dahl: The Man from the South - Unmasking the Master of the Macabre

Roald Dahl, the name conjures images of whimsical fantastical creatures, courageous young heroes, and deliciously wicked villains. But beyond the fantastical worlds he created for children lies a complex and often unsettling figure. This blog delves deep into the lesser-known aspects of Roald Dahl, exploring the narratives and influences that shaped his unique style, particularly focusing on the chilling short story, "The Man from the South." We'll unpack the story's themes, analyze its impact, and examine how it reflects Dahl's own life and worldview. Prepare to journey beyond the chocolate rivers and Oompa Loompas to discover a darker, more nuanced side of this literary giant.

The Genesis of "The Man from the South": A Tale of Dark Humor and High Stakes

"The Man from the South," first published in 1948, showcases Dahl's mastery of suspense and his fascination with the macabre. Unlike many of his children's books, this story is purely adult fare, a tense thriller with a chilling twist. It revolves around a seemingly chance encounter in a Jamaican hotel between a wealthy American businessman, a mysterious, well-dressed stranger, and a young man desperate for money. The story's power lies not in elaborate special effects or fantastical elements, but in the subtle psychological interplay and the escalating tension. It's a perfect example

of Dahl's ability to craft gripping narratives with economical prose and devastatingly effective plot twists.

Exploring the Story's Themes: Chance, Fate, and the Human Cost of Greed

At its core, "The Man from the South" explores timeless themes. Chance encounters, seemingly random occurrences, shape the characters' destinies. The narrative subtly questions the role of fate versus free will. The story also delves into the destructive power of greed, revealing how the relentless pursuit of wealth can blind individuals to the potential consequences of their actions. The American businessman's arrogance and the young man's desperation are stark reminders of the human condition, highlighting our susceptibility to temptation and the potential for self-destruction.

Dahl's Personal Experiences: A Reflection in the Story's Setting and Atmosphere

Dahl's own life experiences significantly influenced his writing. His time spent in Jamaica, with its exotic landscape and vibrant culture, likely inspired the story's setting. The tropical atmosphere, the luxurious hotel, and the air of casual sophistication create a stark contrast with the underlying tension and the story's eventual dark turn. This juxtaposition is a hallmark of Dahl's style: presenting seemingly benign situations that ultimately devolve into unexpected and often disturbing conclusions. His experiences as a fighter pilot during World War II may have also contributed to the story's underlying sense of impending doom and the inherent risk-taking involved in the central game.

The Enduring Legacy: "The Man from the South" and its Cultural Impact

"The Man from the South" has transcended its initial publication, proving its enduring appeal. Its concise narrative and powerful twist ending have made it a staple of anthologies and short story collections. The story's themes of chance, greed, and the consequences of actions continue to resonate with readers across generations. The story has also been adapted for various media, solidifying its place in popular culture and cementing Dahl's reputation as a master storyteller, capable of captivating audiences with both children's fantasy and dark, adult-themed suspense.

Analyzing Dahl's Style: Simplicity and Suspense in Perfect Harmony

Dahl's writing style is characterized by its deceptive simplicity. His prose is clear and direct, yet he masterfully employs subtle foreshadowing and understated language to build suspense. He never overwhelms the reader with unnecessary detail, allowing the tension to build organically through the actions and interactions of his characters. This minimalist approach to storytelling allows the reader to fully immerse themselves in the unfolding drama, making the twist ending all the more impactful.

Conclusion: Beyond the Whimsy - Exploring the Darker Side of Roald Dahl

Roald Dahl's "The Man from the South" stands as a testament to his versatility as a writer. It showcases a darker, more mature side of his talent, demonstrating his ability to craft compelling narratives that explore complex human emotions and unsettling situations. By understanding the influences and themes within this chilling short story, we gain a richer appreciation for the depth and complexity of Roald Dahl, a writer who masterfully blended whimsical fantasy with the darker realities of the human experience.

FAQs:

1. What is the central conflict in "The Man from the South"? The central conflict stems from the wager between the mysterious stranger and the young man, with the businessman's life and fortune at stake. This conflict highlights the clash between greed and desperation.
2. What is the significance of the setting in Jamaica? The Jamaican setting provides a backdrop of seemingly carefree luxury, which sharply contrasts with the escalating tension and the ultimately grim outcome of the story, creating a sense of unsettling irony.
3. How does Dahl build suspense in "The Man from the South"? Dahl masterfully uses concise prose, subtle foreshadowing, and the gradual escalation of the stakes in the wager to build suspense, leaving the reader on the edge of their seat.
4. Is "The Man from the South" representative of Dahl's other works? While significantly different in tone and subject matter from his children's books, "The Man from the South" showcases Dahl's signature skill in crafting compelling narratives with unexpected twists and memorable characters, albeit in a darker and more adult context.
5. What is the lasting impact of "The Man from the South"? The story's enduring popularity highlights its timeless themes of chance, greed, and the consequences of our choices. Its concise yet impactful narrative continues to captivate readers and influence writers, cementing its place as a classic short story.

roald dahl the man from the south: Man from the South (A Roald Dahl Short Story)

Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 Man from the South is a short, sharp, chilling story from Roald Dahl, the master of the shocking tale. In Man from the South, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors,

tells a sinister story about the darker side of human nature. Here, a man takes part in a very unusual bet, one with appalling consequences . . . Man from the South is taken from the short story collection *Someone Like You*, which includes seventeen other devious and shocking stories, featuring the wife who serves a dish that baffles the police; a curious machine that reveals the horrifying truth about plants; the man waiting to be bitten by the venomous snake asleep on his stomach; and others. 'The absolute master of the twist in the tale.' (Observer) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Stephen Mangan. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Matilda*, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, *Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales* by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: Man from the South Roald Dahl, 2011-09-20 A short, sharp, frightening story from Roald Dahl, the master of the shocking tale In *Man from the South*, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a sinister story about the darker side of human nature. Here a man takes part in a very unusual bet, one with appalling consequences . . . *Man from the South* is taken from the short story collection *Someone Like You*, which includes seventeen other devious and shocking stories, featuring the wife who serves a dish that baffles the police; a curious machine that reveals the horrifying truth about plants; the man waiting to be bitten by the venomous snake asleep on his stomach; and others. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Matilda*, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, *Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales* by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: Man from the South and Other Stories Roald Dahl, Michael Caldon, 2009-02 One of a series of simplified educational editions written for learners of English as a foreign language.

roald dahl the man from the south: Someone Like You Roald Dahl, 2009-12-07 In *Someone Like You* are fifteen classic tales told by the grand master of the short story, Roald Dahl. Here, in Roald Dahl's first collection of his world famous dark and sinister adult stories, a wife serves a dish that baffles the police; a harmless bet suddenly becomes anything but; a curious machine reveals a horrifying truth about plants; and a man lies awake waiting to be bitten by the venomous snake asleep on his stomach. Through vendettas and desperate quests, bitter memories and sordid fantasies, Roald Dahl's stories portray the strange and unexpected, sending a shiver down the spine. 'One of the most widely read and influential writers of our generation' *The Times* Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Matilda*, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, *Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales* by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: The Complete Short Stories Roald Dahl, 2013-09-12 *The Complete Short Stories of Roald Dahl* in the first of two unsettling and sinister volumes. 'They are brutal, these stories, and yet you finish reading each one with a smile, or maybe even a hollow laugh, certainly a shiver of gratification, because the conclusion always seems so right' Charlie Higson, from his introduction. Roald Dahl is one of the most popular writers of the modern age, effortlessly writing for children and adults alike. In this, the first of two volumes chronologically collecting all his published adult short stories, we see how Dahl began by using his experiences in the war to write fiction but quickly turned to his powerful and dark imagination to pen some of the most unsettling and disquieting tales ever written. In 27 stories, written between 1944 and 1953, we encounter such classic tales as 'Man from the South', featuring a wager with appalling consequences; 'Lamb to the Slaughter', in which a wife murders her husband yet has a novel idea for

throwing the police off the scent; and in 'The Sound Machine', the horrific truth about plants is revealed. Enter the sinister, twisted world of Roald Dahl: whether you're young or old, you'll never want to leave. 'Roald Dahl is one of the few writers I know whose work can accurately be described as addictive' Irish Times 'The great magician' Spectator Look out for Volume Two, introduced by Anthony Horowitz Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: *Danny, the Champion of the World* Roald Dahl, Linda Beech, 1997

roald dahl the man from the south: William and Mary (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 William and Mary is a brilliant gem of a short story from Roald Dahl, the master of the sting in the tail. In William and Mary, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a sinister story about the darker side of human nature. Here, a wronged woman takes revenge on her dead husband . . . William and Mary is taken from the short story collection Kiss Kiss, which includes ten other devious and shocking stories, featuring the wife who pawns the mink coat from her lover with unexpected results; the priceless piece of furniture that is the subject of a deceitful bargain; a husband and wife who hit upon a novel way to feed their baby; and others. 'Unnerving bedtime stories, subtle, proficient, hair-raising and done to a turn.' (San Francisco Chronicle) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Juliet Stevenson and Adrian Scarborough. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: The Best of Roald Dahl Roald Dahl, 1984 Twenty wickedly anarchic tales from the master of the unpredictable, chosen from his bestsellers Over to You, Someone Like You, Kiss Kiss and Switch Bitch. Stylish, outrageous and haunting, they explore the sinister side of the human psyche with unexpected outcomes. There's the wife who serves up a murderous new dish to her husband, the gambler who collects little fingers from losers, the sound machine that can hear grass scream, and the night-time seduction that has macabre consequences, to name a few.

roald dahl the man from the south: Going Solo Roald Dahl, 2012-02-02 In Going Solo, the world's favourite storyteller, Roald Dahl, tells of life as a fighter pilot in Africa. 'They did not think for one moment that they would find anything but a burnt-out fuselage and a charred skeleton, and they were astounded when they came upon my still-breathing body lying in the sand nearby.' In 1938 Roald Dahl was fresh out of school and bound for his first job in Africa, hoping to find adventure far from home. However, he got far more excitement than he bargained for when the outbreak of the Second World War led him to join the RAF. His account of his experiences in Africa, crashing a plane in the Western Desert, rescue and recovery from his horrific injuries in Alexandria, flying a Hurricane as Greece fell to the Germans, and many other daring deeds, recreates a world as bizarre and unnerving as any he wrote about in his fiction. 'Very nearly as grotesque as his fiction. The same compulsive blend of wide-eyed innocence and fascination with danger and horror' Evening Standard 'A non-stop demonstration of expert raconteurship' The New York Times Book Review Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: *Cruelty* Roald Dahl, 2016-08-25 PERFECT for fans of

Roald Dahl. Think you know Dahl? Think again. There's still a whole world of Dahl to discover in a newly collected book of his deliciously dark tales for adults . . . 'Cruelty has a human heart . . .' Even when we mean to be kind we can sometimes be cruel. We each have a streak of nastiness inside us. In these ten tales of cruelty master storyteller Roald Dahl explores how and why it is we make others suffer. Among others, you'll read the story of two young bullies and the boy they torment, the adulterous wife who uncovers her husband's secret, the man with a painting tattooed on his back whose value he doesn't appreciate and the butler and chef who run rings around their obnoxious employer. Roald Dahl reveals even more about the darker side of human nature in seven other centenary editions: Lust, Madness, Deception, Innocence, Trickery, War and Fear.

roald dahl the man from the south: *Roald Dahl's Marvellous Medicine* Tom Solomon, 2016 Most people know Roald Dahl as a famous writer of children's books and adult short stories, but few are aware of his fascination with medicine. Right from his earliest days to the end of his life, Dahl was intrigued by what doctors do, and why they do it. During his lifetime, he and his family suffered some terrible medical tragedies: Dahl nearly died when his fighter plane went down in World War II; his son had severe brain injury in an accident; and his daughter died of measles infection of the brain. But he also had some medical triumphs: he dragged himself back to health after the plane crash, despite a skull fracture, back injuries, and blindness; he was responsible for inventing a medical device (the Wade-Dahl-Till valve) to treat his son's hydrocephalus (water on the brain), and he taught his first wife Patricia to talk again after a devastating stroke. His medical interactions clearly influenced some of his writing - for example the explosive potions in George's Marvellous Medicine. And sometimes his writing impacted on events in his life - for example the research on neuroanatomy he did for his short story William and Mary later helped him design the valve for treating hydrocephalus. In this unique book, Professor Tom Solomon, who looked after Dahl towards the end of his life, examines Dahl's fascination with medicine. Taking examples from Dahl's life, and illustrated with excerpts from his writing, the book uses Dahl's medical interactions as a starting point to explore some extraordinary areas of medical science. Solomon is an award-winning science communicator, and he effortlessly explains the medical concepts underpinning the stories, in language that everyone can understand. The book is also peppered with anecdotes from Dahl's late night hospital discussions with Solomon, which give new insights into this remarkable man's thinking as his life came to an end.

roald dahl the man from the south: *James and the Giant Peach* Roald Dahl, 2024-01-30 'We are now about to visit the most marvellous places and see the most wonderful things!' This beautiful edition of *James and the Giant Peach*, part of The Roald Dahl Classic Collection, features official archive material from the Roald Dahl Museum and is perfect for Dahl fans old and new. So, enter a world where invention and mischief can be found on every page and where magic might be at the very tips of your fingers . . . The Roald Dahl Classic Collection reinstates the versions of Dahl's books that were published before the 2022 Puffin editions, aimed at newly independent young readers.

roald dahl the man from the south: *The Landlady (A Roald Dahl Short Story)* Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 *The Landlady* is a brilliant gem of a short story from Roald Dahl, the master of the sting in the tail. In *The Landlady*, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a sinister story about the darker side of human nature. Here, a young man in need of room meets a most accommodating landlady . . . *The Landlady* is taken from the short story collection *Kiss Kiss*, which includes ten other devious and shocking stories, featuring the wife who pawns the mink coat from her lover with unexpected results; the priceless piece of furniture that is the subject of a deceitful bargain; a wronged woman taking revenge on her dead husband, and others. 'Unnerving bedtime stories, subtle, proficient, hair-raising and done to a turn.' (San Francisco Chronicle) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Tamsin Greig. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Matilda*, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, *Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales* by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make

readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: Deception Roald Dahl, 2016-08-25 THE PERFECT GIFT for fans of Roald Dahl. Think you know Dahl? Think again. There's still a whole world of Dahl to discover in a newly collected book of his deliciously dark tales for adults . . . 'The cruelest lies are often told in silence . . . ' Why do we lie? Why do we deceive those we love most? What do we fear revealing? In these ten tales of deception master storyteller Roald Dahl explores our tireless efforts to hide the truth about ourselves. Here, among many others, you'll read about how to get away with the perfect murder, the old man whose wagers end in a most disturbing payment, how revenge is sweeter when it is carried out by someone else and the card sharp so good at cheating he does something surprising with his life. Roald Dahl reveals even more about the darker side of human nature in seven other centenary editions: Lust, Madness, Cruelty, Innocence, Trickery, War and Fear.

roald dahl the man from the south: A Roald Dahl Selection Roald Dahl, 2000 Edited by George Kulbacki, this collection brings together nine intriguing and astonishing stories by one of the most outstanding storytellers of our time. Stories include Man from the South, Lamb to the Slaughter, The Landlady, The Champion of the World, Galloping Foxley, Mrs Bixby and the Colonel's Coat, The Ratcatcher and The Hitchhiker

roald dahl the man from the south: The Great Switcheroo (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 The Great Switcheroo is a short, sharp story from Roald Dahl, the master of the twist in the tale. In The Great Switcheroo, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a subversive, saucy story of lust and desire. Here, two husbands secretly agree to a night of passion - with each other's wives . . . The Great Switcheroo is taken from the short story collection Switch Bitch, which includes three other black comedies which capture the ins and outs, highs and lows of sex. 'One of the most widely read and influential writers of our generation.' (The Times) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Shane Rimmer. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: Madness Roald Dahl, 2016-08-25 PERFECT for fans of Roald Dahl. Think you know Dahl? Think again. There's still a whole world of Dahl to discover in a newly collected book of his deliciously dark tales for adults . . . 'There is a pleasure sure in being mad, which none but madmen know' Our greatest fear is of losing control - of our lives, but, most of all, of ourselves. In these ten unsettling tales of unexpected madness master storyteller Roald Dahl explores what happens when we let go our sanity. Among other stories, you'll meet the husband with a jealous fixation on the family cat, the landlady who wants her guests to stay forever, the man whose taste for pork leads him astray and the wife with a pathological fear of being late. Roald Dahl reveals even more about the darker side of human nature in seven other centenary editions: Cruelty, Lust, Deception, Innocence, Trickery, War and Fear.

roald dahl the man from the south: An African Story (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 An African Story is a short, gripping story of life in wartime from Roald Dahl, the master of the shocking tale. In An African Story, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells us the twisted tale of the dog killer, the missing milk, the old man and the snake. An African Story is taken from the short story collection Over to You, which includes nine other dramatic and terrifying tales of life as a wartime fighter pilot, and is drawn from Dahl's own experiences during the Second World War. This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Cillian Murphy. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales by Jeremy

Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: Switch Bitch Roald Dahl, 2002-03-28 In *Switch Bitch* four tales of seduction and suspense are told by the grand master of the short story, Roald Dahl. Topping and tailing this collection are *The Visitor* and *Bitch*, stories featuring Dahl's notorious hedonist Oswald Hendryks Cornelius (or plain old Uncle Oswald) whose exploits are frequently as extraordinary as they are scandalous. In the middle, meanwhile, are *The Great Switcheroo* and *The Last Act*, two stories exploring a darker side of desire and pleasure. In the black comedies of *Switch Bitch* Roald Dahl brilliantly captures the ins and outs, highs and lows of sex. 'Dahl is too good a storyteller to become predictable' *Daily Telegraph* Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Matilda*, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, *Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales* by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: The Irregulars Jennet Conant, 2009-09-08 Following her bestselling accounts of the most guarded secrets of the Second World War, Conant offers a rollicking true story of spies, politicians, journalists, and intrigue in the highest circles of Washington during the tumultuous days of World War II.

roald dahl the man from the south: The Champion of the World (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 *The Champion of the World* is a brilliant gem of a short story from Roald Dahl, the master of the sting in the tail. In *The Champion of the World*, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a funny story about low cunning in the country. Here, a pair of poachers discover a foolproof way to bag pheasants . . . *The Champion of the World* is taken from the short story collection *Kiss Kiss*, which includes ten other devious and shocking stories, featuring the wife who pawns the mink coat from her lover with unexpected results; the priceless piece of furniture that is the subject of a deceitful bargain; a wronged woman taking revenge on her dead husband, and others. 'Unnerving bedtime stories, subtle, proficient, hair-raising and done to a turn.' (*San Francisco Chronicle*) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Stephen Mangan. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Matilda*, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, *Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales* by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: Madame Rosette (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 *Madame Rosette* is a short, gripping story of life in wartime from Roald Dahl, the master of the shocking tale. In *Madame Rosette*, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells of three fighter pilots who go in search of female company and get more than they bargained for - a lot more. *Madame Rosette* is taken from the short story collection *Over to You*, which includes nine other dramatic and terrifying tales of life as a wartime fighter pilot, and is drawn from Dahl's own experiences during the Second World War. This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Julian Rhind-Tutt. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Matilda*, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, *Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales* by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: The Way Up to Heaven (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 *The Way Up to Heaven* is a brilliant gem of a short story from Roald Dahl, the master of the sting in the tail. In *The Way Up to Heaven*, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a sinister story about the darker side of human nature. Here, a woman obsessed with punctuality makes a fateful decision . . . *The Way Up to Heaven* is taken from the short story collection *Kiss Kiss*, which includes ten other devious and shocking stories, featuring the wife who pawns the mink coat from her lover with unexpected results; the priceless piece of furniture that is

the subject of a deceitful bargain; a wronged woman taking revenge on her dead husband, and others. 'Unnerving bedtime stories, subtle, proficient, hair-raising and done to a turn.' (San Francisco Chronicle) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Stephanie Beacham. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: Boy and Going Solo Roald Dahl, 2016-09-13 Boy and Going Solo is the whole of Roald Dahl's extraordinary autobiography in one volume. Roald Dahl wasn't always a writer. Once he was just a schoolboy. Have you ever wondered what he was like growing up? In BOY you'll find out why he and his friends took revenge on the beastly Mrs Pratchett who ran the sweet shop. He remembers what it was like taste-testing chocolate for Cadbury's and he even reveals how his nose was nearly sliced off. Then in GOING SOLO you'll read stories of whizzing through the air in a Tiger Moth Plane, encounters with hungry lions, and the terrible crash that led him to storytelling. Roald Dahl tells his story in his own words - and it's all TRUE. And now you can listen to all of Roald Dahl's novels for children on Roald Dahl Audiobooks read by some very famous voices, including Kate Winslet, David Walliams and Steven Fry - plus there are added squelchy soundeffects from Pinewood Studios! Also look out for new Roald Dahl apps in the App store and Google Play- including the disgusting TWIT OR MISS! and HOUSE OF TWITS inspired by the revolting Twits.

roald dahl the man from the south: Roald Dahl Treasury Roald Dahl, 2003-09 This extraordinary collection takes readers on a fascinating journey into Dahl's unique imagination with excerpts from his best-loved fiction for children and his autobiographical material. Full color.

roald dahl the man from the south: Edward the Conqueror (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 Edward the Conqueror is a brilliant gem of a short story from Roald Dahl, the master of the sting in the tail. In Edward the Conqueror, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a sinister story about the darker side of human nature. Here, a cat's curious behaviour comes between a husband and his wife . . . Edward the Conqueror is taken from the short story collection Kiss Kiss, which includes ten other devious and shocking stories, featuring the wife who pawns the mink coat from her lover with unexpected results; the priceless piece of furniture that is the subject of a deceitful bargain; a wronged woman taking revenge on her dead husband, and others. 'Unnerving bedtime stories, subtle, proficient, hair-raising and done to a turn.' (San Francisco Chronicle) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Juliet Stevenson. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: Strawberry and the Sensations Peter Viney, 2013-08-01 'But I'm only a singer. Nobody wants to kill me.' 'Somebody does.' 'Oh, come on, be serious!' said Cyndi. 'It's just a piece of paper.' 'I am being serious,' said the police chief. 'I think we have to stop the show.' Strawberry and The Sensations are a rock group. It's the last day of their tour. A police officer arrives with a warning for Cyndi. Is there a crazy killer in the audience? Will she stop the show? Level 2 750 headwords Currently comprising 16 titles across four stages - from beginner to upper intermediate - the series is carefully graded, lexically and structurally, to encourage young adults to read for pleasure and at speed. The stories are all, first and foremost, just that - stories, from ELT authors well known for their ability to craft original and engaging narratives to entertain and educate. Each reader contains striking and contemporary full-colour illustrations and photos, resource pages of well-scaffolded exercises, and an easy-to-use glossary. Titles in Levels 1 and 2 are 32 pages each, while titles in Levels 3 and 4 are 40 pages each.

roald dahl the man from the south: A Piece of Cake (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 A Piece of Cake is a short, gripping story of life in wartime from Roald Dahl, the master of the shocking tale. In A Piece of Cake, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells the horrific story of a pilot whose plane crashes in the desert. A Piece of Cake is taken from the short story collection Over to You, which includes nine other dramatic and terrifying tales of life as a wartime fighter pilot, and is drawn from Dahl's own experiences during the Second World War. This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Julian Rhind-Tutt. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: Completely Unexpected Tales Roald Dahl, 1986 Take a pinch of unease. Stir it into a large dollop of the macabre, add a generous helping of dark and stylish wit, garnish with the bizarre and what do you have? Roald Dahl at his brilliant, hypnotizing best, cooking up some of the most unusual stories ever told. Here in one volume are Tales of the Unexpected and More Tales of the Unexpected, making this a superb compendium of vengeance, surprise and dark delight.

roald dahl the man from the south: Innocence Roald Dahl, 2017-08-10 PERFECT for fans of Roald Dahl. Think you know Dahl? Think again. There's still a whole world of Dahl to discover in a newly collected book of his deliciously dark tales for adults . . . What makes us innocent and how do we come to lose it? Featuring the autobiographical stories telling of Roald Dahl's boyhood and youth as well as four further tales of innocence betrayed, Dahl touches on the joys and horrors of growing up. Among other stories, you'll read about the wager that destroys a girl's faith in her father, the landlady who has plans for her unsuspecting young guest and the commuter who is horrified to discover that a fellow passenger once bullied him at school. Featuring extraordinary cover art by Charming Baker, whose paintings echo the dark and twisted world of Dahl's short stories. Roald Dahl reveals even more about the darker side of human nature in seven other centenary editions: Lust, Madness, Cruelty, Deception, Trickery, War and Fear.

roald dahl the man from the south: Lamb to the Slaughter (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 Lamb to the Slaughter is a short, sharp, chilling story from Roald Dahl, the master of the shocking tale. In Lamb to the Slaughter, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a twisted story about the darker side of human nature. Here, a wife serves up a dish that utterly baffles the police . . . Lamb to the Slaughter is taken from the short story collection Someone Like You, which includes seventeen other devious and shocking stories, featuring the two men who make an unusual and chilling wager over the provenance of a bottle of wine; a curious machine that reveals the horrifying truth about plants; the man waiting to be bitten by the venomous snake asleep on his stomach; and others. 'The absolute master of the twist in the tale.' (Observer) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Juliet Stevenson. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: The swan Roald Dahl, 2014-07-10T00:00:00+02:00 Un racconto che commuove e toglie il fiato anche agli stomaci forti, opponendo al bullismo e alla forza brutta di due ragazzi stupidi e crudeli il riscatto della loro vittima. Peter Watson, adolescente disarmato e apparentemente più debole, sopravvivrà alla ferocia di due piccoli criminali perché è dotato di intelligenza e di insospettata forza d'animo che gli permetteranno perfino di volare lontano con le ali di un cigno... Il testo, in lingua originale, è arricchito da: • Glossari con la traduzione delle parole più interessanti o difficili; • Note su strutture della lingua, forme idiomatiche o familiari,

registri espressivi, phrasal verbs...; • Reading Comprehension Exercises.

roald dahl the man from the south: Collected Stories of Roald Dahl Roald Dahl, 2006-10-17 This Everyman's Library edition is the only hardcover edition of Roald Dahl's stories for adults.

roald dahl the man from the south: Mrs Bixby and the Colonel's Coat (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 Mrs Bixby and the Colonel's Coat is a brilliant gem of a short story from Roald Dahl, the master of the sting in the tail. In Mrs Bixby and the Colonel's Coat, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a sinister story about the darker side of human nature. Here, a wife pawns her lover's parting gift with unexpected consequences . . . Mrs Bixby and the Colonel's Coat is taken from the short story collection Kiss Kiss, which includes ten other devious and shocking stories, featuring the husband and wife who hit upon a novel way to feed their new baby; the priceless piece of furniture that is the subject of a deceitful bargain; a wronged woman taking revenge on her dead husband, and others. 'Unnerving bedtime stories, subtle, proficient, hair-raising and done to a turn.' (San Francisco Chronicle) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Stephanie Beacham. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: Love from Boy Donald Sturrock, 2016-06-02 'Dear Mama, I am having a lovely time here. We play football every day here. The beds have no springs . . .' So begins the first letter that a nine-year-old Roald Dahl penned to his mother, Sofie Magdalene, under the watchful eye of his boarding-school headmaster. For most of his life, Roald Dahl would continue to write weekly letters to his mother, chronicling his adventures, frustrations and opinions, from the delights of childhood to the excitements of flying as a World War II fighter pilot and the thrill of meeting top politicians and movie stars during his time as a diplomat and spy in Washington. And, unbeknown to Roald, his mother lovingly kept every single one of them. Sofie was, in many ways, Roald's first reader. It was she who encouraged him to tell stories and nourished his desire to fabricate, exaggerate and entertain. Reading these letters, you can see Roald practicing his craft, developing the dark sense of humour and fantastical imagination that would later produce such timeless tales as The BFG, Matilda, Fantastic Mr Fox and The Witches. The letters in Love from Boy are littered with jokes and madcap observations; sometimes serious, sometimes tender, and often outrageous. To eavesdrop on a son's letters to his mother is to witness Roald Dahl turning from a boy to a man, and finally becoming a writer.

roald dahl the man from the south: Royal Jelly (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 Royal Jelly is a brilliant gem of a short story from Roald Dahl, the master of the sting in the tail. In Royal Jelly, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a sinister story about the darker side of human nature. Here, a husband and wife, unable to get their new baby to feed, hit upon a novel and disturbing solution . . . Royal Jelly is taken from the short story collection Kiss Kiss, which includes ten other devious and shocking stories, featuring the wife who pawns the mink coat from her lover with unexpected results; the priceless piece of furniture that is the subject of a deceitful bargain; a wronged woman taking revenge on her dead husband, and others. 'Unnerving bedtime stories, subtle, proficient, hair-raising and done to a turn.' (San Francisco Chronicle) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Oliver-award-winning actor Adrian Scarborough. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: The Wish (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl,

2012-09-13 The Wish is a short, sharp, chilling story from Roald Dahl, the master of the shocking tale. In The Wish, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a sinister story about the darker side of human nature. Here, an imaginative boy plays a game that quickly gets out of hand . . . The Wish is taken from the short story collection *Someone Like You*, which includes seventeen other devious and shocking stories, featuring the wife who serves a dish that baffles the police; a curious machine that reveals the horrifying truth about plants; the man waiting to be bitten by the venomous snake asleep on his stomach; and others. 'The absolute master of the twist in the tale.' (Observer) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by the sublime Stephen Mangan. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Matilda*, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, *Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales* by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

roald dahl the man from the south: *Roald Dahl's Glorious Galumptious Story Collection* Roald Dahl, 2016-11-03 Five fantastic Roald Dahl favourites come together in this very special collection: *James and the Giant Peach*, *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me*, *The Magic Finger* and *Esio Trot*. Complete with fun and fascinating extra material offering a sneak peek into the wonderful world of Dahl, this is a collection to treasure forever.

roald dahl the man from the south: *Storyteller: The Life of Roald Dahl* Donald Sturrock, 2010-09-02 The authorised biography of one of the greatest storytellers of all time, written with complete and exclusive access to the archives stored in the Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre.

roald dahl the man from the south: *Tales of the Unexpected* Roald Dahl, 2008-09-01 Roald Dahl's *Tales of the Unexpected* is a delightfully dark collection of sixteen stories, each with a startling end. Among the unforgettable characters lurk the homicidal wife and her deadly leg of lamb, a conniving and lecherous wine connoisseur and the one-eyed brain at the mercy of his vengeful spouse. *Tales of the Unexpected* is an astonishing assortment of twisted treats from the master storyteller.

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