

the visitor short story

the visitor short story is a captivating narrative that has intrigued readers for decades, blending suspense, mystery, and psychological depth. This article provides a comprehensive exploration of the visitor short story, delving into its plot, main themes, and the enduring appeal that keeps it relevant in modern literature. Readers will discover a thorough summary, analysis of key characters, discussion of literary techniques, and insights into its place within the short story genre. Whether you are a student, teacher, or literature enthusiast, this guide will enhance your understanding and appreciation of the visitor short story. Continue reading to uncover the fascinating layers behind this timeless tale and how it has influenced short story writing over the years.

- Summary of the Visitor Short Story
- Key Characters and Their Roles
- Major Themes in the Visitor Short Story
- Literary Devices and Techniques
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Summary of the Visitor Short Story

The visitor short story typically revolves around an unexpected guest who arrives at a pivotal moment in the protagonist's life. The plot often unfolds in a confined setting, such as a home or secluded location, heightening the tension as the characters interact. The story's suspense is driven by the ambiguity surrounding the visitor's identity, motives, and the consequences of their arrival. As the narrative progresses, readers are drawn into a web of intrigue, questioning the true nature of the visitor and their impact on the protagonist. The conclusion is often marked by a twist or revelation, leaving a lasting impression and prompting further reflection on the story's deeper meanings.

The visitor short story stands out for its concise yet powerful storytelling, using a limited cast and a focused plot to create an immersive experience. The interplay between the protagonist and the visitor serves as the catalyst for conflict, transformation, or revelation, making the story a prime example of how short fiction can deliver profound themes within a brief format.

Key Characters and Their Roles

Characters in the visitor short story are carefully crafted to maximize tension and emotional impact. The protagonist is often portrayed as an ordinary individual facing extraordinary circumstances, while the visitor represents an element of disruption or mystery. Each character serves a distinct purpose, contributing to the story's mood and thematic depth.

The Protagonist

Usually depicted as relatable and grounded, the protagonist's routine is disrupted by the arrival of the visitor. Their reactions and decisions drive the plot forward, revealing inner conflicts, fears, or desires. The protagonist's journey is central to the emotional resonance of the story.

The Visitor

The visitor is the most enigmatic character, often shrouded in ambiguity. They may appear friendly, menacing, or entirely neutral, but their presence always challenges the status quo. The visitor's true intentions are typically unveiled gradually, serving as the story's main source of suspense and intrigue.

Supporting Characters

While many versions of the visitor short story focus on just two main characters, some include supporting roles such as family members, neighbors, or colleagues. These characters help to build context, heighten tension, or offer alternative perspectives on the unfolding events.

Major Themes in the Visitor Short Story

The visitor short story explores a variety of universal themes that resonate with readers across cultures and generations. These themes contribute to the story's enduring relevance and emotional impact.

Intrusion and Disruption

A central theme is the idea of intrusion—how an unexpected presence can upend ordinary life. The visitor often symbolizes an external force that compels characters to confront hidden truths or suppressed emotions.

Identity and Perception

Questions of identity are prevalent in the visitor short story. The ambiguity surrounding the visitor's background and motives invites readers to question appearances and assumptions, reflecting broader concerns about trust and perception.

Transformation and Revelation

The interaction between host and visitor often leads to transformation, whether internal or external. This theme is explored through character development, plot twists, and moments of revelation that redefine the protagonist's understanding of themselves or their world.

Literary Devices and Techniques

The visitor short story is renowned for its masterful use of literary devices, which enhance its suspenseful atmosphere and thematic depth. Writers employ a range of techniques to engage readers and convey complex ideas within a limited word count.

- **Foreshadowing:** Subtle hints and clues are woven throughout the narrative, building anticipation for the visitor's true intentions or the story's climax.
- **Irony:** Situational or dramatic irony is used to create unexpected twists, often subverting the reader's expectations.
- **Symbolism:** Objects, settings, or actions may carry symbolic meaning, reinforcing the story's central themes.

- **Dialogue:** Carefully crafted conversations reveal character dynamics, hidden motives, and shifts in power.
- **Atmospheric Setting:** The setting is often described in atmospheric detail, contributing to the story's mood and sense of suspense.

These literary techniques not only heighten the emotional impact of the visitor short story but also enable authors to convey layered meanings and provoke thought long after the story ends.

The Visitor Short Story in the Context of Literature

Within the broader landscape of short fiction, the visitor short story holds a distinctive place due to its universal themes and adaptable structure. Authors from various literary traditions have experimented with the concept, resulting in diverse interpretations that reflect different cultures, historical contexts, and literary movements.

The visitor motif is a recurring element in genres such as horror, psychological thriller, drama, and even comedy. Its flexibility allows writers to explore issues such as alienation, morality, and the human response to the unknown. Notable examples can be found in the works of celebrated short story writers, where the visitor acts as a catalyst for change, conflict, or introspection.

The story's adaptability has also influenced contemporary literature, with modern authors reimagining the visitor in new contexts, from supernatural encounters to technological intrusions. This ongoing evolution underscores the enduring relevance and creative potential of the visitor short story.

Impact and Legacy of the Visitor Short Story

Over the years, the visitor short story has left a significant mark on both readers and writers. Its concise format and focus on psychological depth have inspired countless adaptations in film, theater, and other media. The story's structure serves as a model for aspiring writers, illustrating how to build tension and deliver impactful messages within a short narrative.

Literary scholars continue to study the visitor short story, analyzing its themes, characters, and techniques to uncover new insights. Its ability to evoke strong emotional responses and provoke critical thought ensures its lasting influence in the world of short fiction.

Whether encountered in a classroom, anthology, or as a standalone tale, the visitor short story remains a compelling example of narrative artistry, offering readers a powerful exploration of human nature and the unknown.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the main plot of the visitor short story?

A: The main plot centers around an unexpected visitor who disrupts the protagonist's life, leading to suspenseful interactions and often a surprising revelation or twist.

Q: Who are the primary characters in the visitor short story?

A: The primary characters usually include the protagonist (the host) and the visitor. Some versions feature supporting characters like family members or neighbors.

Q: What themes are commonly explored in the visitor short story?

A: Common themes include intrusion, identity, trust, transformation, and the impact of the unknown on ordinary life.

Q: How does the visitor short story use suspense?

A: Suspense is created through ambiguity about the visitor's motives, foreshadowing, atmospheric settings, and gradual revelation of key information.

Q: Why is the visitor short story significant in literature?

A: Its concise format, psychological depth, and adaptability across genres make it a classic example of short fiction, influencing both writers and readers.

Q: Are there different versions or adaptations of the visitor short story?

A: Yes, many authors have reinterpreted the visitor motif in various genres and cultural contexts, resulting in diverse adaptations in literature, film, and theater.

Q: What literary devices are used in the visitor short story?

A: Common devices include foreshadowing, irony, symbolism, dialogue, and detailed setting descriptions to enhance mood and meaning.

Q: Can the visitor in the story represent more than a literal person?

A: Absolutely. The visitor can symbolize external forces, internal conflicts, or abstract concepts, depending on the author's intent.

Q: What makes the visitor short story engaging for readers?

A: Its blend of suspense, relatable characters, and thought-provoking themes creates a compelling reading experience that resonates across audiences.

Q: How can students analyze the visitor short story effectively?

A: Students can focus on character development, thematic exploration, and literary techniques, using textual evidence to support their interpretations.

[The Visitor Short Story](#)

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The Visitor: A Short Story That Will Haunt You

Are you ready for a chilling tale that will stay with you long after you finish reading? Then settle in, because "The Visitor" is a short story designed to captivate, unsettle, and leave you pondering its mysteries. This post will not only present the complete short story but also delve into its thematic elements, exploring the unsettling power of the unknown and the fragility of our perceptions of reality. Prepare to be intrigued – and perhaps a little scared.

The Visitor: A Short Story

The old house groaned under the weight of the relentless wind. Rain lashed against the windows, a relentless drumming that mirrored the frantic beat of Elias's heart. He sat huddled by the fireplace, the meager flames doing little to dispel the growing chill that seeped from the very walls. He hadn't been expecting a visitor, especially not tonight, on the eve of the winter solstice.

A knock, hesitant at first, then firm, shattered the silence. Elias froze. He hadn't had a visitor in

months, not since... well, since it all started.

He crept to the door, his hand trembling as he reached for the latch. Peering through the peephole, he saw a figure shrouded in darkness, a silhouette against the stormy backdrop. The figure didn't move, didn't knock again. It simply stood there, an unnerving stillness that sent a shiver down Elias's spine.

He hesitated, his mind battling between curiosity and a primal fear. He knew, with a certainty that defied logic, that he shouldn't open the door. But the insistent presence, the unspoken plea in the silent vigil, compelled him.

With a deep breath, he unlatched the door.

The figure stepped inside, its features obscured by the shadows. Elias could make out only the outline of a tall, slender form, draped in a dark, flowing cloak. The visitor didn't speak, didn't even seem to breathe. It simply stood there, its presence filling the small room with a palpable sense of dread.

Elias felt a strange pull towards the visitor, a morbid fascination that warred with the terror that clawed at his insides. He reached out, a hesitant gesture, and touched the cool, smooth fabric of the cloak.

As his fingers brushed the material, a cold wave washed over him, leaving him breathless and weak. The figure dissolved into nothingness, leaving behind only the lingering scent of damp earth and the echoing silence of the empty room.

Elias stood there, alone in the darkness, the storm raging outside mirroring the tempest within his soul. He knew, with chilling certainty, that the visitor would return.

Unpacking the Themes of "The Visitor"

"The Visitor" explores several potent themes:

The Fear of the Unknown: The story plays on our inherent fear of the unseen, the unexplained. The visitor's shadowy form and silent presence symbolize the unknown and its power to overwhelm us.

The Fragility of Reality: The sudden disappearance of the visitor raises questions about the nature of reality itself. Was it a figment of Elias's imagination, a hallucination born from loneliness and fear? Or was something more profound at play?

The Power of Suggestion: The story relies heavily on suggestion and implication rather than explicit detail. The reader is left to fill in the blanks, creating their own interpretation of the events and the visitor's identity. This ambiguity amplifies the story's unsettling effect.

Loneliness and Isolation: Elias's isolation, highlighted by his lack of visitors and the desolate setting, makes him vulnerable to the unsettling presence. The visitor can be seen as a manifestation

of his deepest fears and anxieties.

The Enduring Mystery

The ambiguity of "The Visitor" is its strength. It's a story designed to provoke thought and discussion. It leaves the reader with more questions than answers, making it a tale that lingers in the mind long after the final sentence. What was the visitor? Why did it appear? And will it return? These questions are left unanswered, fueling the story's unsettling power.

Conclusion

"The Visitor" is a short story that delves into the depths of human fear and the mystery of the unknown. Its power lies in its suggestion, leaving the reader to grapple with its unsettling ambiguity. The story explores themes of isolation, fear, and the fragility of reality, leaving a lasting impression long after the final word. The true horror may not be the visitor itself, but the chilling questions it leaves behind.

FAQs

1. Is "The Visitor" a ghost story? While it has elements of a ghost story, the nature of the visitor remains ambiguous. It could be a ghost, a hallucination, or something else entirely.
2. What is the significance of the winter solstice? The winter solstice, a time of darkness and transition, sets a fittingly eerie backdrop for the story, enhancing the atmosphere of unease.
3. What does the visitor symbolize? The visitor can be interpreted in multiple ways, symbolizing loneliness, fear, the unknown, or even a manifestation of Elias's subconscious.
4. Why does the visitor disappear? The visitor's disappearance adds to the story's mystery, leaving the reader to ponder its meaning and the nature of its existence.
5. Will there be a sequel to "The Visitor"? The open-ended nature of the story allows for endless possibilities. A sequel could explore the visitor's return or delve deeper into Elias's past and the origins of his fear.

the visitor short story: [The Visitor \(A Roald Dahl Short Story\)](#) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 The Visitor is an amusing and chilling story from Roald Dahl, the master of the twist in the tale. In The Visitor, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a funny, fruity story about one of his favourite characters, adventurer and seducer Oswald Hendryks Cornelius. Here, Uncle Oswald gets

more than he bargained for in Arabia . . . The Visitor 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 (including another Uncle Oswald story, Bitch). '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 Richard E. Grant and Derek Jacobi. 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.

the visitor short story: My Uncle Oswald Roald Dahl, 2002-03-28 Meet Oswald Hendryks Cornelius, Roald Dahl's most disgraceful and extraordinary character . . . Aside from being thoroughly debauched, strikingly attractive and astonishingly wealthy, Uncle Oswald was the greatest bounder, bon vivant and fornicator of all time. In this instalment of his scorchingly frank memoirs he tells of his early career and erotic education at the hands of a number of enthusiastic teachers, of discovering the invigorating properties of the Sudanese Blister Beetle, and of the gorgeous Yasmin Howcomely, his electrifying partner in a most unusual series of thefts . . . 'Raunchy and cheeky entertainment' Sunday Express 'Immense fun' 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.

the visitor short story: The Visitor Antje Damm, 2018 Elise is scared of everything - spiders, people, even trees. So she never goes out, night or day. One day a strange thing flies in through the window and lands at her feet. And then there comes a knock at her door. Elise has a visitor.

the visitor short story: The Visitor Lee Child, 2008-09-04 Two female army high-flyers. Both acquainted with Jack Reacher. Both forced to resign from the service. Now they're both dead. Found in their own homes, naked, in a bath full of paint. Apparent victims of an army man. A loner, a smart guy with a score to settle. A ruthless vigilante. A man just like Jack Reacher. _____ Although the Jack Reacher novels can be read in any order, The Visitor is the 4th in the series. And be sure not to miss Reacher's newest adventure, no.29, In Too Deep! **OUT NOW** Lee Child, Number 1 Sunday Times bestseller, April 2024

the visitor short story: Can't and Won't Lydia Davis, 2014-04-03 Can't and Won't is the new collection from Lydia Davis, one of the greatest short story writers alive. WINNER OF THE MAN BOOKER INTERNATIONAL PRIZE 2013 Lydia Davis has been universally acclaimed for the wit, insight and genre-defying formal inventiveness of her sparkling stories. With titles like 'A Story of Stolen Salamis', 'Letters to a Frozen Pea Manufacturer', 'A Small Story About a Small Box of Chocolates', and 'Can't and Won't', the stories in this new collection illuminate particular moments in ordinary lives and find in them the humorous, the ironic and the surprising. Above all the stories revel in and grapple with the joys and constraints of language - achieving always the extraordinary, unmatched precision which makes Lydia Davis one of the greatest contemporary writers on the international stage. Praise for Lydia Davis: 'What stories. Precise and piercing, extremely funny. Nearly all are unlike anything you've ever read' Metro 'To read The Collected Stories of Lydia Davis is to be reminded of the grand, echoing mind-chambers created by Sebald or recent Coetzee. A writer of vast intelligence and originality' Independent on Sunday 'Among my most favourite writers. Read her now!' A. M. Homes Lydia Davis is the author of Collected Stories, one novel and six short story collections, the most recent of which was a finalist for the 2007 National Book Award. She is the recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship and was named an Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French government for her fiction and her translations of modern writers, including Gustave Flaubert and Marcel Proust. She won the Man Booker International Prize in 2013.

the visitor short story: 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.

the visitor short story: The Cows Lydia Davis, 2011 With her trademark precision, Davis turns her eye to three beloved cows, capturing them in celebratory, delighted detail.

the visitor short story: The Visitors (Paperback Edition) Jessi Jezewska Stevens, 2024-02-06 On the eve of the Occupy Wall Street protests, C is flat broke. Once a renowned textile artist, she's now the sole proprietor of an arts supply store in Lower Manhattan. Divorced, alone, at loose ends, C is stuck with a struggling business, a stack of bills, a new erotic interest in her oldest girlfriend, and a persistent hallucination in the form of a rogue garden gnome with a pointed interest in systems collapse . . . C needs to put her medical debt and her sex life in order, but how to make concrete plans with this little visitor haunting her apartment, sporting a three-piece suit and delivering impromptu lectures on the vulnerability of the national grid? Moreover, what's all this computer code doing in the story of her life? And do the answers to all of C's questions lie with an eco-hackivist cabal threatening to end modern life as we know it? The Visitors is mordantly funny as it follows a woman dealing with debt, lust and an unwelcome visitor in the last days of a broken status quo. It peers into How We Got Here and asks What We Do Next, whatever our personal hallucinations may be.

the visitor short story: The Visitor M. Mignola, Mike Mignola, Chris Roberson, 2017 This book collects The Visitor: How and Why He Stayed #1-#5 and God Rest Ye Merry from Hellboy Winter Special 2017--From title page verso.

the visitor short story: The Night Visitor Lucy Atkins, 2017-05-04 'One of the most vivid, memorable and menacing characters I've ever read' C.L. Taylor, author of The Fear As high-flying TV presenter and historian Olivia Sweetman stands before an adoring crowd at the launch of her new bestseller she can barely pretend to smile. Her life has spiralled into lies and if the truth comes out she'll lose everything. Only one person knows what Olivia has done. Vivian Tester is the socially awkward housekeeper of a Sussex manor who has become Olivia's unofficial research assistant. But Vivian has secrets too, and as the relationship between the women grows more and more tangled, a bizarre act of violence changes everything . . . Perfect for fans of Little Fires Everywhere and He Said She Said. PRAISE FOR THE NIGHT VISITOR: 'WONDERFUL' - Clare Mackintosh, author of Let Me Lie 'INSIDIOUS' - Guardian 'BRILLIANT' - Fiona Barton, author of The Child 'PROPULSIVE' - Metro 'INGENIOUS' - Sabine Durrant, author of Lie With Me 'SINISTER' - Red 'MENACING' - C.L. Taylor, author of The Fear 'FANTASTIC' - Sunday Mirror 'ELEGANT' - Joanna Cannon, author of Three Things about Elsie 'GRIPPING' - The Literary Review 'UNRELENTING' - Mick Herron, author of Spook Street 'ENTHRALLING' - Heat 'FASCINATING' - Linda Green, author of When My Eyes Were Closed 'INTELLIGENT' - Good Housekeeping

the visitor short story: Two American Scenes Lydia Davis, Eliot Weinberger, 2013 Two remarkable prose stylists — friends since high school — transform found material from the nineteenth century into mesmerizing poem-essays. It was given to me, in the nineteenth century, to spend a lifetime on his earth. Along with a few of the sorrows that are appointed unto men, I have

had innumerable enjoyments; and the world has been to me, even from childhood, a great museum.— Lydia Davis. Bad rapids. Bradley is knocked over the side; his foot catches under the seat and he is dragged, head under water. Camped on a sand beach, the wind blows a hurricane. Sand piles over us like a snowdrift.— Eliot Weinberger.--Publisher's website (viewed 11/29/2016).

the visitor short story: Permanent Visitors Kevin Moffett, 2006-09-01 Settled amid the seasonal amusements and condominium-lined beaches of the Florida coast, the characters who inhabit Kevin Moffett's award-winning stories reach out of their lives to find that something unexpected and mysterious has replaced what used to be familiar. Some are stalled in the present, alone or lonely, bemused by mortality and disappointment. Some move toward the future heartened by what they learn from those around them--a tattoo artist, an invented medicine man, zoo animals, strangers, fellow outsiders. Deftly rendered, these stories abound with oddness and grace. In "Tattooizm," included in *The Best American Short Stories 2006*, a young woman struggles with a promise that her boyfriend is determined to make her keep. In the Nelson Algren Award-winning "Space," a reluctantly undertaken errand forces a young man to finally confront the death of his mother. And in "The Medicine Man," hailed by the Times (U.K.) as "perfectly pitched and perfectly written," a man recounts his manic attachment to his sister. Moffett's closely observed stories are candid and complex, funny and moving. The world of *Permanent Visitors* is an idiosyncratic and generous one, its inhabitants searching for constancy in a place crowded with contradiction.

the visitor short story: 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.

the visitor short story: 150 Great Short Stories Aileen M. Carroll, 1989 Saves time in preparing team activities and assessments Includes story synopsis, teaching suggestions, quiz, and answer key Note: The short stories are not included in this publication.

the visitor short story: Night Visitor And Other Stories B. Traven, 1993-01-01 A collection of stories features tales of Mexican ranch life, including the title story, *The Cattle Drive*, *When the Priest is Not at Home*, and *Macario*

the visitor short story: A Visitor for Bear Bonny Becker, 2015-10-27 A Visitor for Bear has the feel of a classic, and it's so cozy no parent could object to reading it aloud every night. — The New York Times Book Review (starred review) Features an audio read-along! Bear is quite sure he doesn't like visitors. He even has a sign. So when a mouse taps on his door one day, Bear tells him to leave. But the mouse — who keeps popping up in the most unexpected places — just won't go away! Cheery persistence wears down the curmudgeonly Bear in a wry comedy of manners that ends in a most unlikely friendship.

the visitor short story: Memorial Bryan Washington, 2021-01-07 A SUNDAY TIMES BOOK OF THE YEAR 'This feels like a vision for the 21st-century novel... It made me happy' Ocean Vuong, author of *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous* Benson and Mike are two young guys who have been together for a few years - good years - but now they're not sure why they're still a couple. There's the sex, sure, and the meals Mike cooks for Benson, and, well, they love each other. But when Mike finds out his estranged father is dying in Osaka just as his acerbic Japanese mother, Mitsuko, arrives for a visit, Mike picks up and flies across the world to say goodbye. In Japan he undergoes an extraordinary transformation, discovering the truth about his family and his past, while back home,

Mitsuko and Benson are stuck living together as unconventional roommates, an absurd domestic situation that ends up meaning more to each of them than they ever could have predicted... Funny and profound, Memorial is about family in all its strange forms, becoming who you're supposed to be and the outer limits of love. NAMED A BOOK TO WATCH IN 2021 BY: SUNDAY TIMES | THE TIMES | DAILY MAIL | THE TELEGRAPH | RADIO 4 | IRISH TIMES

the visitor short story: A Surprise Visitor Poppy Green, 2016-08-23 A little bird who's learning to fly accidentally winds up in Sophie's yard in the eighth charming book of The Adventures of Sophie Mouse! Sophie gets a surprise visitor when a little bird makes a crash landing into her yard and hurts his wing. But with Sophie and her friends to help nurse him back to health, the baby bird will be flying high in no time! With easy-to-read language and illustrations on almost every page, the Adventures of Sophie Mouse chapter books are perfect for beginning readers.

the visitor short story: Clementine Rose and the Surprise Visitor Jacqueline Harvey, 2013-08-29 Clementine Rose was delivered not in the usual way, at a hospital, but in the back of a mini-van, in a basket of dinner rolls. So begins the story of a very special little girl. Clementine Rose grows up with her adopted mother, Lady Clarissa, their butler, Digby Pertwhistle, and a very tiny teacup pig named Lavender. When Clementine's scary Aunt Violet visits, the household is thrown into disarray. What is it that Aunt Violet really wants, and what is she hiding in her mysterious black bag?

the visitor short story: The Illustrated Man Ray Bradbury, 2012-04-17 Eighteen science fiction stories deal with love, madness, and death on Mars, Venus, and in space.

the visitor short story: The Visitor Maeve Brennan, 2001-10-15 The current revival of the work of Maeve Brennan, who died in obscurity in 1993, has won her a reputation as a twentieth-century classic—one of the best Irish writers of stories since Joyce. Now, unexpectedly, Brennan's oeuvre is immeasurably deepened and broadened by a miraculous literary discovery—a short novel written in the mid-1940s, but till now unknown and unpublished. Recently found in a university archive, it is a story of Dublin and of the unkind, ungenerous, emotionally unreachable side of the Irish temper. The Visitor is the haunting tale of Anastasia King, who, at the age of twenty-two, returns to her grandmother's house—the very house where she grew up—after six long years away. She has been in Paris, comforting her disgraced and dying mother, the runaway from a disastrous marriage to Anastasia's late father, the grandmother's only son. It's a pity she sent for you. the grandmother says, smiling with anger. And a pity you went after her. It broke your father's heart. Anastasia pays dearly for the choice she made, a choice that now costs her her own strong sense of family and makes her an exile—a visitor—in the place she once called home. Penelope Fitzgerald, writing of Brennan's story The Springs of Affection, said that it carries an electric charge of resentment and quiet satisfaction in revenge that chills you right through. The same can be said of the The Visitor, Maeve Brennan's lost novel—the early work of an incomparable master.

the visitor short story: Trickery 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 . . . How underhand could you be to get what you want? In these ten tales of dark and twisted trickery Roald Dahl reveals that we are at our smartest and most cunning when we set out to deceive others - and, sometimes, even ourselves. Here, among others, you'll read of the married couple and the parting gift which rocks their marriage, the light fingered hitch-hiker and the grateful motorist, and discover why the serious poacher keeps a few sleeping pills in his arsenal. 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, War, Innocence and Fear.

the visitor short story: These Precious Days Ann Patchett, 2021-11-23 A BARACK OBAMA TOP BOOK OF 2021 'A heartfelt and witty collection of essays on everything from marriage and knitting to the inevitability of death' Guardian 'A pitch-perfect collection ... She can turn a sentence like no one else: her writing is clear, honest, witty, and just full of unsentimental humanity' Nigella

Lawson 'Profound and clever and funny and wise' Meg Mason, author of *Sorrow & Bliss*

_____ An irresistible collection of essays and memoir from the internationally bestselling, Women's Prize-winning author of *The Dutch House* 'Any story that starts will also end.' As a writer, Ann Patchett knows what the outcome of her fiction will be. Life, however, often takes turns we do not see coming. Patchett ponders this as she explores family, friendship, marriage, failure, success, and what it all means. Ranging from the personal – her portrait of the three men she called her fathers; how a chance encounter with Tom Hanks led to one of the most important friendships of her life; how to answer when someone asks why you don't have children – to the sublime – the unexpected influence of Snoopy; the importance of knitting; the pleasure to be found in children's books – each essay transforms the particular into the universal, letting us all see our own worlds anew. Illuminating, penetrating, funny and generous, *These Precious Days* is joyful time spent in the company of one of our greatest living authors. 'Patchett's essays are both sharp and humane ... like a hugely enjoyable conversation with a particularly brilliant friend' Sadie Jones

the visitor short story: *Young Skins* Colin Barrett, 2015-03-03 A blockbuster collection from one of Ireland's most exciting young voices: "Sharp and lively . . . a rough, charged, and surprisingly fun read" (Interview). A National Book Foundation 5 Under 35 Honoree * Winner of the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award * Winner of the Guardian First Book Award * Winner of the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature Enter the small, rural town of Glanbeigh, a place whose fate took a downturn with the Celtic Tiger, a desolate spot where buffoonery and tension simmer and erupt, and booze-sodden boredom fills the corners of every pub and nightclub. Here, and in the towns beyond, the young live hard and wear the scars. Amongst them, there's jilted Jimmy, whose best friend Tug is the terror of the town and Jimmy's sole company in his search for the missing Clancy kid; Bat, a lovesick soul with a face like "a bowl of mashed up spuds" even before Nubbin Tansey's boot kicked it in; and Arm, a young and desperate criminal whose destiny is shaped when he and his partner, Dymrna, fail to carry out a job. In each story, a local voice delineates the grittiness of post boom Irish society. These are unforgettable characters rendered through silence, humor, and violence. "Lyrical and tough and smart . . . What seems to be about sorrow and foreboding turns into an adventure, instead, in the tender art of the unexpected." —Anne Enright, Man Booker Prize Award-winning author "Sometimes comic, sometimes melancholy, *Young Skins* touches the heart, as well as the mind." —Irish American Post

the visitor short story: *The Visitors* Sally Beauman, 2014-02-06 It's *Death on the Nile* meets *Downton Abbey*, as the action moves between Highclere Castle and Egypt's Valley of the Kings . . . A gripping story touching on friendship, scholarship, love and family' Daily Mail Based on a true story of discovery, *The Visitors* is New York Times bestselling author Sally Beauman's brilliant recreation of the hunt for Tutankhamun's tomb in Egypt's Valley of the Kings - a dazzling blend of fact and fiction that brings to life a lost world of exploration, adventure, and danger, and the audacious men willing to sacrifice everything to find a lost treasure. Sent abroad to Egypt in 1922 to recover from the typhoid that killed her mother, eleven-year-old Lucy is caught up in the intrigue and excitement that surrounds the obsessive hunt for Tutankhamun's tomb. As she struggles to comprehend an adult world in which those closest to her are often cold and unpredictable, Lucy longs for a friend she can love. When she meets Frances, the daughter of an American archaeologist, her life is transformed. As the two girls spy on the grown-ups and try to understand the truth behind their evasions, a lifelong bond is formed. Haunted by the ghosts of her past, the mistakes she made and the secrets she kept, Lucy disinters her past, trying to make sense of what happened all those years ago in Cairo and the Valley of the Kings. And for the first time in her life, she comes to terms with what happened after Egypt, when Frances needed Lucy most.

the visitor short story: *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.

the visitor short story: Visitor C. J. Cherryh, 2016 Working with the aiji-dowager a year after returning from an interstellar mission to discover that their government had been overthrown, Bren Cameron finds his efforts to reinstate peace throughout the atevi world challenged by an unexpected new threat.

the visitor short story: The Tower of the Antilles Achy Obejas, 2017-07-04 PEN/Faulkner Award Finalist: A "superb story collection" about America and Cuba, escape and return, and history and hope (Los Angeles Times). Longlisted for The Story Prize One of Electric Literature's Best Short Story Collections of the Year In "Superman," several possible story lines emerge about a 1950s Havana sex-show superstar who disappeared as soon as the revolution triumphed. "North/South" portrays a migrant family trying to cope with separation and the eventual disintegration of blood ties. "The Cola of Oblivion" follows a young woman who returns to Cuba and inadvertently uncorks a history of accommodation and betrayal among the family members who stayed behind during the revolution. And in the title story, an interrogation reveals a series of fantasies about escape and a history of futility. The Cubans in Achy Obejas' story collection are haunted by islands: the island they fled, the island they've created, the island they were taken to or forced from, the island they long for, the island they return to, and the island that can never be home again. "[A] memorable short fiction collection." —Publishers Weekly "By turns searing and subtly magical . . . Obejas' plots are ambushing, her characters startling, her metaphors fresh, her humor caustic, and her compassion potent in these intricate and haunting stories of displacement, loss, stoicism, and realization." —Booklist "Obejas writes with gentleness, without flashy wording or gimmicks, about people trying to figure out where they belong." —Los Angeles Review of Books

the visitor short story: That Frequent Visitor K Hari Kumar, 2014-12-25 Why are outsiders not allowed on Vypeen Island after sunset? What brought Richard Baxter from Calcutta to Kochi in 1948? Where did Baxter and his wife disappear on the night of Pournami? Who is the visitor that the fishermen fear so much? How far will one man go for the woman he loves? Six decades later, Shiuli Dutta is mysteriously lured into the dreaded Clifford Mansion, where she encounters the ghost of Richard Baxter. The grieving ghost tells her an incomplete story of its life. A story that will reveal the darker side of a man's mind. A story that shall unveil a venomous truth of the past. A story so sinister that it shall alter the fate of a nation's future. A story of courage and cowardice, of deceit and insanity. The story of THAT FREQUENT VISITOR

the visitor short story: The Night Visitor and Other Stories (Esprios Classics) Arnold Bennett, 2019-09-17 Enoch Arnold Bennett was an English writer. He is best known as a novelist, but he also worked in other fields such as the theatre, journalism, propaganda and films. Having wakened in the middle of the night, Anthony, for some reason which he could not explain, began to read the Bible. He was not by habit an ardent reader, and particularly not an ardent reader of the Bible; but he always kept a Bible on the table by his bedside, in case he might feel a desire to read it, and he never felt the desire. Now, almost before being aware of the fact, lo! he was reading the Bible,—the love-story of Amnon and Tamar.

the visitor short story: The Visitor Sergio Gomez, 2020-11-22 On Christmas, during one of the worst snowstorms Indiana has ever seen, five strangers are forced to take shelter inside of a roadside diner. As the night progresses, the snowfall shows no signs of relenting, ice begins to build up on the roads, and the temperature seems to be dropping by the hour. But the worst has nothing to do with the weather, and everything to do with the sixth visitor coming to the diner. The jolliest time of the year quickly turns bloody as the diners find themselves fighting for their lives. This Christmas won't just be white. It'll be red, too.

the visitor short story: The Unexpected Visitor Jessica Courtney-Tickle, 2017 There was once a little fisherman. Every morning he would take his boat out into the wide sea . . . and wait, and wait. When the little fisherman gets an unexpected (and very large) visitor one day, they instantly become friends. They have a lot of fun exploring each other's homes, but where have all the fishes gone? This stunningly beautiful and warm-hearted picture book all about the friendship between a fisherman and whale is the perfect way to introduce the notion of sharing, sustainability and taking care of the creatures in our oceans with young children.

the visitor short story: Soviet Science Fiction , 1962 First published under title: A visitor from outer space.

the visitor short story: The Visitor's Humor and Other Stories Jerome Johnson, 2020-09-20 The settings for a lot of Jerome Johnson stories seem to take place on a gravel side road somewhere. They are absurd, comical, creative and just to the left of surreal.

the visitor short story: Teaching and Learning in a Multicultural Classroom Janis Massa, 2003

the visitor short story: The Thanksgiving Visitor Truman Capote, 1969 Barndomserindringer.

the visitor short story: Tales from Outer Suburbia Shaun Tan, 2019-02-05 Breathtakingly illustrated and hauntingly written, Tales from Outer Suburbia is by turns hilarious and poignant, perceptive and goofy. Through a series of captivating and sophisticated illustrated stories, Tan explores the precious strangeness of our existence. He gives us a portrait of modern suburban existence filtered through a wickedly Monty Pythonesque lens. Whether it's discovering that the world really does stop at the end of the city's map book, or a family's lesson in tolerance through an alien cultural exchange student, Tan's deft, sweet social satire brings us face-to-face with the humor and absurdity of modern life.

the visitor short story: 101 Kruger Tales Jeff Gordon, 2015-09-24 An enraged elephant flips a car onto its roof. A lioness prises open the door of a terrified couple. A leopard helps itself to a family's picnic breakfast. A fleeing impala leaps through an open car window. A lion charges around inside a busy rest camp. A hyaena snatches a baby from a tent. A tourist takes a bath in a croc-infested dam ... These are just a few of the 101 jaw-dropping sightings, scrapes and encounters in this collection of extraordinary true stories from the roads, camps, picnic sites and walking trails of South Africa's Kruger National Park, as told by the very people who experienced them. There are no game ranger tales here - each and every story happened to an ordinary Kruger visitor doing what over a million tourists do in this spectacular reserve each year.--Back cover.

the visitor short story: The Illustrated Man Ray Bradbury, 1952 One of a series of fiction for schools. The Illustrated Man is covered with tiny illustrations which quiver and come to life in the dark. Each one becomes one short story, and each story offers a picture of the future and a disturbing glimpse into the minds of those who live there.

the visitor short story: The Ray Bradbury Chronicles Ray Bradbury, 1992 Featuring stories on Bradbury's favorite subject--dinosaurs--this spectacularly illustrated fourth volume includes newly-illustrated stories for graphic novel fans.

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