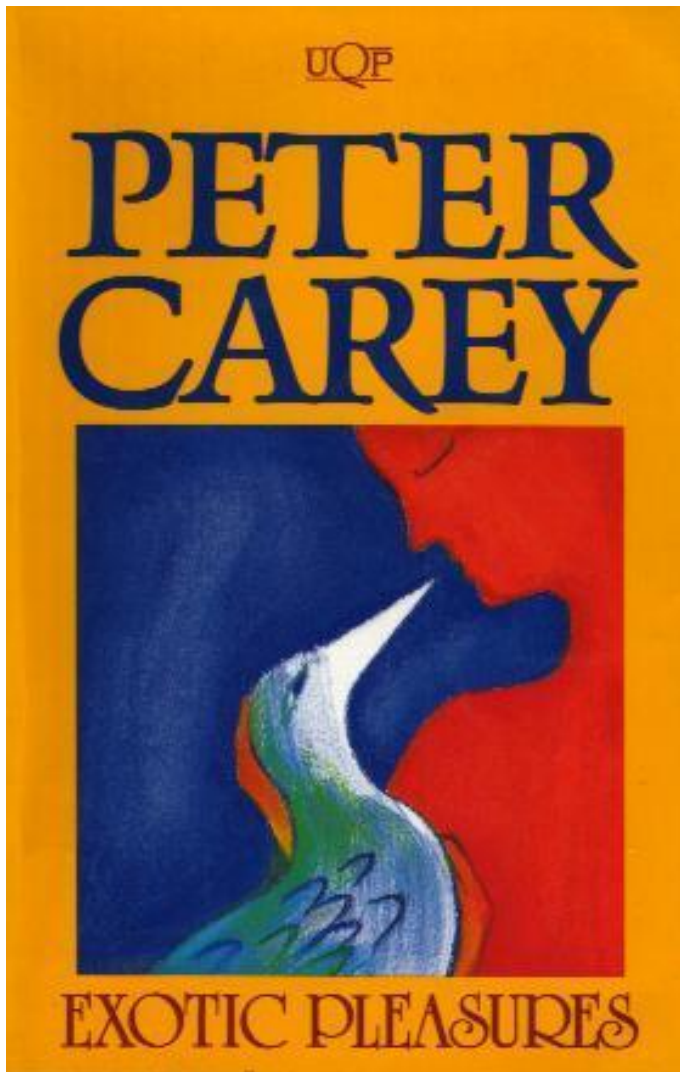

Peter Carey

Exotic Pleasures



Title: Exotic Pleasures

Author: Peter Carey

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Description

If, in some post-Marxist utopia, obesity were declared counterrevolutionary, how would a houseful of fat men strike back? If it were possible to win a new body by lottery, what kind of people would choose ugliness? If two gun-toting thugs decided to take over a business -- and run it through sheer terror -- how far would their methods take them?

These are the questions that Peter Carey, author of *The Tax Inspector* and *Oscar and Lucinda*, brilliantly explores in this collection of stories. Exquisitely written and thoroughly envisioned, the tales in *The Fat Man in History* reach beyond their arresting premises to utter deep and often frightening truths about our brightest and darkest selves.

One of Australia's most highly regarded novelists...accomplished, surehanded." -- Newsday

"Destined to [be] one of the most widely read and admired writers working in English."--
Edmund White, The Times Literary Supplement (London)

"Marvelous!" -- Boston Globe

Insightful reviews

Tamara Stowe: Couldn't even finish it! Learned that my dad picked it up from a seat pocket on a plane. There was a reason why someone left it there! First book ever to go into my recycling bin!

Dead John Williams: A series of quirky short stories that I probably would not read again.

J. McClain: I found this collection of short stories very refreshing in terms of voice and story content. As an American, part of the experience is probably due at least in part to cultural differences, but whatever the reason I thought these shorts were both striking and fresh. The quirkiness of the "slightly-different-from-reality" element to the stories makes this a fantastic read.

Tom O'Connell: the 1st 5 tales resonate the most, yet there are lots of during this assortment that would stick with me. Such is their conceptual ingenuity (and, hey, the execution isn't really part undesirable both – Carey is aware find out how to wring weight and implication out of the barest of sentences). whereas the various issues border at the surreal side, each one of these tales are propelled by means of natural common human drama. The standouts for me have been 'Do you're keen on me?', 'The Chance' and the identify story, 'Exotic Pleasures'. those three, I feel, represented an ideal marriage of top-end spec. fiction thoughts and nuanced, precise to existence relationships. 'The final Days of a well-known Mime' and 'Peeling' have been taut and steered a philosophical leaning missing within the others, whereas 'War Crimes' and 'The fats males in History' have been ideal bookends, representing similar, but contrasting ends of an analogous spectrum. 'A Windmill within the West' was once the only letdown. It wore out its premise early and degenerated right into a problematic dirge (though, to be reasonable to the rattling thing, that was once – partially – the point). I lately learn Ian McEwan's 'First Love,

final Rites', a suite that stocks loads of similarities with this one. To Carey's credit, i really bought much more from this. whereas the prose kinds and ideas are similar, the tales listed below are deeper, extra convincing, and are extra intellectually nourishing than loads of McEwan's gimmicky early stuff tended to be. The basically detractor – and i've this much with brief tale collections – is the inability of cohesion. There does not appear to be any grand intent; 'Exotic Pleasures' is a hodgepodge choice of caliber work. With a few concentrating on personality and a few on concept, the tip effect comes off a bit scattered.

Markus Whittaker: learn an excerpt of this in a set of Carey's surrealist/sci-fi brief stories, and used to be impressed, so i have been holding a watch out

Nick: i believe there are 9 or ten tales during this collection. There are a number of duds, however the final 4 made me consider like a nasty individual for nearly a complete week! in a great way.

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