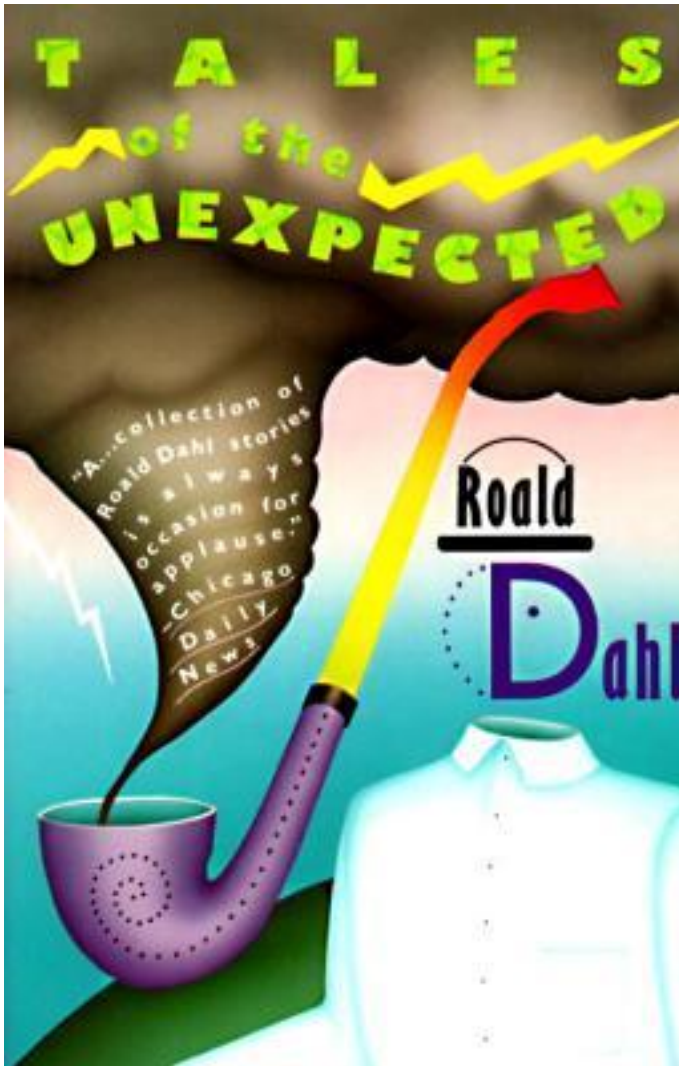

Roald Dahl

Tales of the Unexpected (Roald Dahl's Tales of the Unexpected #1)



Title: Tales of the Unexpected (Roald Dahl's Tales of the Unexpected #1)

Author: Roald Dahl

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Description

A wine connoisseur with an infallible palate and a sinister taste in wagers. A decrepit old man with a masterpiece tattooed on his back. A voracious adventuress, a gentle cuckold, and a garden sculpture that becomes an instrument of sadistic vengeance. Social climbers who climb a bit too quickly. Philanderers whose deceptions are a trifle too ornate. Impeccable servants whose bland masks slip for one vertiginous instant.

In these deliciously nasty stories an internationally acclaimed practitioner of the short narrative works his own brand of black magic: tantalizing, amusing, and sometimes terrifying readers into a new sense of what lurks beneath the ordinary. Included in Roald Dahl's *Tales of the Unexpected* are such notorious gems of the bizarre as "The Sound Machine," "Lamb to Slaughter," "Neck," and "The Landlady."

Cover illustration by Seth Jaben

Cover design by Heidi North

Contents:

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- The Way Up to Heaven
- Parson's Pleasure
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- Edward the Conqueror
- The Sound Machine
- Georgy Porgy
- The Hitchhiker
- Poison
- The Boy Who Talked with Animals
- The Umbrella Man
- Genesis and Catastrophe
- The Butler

Insightful reviews

? Jess : I wish I could give this a 3.5

Roald Dahl is one of my favorite authors, and I love all his children's books. However, I was not sure what to expect from this collection of short stories aimed at older readers.

I think the main problem, was the first few stories were EXCELLENT, and set the bar way too high for the remaining tales. That is not to say they were bad. Every story was good and enjoyable, its just the first few were truly marvelous.

By far my favorite of the stories was: "Lamb to the slaughter", the ten page story of Mary Malony, who murders her husband with a chicken leg-then calls the police over to investigate. This story is easily some of the best ten pages I have ever read.

Other magnificent stories were:

"Man from the South"-its about an man who loves betting fancy cars for peoples fingers...

"Dip in the pool"-a man jumps over board on a cruise liner, just to win some money...

"Skin"-A man has a tattoo worth millions of dollars on his back...

"Parsons Pleasure"=A business man tries to buy a priceless antique for 20 pounds.

These were the ones that really stood out and amazed me, but each and every story in here was magnificent.

"Tales of the Unexpected" is highly recommended!

Rhomy: 3.5 stars

An entertaining book, some stories were very predictable but others were great.

My personal favorites are The Landlady, Nunc Dimittis, and Skin. And the best one: The way up to Heaven.

I didn't like the fact that the author portraited every women in the book in such a grotesque way but most of the characters were very interesting, the stories were original and the imagination of the author is noticeable.

I want to keep on reading his work.

K. Axel: I must admit that when I first purchased this book, I really thought it was a book for children. Why did I think this? Well, mostly because I've only read childrens' books by Roald Dahl. This is not a book for children!

This is another review-in-progress, starting with the very first story.

Taste is the story of two men, Mike Schoefield and Richard Pratt. They have this curious tradition that Mike finds a wine, a really good wine, and then Richard has to guess what it is. However, at this particular dinner party... the stakes are raised! Since this is a story with a twist, I won't reveal the ending, except to say that it kept me at the edge of my seat all the way to the end. I've not felt my heart beat like this for a long time while reading a story. (4 stars)

Lamb to the Slaughter is the story about how Mary Maloney got away with murdering her husband. What still puzzles me is what her husband told her... why was he leaving her? Yeah, the answer is probably... a solid story, fast-paced and entertaining. (3 stars)

Man from the South is another betting story, this one involving a boy, a man, a Cadillac and a little finger. This story must absolutely have inspired the director of *Four Rooms*... yet... might not turn out exactly as you expect it to! Awesome story! (4 stars)

My Lady Love, My Dove is the story of a couple that run some kind of a hotel. They are bored and the woman wants to play a trick on her customers, so they install a sound system at one of the rooms so that they can listen and make sounds. However, the couple that moves in may have plans of their own... The weakest of the bunch so far, but still a good story. (2.5 stars)

Dip in the Pool has a strange premise. A cruise ship is crossing the Atlantic Ocean and the people aboard are betting how long they get each day. One of the travellers is looking to earn a lot of cash and is willing to do something REALLY stupid! Awesome story that really kept me at the edge of my seat! Oh, and there is a twist... that you didn't see coming! (5 stars)

Galloping Foxley tells the story of William Perkins, a contented commuter. However, this is about to change as another man enters Williams' comfort zone and there is something familiar about this one. A good and solid read. (3 stars)

Skin is one of the more morbid stories in the book (so far). It tells the story of a tattooist who one drunken night decides to get a tattoo of his own. It is supposed to be a masterpiece of his wife, by a young upcoming artist. The tattoo is a masterpiece... but the big question is, how do one sell such a masterpiece? (4 stars)

Neck is about... well... I am honestly not sure. It was a strangely incoherent read that didn't really grip me in any way. It is about the relationship between a weak man and a dominating woman. Other than that, you need to read it for yourself. However, I can't recommend it. (1 star)

Celeste Chia: I learn lots of Roald Dahl's brief tales for adults whilst I used to be eleven and did not get many of the darkish humour a similar approach I received today. Dahl has a present for putting his thoroughly traditional characters in notable situations, and writes a desirable story the entire technique to the end, the place he masterfully concludes the tale with a twist. He hits definitely the right spot in finishing every one story, leaving me in marvel, disillusioned that the tale has ended yet excited for the next.

Allison: the matter with this ebook is that each one of the endings have been expected! this could be a superb booklet to take advantage of as a version for classes in irony with an inventive writing class, simply because that's the function of each story--to offer an ironic finishing to an another way really mundane story. I love irony up to someone else, yet not one of the endings have been surprising. It really is demanding to stick engaged in a suspenseful brief tale for those who can expect the finishing from web page two. Luckily, I admire to determine execution, so I did learn the ebook as a kind of self-exercise. I'd suggest this e-book to inventive writing teachers, yet no longer too many different people. The verbiage is lovely--I'd use the phrases "quaint" or "old-fashioned" to explain the style. It makes me contemplate these paintings by way of Beatrix Potter combined with Hemingway. The irony is easily executed, yet except thinking, "wow, that used to be good set up!" I didn't have a lot of a response to the

stories.

Mark Soone: i'll fee every one tale on it is personal advantage after which get back and provides an total overview at the publication as a whole. I are looking to supply this booklet four stars, but three turns out extra accurate. I want this used to be performed on a scale of 1-10 and this might most likely be a 7 or 7. i admire brief stories, and this was once a truly enjoyable and great diversion. while you are among books or like brief stories, and prefer to take pleasure in only one or now and then this can be a great ebook to have on hand. I frequently favor darker and extra suspenseful variety brief storie, yet back this was once a really great change-up!1. TASTE- 2-3 stars- a pleasant story, a piece farfetched because the the most premise. repeatedly I come upon a brief tale that I like, however the finishing we could me down..this falls into that category.2. Lamb to the Slaughter-2-3 stars- This tale wishes my brain to know that it was once written in a unique era. a pleasant story, that the forensics of this day could most probably make irrelevant. 3. guy from the South- three stars- an enormous similarity to tale 1, turns out a piece repetitive in topic to incorporate so on the subject of one another or even within the similar collection? a bit of higher for than the 1st one, yet i do not are looking to listen "Wanna make a bet" again!!!4. My woman Love, My Dove- four stars- a truly great read. I loved how the effect of 1 (in 2 seperate couples), has significant implications within the lifetime of the other.5. Dip within the pool- 3-4 stars- A enjoyable read, a determined guy hatches a devious if now not superb plan...if it really works his goals will come true...if not????6. Galloping Foxley- four stars- an individual who has been a bully or bullied should still learn this. 7. Skin- four stars- a pleasant dilemma.8. Neck- four stars- occasionally I hate a brief tale that leaves you striking on the end..sometimes i admire it, and this was once a kind of times. A cuckold husband, with a difficult option to make. 9. Nunc Dimittis- four stars- wounded pride, jilted love and revenge upon revenge...Nothing to dark, yet simply sinister adequate to maintain it edgy!10. The Landlady- four stars- The empty finishing permits the tale pass in a couple of directions...Mine used to be a mini Psycho!11. William & mary- 2 stars- this used to be most likely good complex on the time it was once written...as it really is is what nonetheless a pleasant story. I simply could not get desirous about the character, their dilemia or their choice.12. the best way as much as heaven- three stars- one other lovely story. A domineering husband, a submissive spouse and the twist on the finish used to be very enjoyable!13. Parsons pleasure-3 stars- The finishing was once very lacking. an inventive and decietful buisness man, with a plot that i used to be sinking my tooth into. TThe tale in itself used to be very worthwhile, however the finishing left me in need of plenty more.14. Mrs. Bixby and the Colonel's Cat- 3-4 stars- What an exceptional little story, of lust, deception, betrayal and revenge. the finishing was once terrific as well!15. Royal Jelly- 2 stars- no longer great, yet a good little story. A disgrace even if farfetched it looked as if it would me to have higher possibilities.16. Edward the Conqueror- 2 stars- the idea didn't particularly attract me. no longer being a believer in reincarnation anyway, however the tale simply by no means rather gripped me.17. The Sound machine- 2-3 stars- three stars turns out a piece high, however it was once greater than the final 2 they usually merely recieved 2, so there you go. a pleasant storyline, and a demented protaginist.18- Georgy Porgy- a beneficiant 1 star- Alrighty then...19. The Hitchhiker- three stars- a short story, unsure what else to assert with no giving hints.20. poison- 2 stars- a good suggestion to begin with, yet by no means saeemed to get sufficient momentum. it could possibly have long past in a special finishing course for me as well.21. The boy who talked to animals- four stars- this can be most probably now not the easiest tale within the book...but it struck a twine with me, and that i simply enjoyed it.22. The

Umbrella man- four stars- a truly fast and inventive read. a really ingenious man, develops an excellent scheme.²³ genesis and Catastrophe- 1 star- Alrighty then²⁴. The Buttler- four stars- Aint it approximately time that the wealthy get the fast finish of the stick.

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