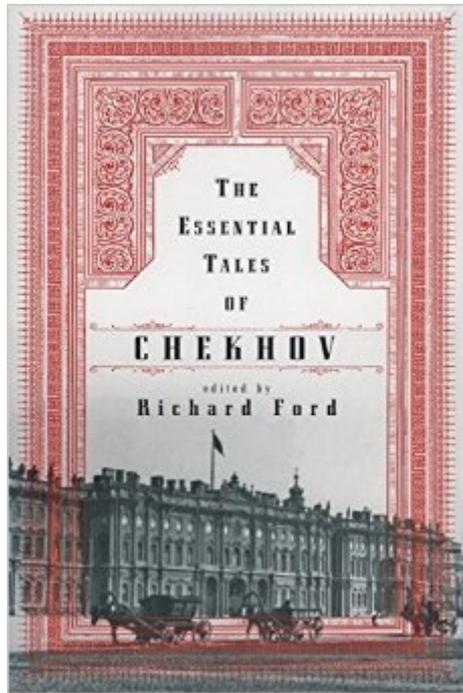


The book was found

The Essential Tales Of Chekhov



Synopsis

Of the two hundred stories that Anton Chekhov wrote, the twenty stories that appear in this extraordinary collection were personally chosen by Richard Ford--an accomplished storyteller in his own right. Included are the familiar masterpieces--"The Kiss," "The Darling," and "The Lady with the Dog"--as well as several brilliant lesser-known tales such as "A Blunder," "Hush!," and "Champagne." These stories, ordered from 1886 to 1899, are drawn from Chekhov's most fruitful years as a short-story writer. A truly balanced selection, they exhibit the qualities that make Chekhov one of the greatest fiction writers of all time: his gift for detail, dialogue, and humor; his emotional perception and compassion; and his understanding that life's most important moments are often the most overlooked. "The reason we like Chekhov so much, now at our century's end," writes Ford in his perceptive introduction, "is because his stories from the last century's end feel so modern to us, are so much of our own time and mind." Exquisitely translated by the renowned Constance Garnett, these stories present a wonderful opportunity to introduce yourself--or become reacquainted with--an artist whose genius and influence only increase with every passing generation.

Book Information

Paperback: 368 pages

Publisher: Harper Perennial; Reprint edition (June 20, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060956569

ISBN-13: 978-0060956561

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.9 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #275,723 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #73 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > World Literature > Russian](#) #4461 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Short Stories & Anthologies > Short Stories](#) #10613 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Contemporary](#)

Customer Reviews

with Chekhov. Whatever volume (happily, there are lots in print), whatever translation you start with, you'll want to keep reading and keep discovering. But, Chekhov may require some getting used to. His stories are melancholy, funny, laconic, ironic. Not many of his characters could be called heroic. His plots do not end neatly. He asks many questions but doesn't answer them. My personal favorites in this volume: An Anonymous Story, Ward 6, The Grasshopper, The Lady with the

Dog. For a great critical essay on Chekhov, read Nabakov's in his Lectures on Russian Literature.

A quibble with the title of the volume. Why 'the essential Chekhov'? as if the great bulk of the Chekhov stories not contained in this volume were somehow 'less essential'? One cannot help but agreeing with the overwhelming majority of readers and reviewers of Chekhov who find him one of the great masters and delights of Literature. His stories are celebrations of insight into the human soul and character, in all its great quirkiness. Here stories too are guides to understanding life's ironies and disappointments. Chekhov's work is filled with dreamers, and filled with obsessed characters whose ideas take them on lonely paths of their own. What makes Chekhov so special in my mind aside from this constant play and contradiction between reality and dream, is the love which he seems to have for his characters. The soul of the human being Chekhov is felt in these stories, almost as if he were a caring country physician seeking to understand and find a remedy for the strange illnesses of his beloved patients. Chekhov knows what romantic love is and of course one of his signature stories (included here) "The Lady and the Dog" gives us a truly moving instance of it. Life and the heart lead us to where we do not necessarily want to go. The aging lecher despite himself finds himselfr impossiblly in love with the Bovary-like heroine and upon their reunion in impossible love and life the story ends. In Chekhov stories too as in life things end in the middle without resolution and with only the promise of disappointment and heartbreak to come.

I have just finished reading these stories and what I can say is that they are really exceptional. One falls in love with the characters, even with the most disgusting ones, since the author finds a light deep inside each human being he creates through the words, whether a miserable "mushik" or a refined "barin". Feelings somewhat opossed like desperation, compassion, anguish and beatitude arise every now and then along the pages, leading the reader through a vast gallery of situations and characters.

Sorry, I have to differ from my fellow reviewers. The translations here by Constance Garnett are tired and clunky and way too literal. The art of translation has evolved light years from the "word-by-word" school. To compare how much more "modern" Chekhov can sound (and Chekhov was, is, and will remain always MODERN), read Robert Payne's translations. Payne eliminates the clumsy clauses and unnecessary commas and lets the story shine through. Ford's introduction is interesting, but note: he says NOTHING about the translations. He must know they are abominable. Personally, I have no respect for Richard Ford and Ecco Press for reprinting these. Screw the reader, right?

Reading Chekhov you learn what it is to be Russian. Like their samovars, and the muzhiks(Russian peasants). It's all very interesting. I never knew they were as devout in their Christian faith as they appear to be in his stories. Of course, it predates Communism which banned churches(Stalin almost had St. Basil's Cathedral leveled). Chekhov takes you back in time when horses, trains, and ships were the main mode of transportation. The Lady With The Dog was my favorite.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Essential Tales of Chekhov Chekhov: The Essential Plays: The Seagull, Uncle Vanya, Three Sisters & The Cherry Orchard (Modern Library Classics) Essential Oils: 50 Essential Oil Dog & Cat Recipes From My Essential Oil Private Collection: Proven Essential Oil Recipes That Work! (Essential Oil Pet Private Collection Book 1) Essential Oils: Ultimate Essential Oils Guide and 89 Powerful Essential Oil Recipes! (2nd Edition) - How to Use Essential Oils for Aromatherapy and Healthy ... Loss, Essential Oil Recipes, Aromatherapy) ESSENTIAL OILS: Aromatherapy, Essential Oils For Beginners, And Essential Oil Recipes To Improve Your Health (Medicinal Herbs) (Essential oil recipes, ... Aromatherapy and essential oils Book 1) The Plays of Anton Chekhov Complete Plays of Anton Chekhov (Illustrated) Chekhov Plays (Methuen Paperback) Young Chekhov: Platonov; Ivanov; The Seagull Anton Chekhov's Selected Plays (Norton Critical Editions) Anton Chekhov's Short Stories (Norton Critical Editions) Essential Oils: 40 Amazing Essential Oil Recipes for Diffusers: (Diffusers, Natural Remedies) (essential oils diffusers, young living essential oils book) Essential Oils For Beginners: Essential Oils For Beginners: How To Use The Essential Oils To Maximize Your Health And Longevity (Essential Oils And Aromatherapy) (Volume 1) Essential Oils: 120+ Essential Oils Recipes For Diffusers, Aromatherapy, Natural Remedies For Skin And Hair Care: (Essential Oils For Weight Loss, Aromatherapy) ... Oils, Essential Oils For Allergie) Big Collection Of Essential Oils: Amazing DIY Recipes Of Essential Oils Blends, Soap Making And Repellents: (Diffuser Recipes and Blends, Skin So Soft Insect ... (Natural Remedies, Essential oils) Essential Oils: The Complete Guide: Essential Oils For Beginners, Aromatherapy And Essential Oil Recipes The Bridesmaids: True Tales of Love, Envy, Loyalty . . . and Terrible Dresses (Picador True Tales) Fairy tales for adults.: Fantastic fairy tales for adults with an erotic bias. Twisted Tales: The Complete Collection (Nine Adult Fairy Tales Of Extreme And Taboo Punishment) The Arabian Nights: Tales of 1,001 Nights: Volume 1 (The Arabian Nights or Tales from 1001 Nights)

[Dmca](#)