



The Collected Stories of Philip K. Dick, Volume 5: We Can Remember It For You Wholesale

Philip K. Dick , Thomas M. Disch (Introduction)

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The Collected Stories of Philip K. Dick, Volume 5: We Can Remember It For You Wholesale Details

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Bithika says

The writing in these stories is kind of stripped down, but after reading a few stories I understood why. These stories are focussed on ideas, rather than style. Right at the very end of this book is a really nice extract from "Afterthought by the Author" which is Philip K Dick writing about his own writing.

The final quote sums up this collection of stories for me:

"The germ lay in the story; in a very real sense that was it's true distillate. And some of my best ideas, which meant the most to me, I could never expand into novel form. They exist only as stories, despite all my efforts."

At first I found the writing style quite hard to get into. But then a little way in, I found myself frequently thinking 'hang on a minute ... what did he just say ... did he really just say that?' which made me want to continue reading. These stories are indeed the true distillate of Philip K Dick's ideas (of which there are many!).

Running through this collection are themes about identity, the nature of reality and also generally the sense that we've all been hoodwinked somewhat. (His novels follow similar themes but the writing style is quite different). "The Pre-Persons" was one story in particular that made me think a lot. Whilst I can't completely agree with his viewpoint, he has highlighted something about how ethically inconsistent we can be. There is a "doublethink" theme running through many of the stories which I really liked.

The stories vary in quality but I think they give each other context, and the best way to read these stories is as a collection. Very enjoyable.

Sean Wilson says

"Objective reality is a synthetic product, dealing with a hypothetical universalization of a multitude of subjective realities."

A good collection of Philip K. Dick's short stories, his later stories having a brilliant effect on my literary mind. *The Electric Ant, I Hope I Shall Arrive Soon* and *A Little Something for Us Tempunauts* stood out as wonderfully paranoid observations on conventional reality, while also being so damn entertaining to read.

Brett Adams says

"I can see it in his eyes. They look broken. Broken eyes. Torn down into pieces by fatigue and--defeat."

I enjoyed the 'Afterthought by the Author' as much as the stories. Here's an excerpt:

"The basic premise dominating my stories is that if I ever met an extraterrestrial intelligence I would find I had more to say to it than to my next-door neighbour. What the people on my block do is bring in their newspaper and mail and drive off in their cars. They have no other outdoor habits except mowing their lawns. I went next door one time to check into the indoor habits. They were watching TV. Could you, in writing a sf novel, postulate a culture on these premises? Surely such a society doesn't exist, except maybe in my imagination. And there isn't much imagination involved.

The way out of living in an unimaginative figment is to make contact, in your own mind, with other civilisations as yet unborn. You're doing the same thing when you read sf that I'm doing when I write it; your neighbour probably is as alien a life form to you as mine is to me. The stories in this collection are attempts at reception -- at listening to voices from another place, very far off, sounds quite faint but important. They only come late at night, when the background din and gabble of our world have faded out. When the newspapers have been read, the TV sets shut off, the cars parked in their various garages. Then, faintly, I hear voices from another star. (I clocked it once, and reception is best between 3:00 AM and 4:45 AM) Of course, I don't usually tell people this when they ask, 'Say, where do you get your ideas?' I just say I don't know. It's safer.

...

The majority of these stories were written when my life was simpler and made sense. I could tell the difference between the real world and the world I wrote about. I used to dig in the garden, and there is nothing fantastic or ultra dimensional about crab grass... unless you are an sf writer, in which case pretty soon you are viewing crab grass with suspicion. What are its real motives? And who sent it in the first place?"

Manny says

The title story is SO much better than *Total Recall*.

Zeezee says

It casts a wide net of about 18 years so they're not all winners. But atleast a few of these stories ought to activate your almonds.

The better stories are in the later half I think. From *Faith of our Fathers* (one of the best stories in here and absolutely begging for a movie adaptation) and onwards. With the exception of *The Eye of Sybil* which is just self indulgently autobiographical and not in a very interesting way and *A Little Something For Us*

Tempunauts which reads like a failed trial experiment for the movie Groundhog Day or something. But those two are really the only truly bad ones in the collection.

Despite kind of the hit or miss nature of the stories. The great one are just fantastic such as Faith of our Fathers, Holy Quarrel, Strange Memories of Death, The Exit Door Leads In, Retreat Syndrome (which is basically just a better version of the We Can Remember it for you Wholesale which was frankly more interesting as Total Recall), Chains of Air Web of Aether and my personal favorite Cadbury, The Beaver Who Lacked. (God I would love to live in the alternate dimension where that got a movie adaptation just to see the reactions to it.)

Special shoutout to The Pre-Person, a supremely edgy hot take about abortion, passionately written for sure even if I don't agree with it. I admire his chutzpah. Atleast he wasn't afraid to catch some flack for contrarian opinions.

Also included are some authors notes which are interesting. And also an introduction that reads like a 3 page extended backhanded compliment or a straight up roast. With its crown jewel being that Ursula K. Le Guin did his shtich better in Lathe of Heaven. Thanks for that loving tribute to a dead writer Mr. Thomas M. Disch.

Jeffrey says

This is the last volume of Philip K. Dick's short stories, written between 1963 and 1981. While he sticks to many of the themes that have been a part of his writing from the beginning, the effects of a changing culture can be seen. For one thing, some of his characters have stopped smoking; they now chew tobacco. I imaging the author trying to kick his smoking habit, or beginning to realize that smoking in a spaceship is not a good idea or likely to be happening.

One story written in 1974, "Pre-Persons," imagining an overpopulated world in which abortion has been legalized up to age 12, when young people finally develop a soul, apparently enraged a few readers. The story is spun with his usual wit and understatement. He imagines in Stephen King style the terror of the grown children who know that the 'abortion truck' is coming. They would rather see the dog catcher or hear an ice cream truck than hear the abortion truck loudspeakers blasting out a version of Jack and Jill. While you may also be enraged by this thought experiment, you have to give him credit for following the idea to its logical conclusion.

One story in particular stands out: "Cadbury the Beaver Who Lacked." Wow, what a strange trip down the beaver hole with an insecure and strange beaver and his search for a mate to replace his nagging spouse.

Three females, possibly women, all part of the same person, offer him bitingly honest appraisals of how they would treat him if they lived together. Very strange and totally not science fiction: it is all fantasy - very unusual for Dick - and as a result, very entertaining to his readers.

"We Can Remember it for you Wholesale" is the story that became the hit movie, "Total Recall." The story is wonderful, but it is so different from the movie that you have to give credit to the creators of the movie for taking the skeleton of an idea and expanding it into a mind bending feature film.

If you are a fan of Philip K. Dick, or simply a reader with OCD who wants to say you have "read everything" by the author, well give this book a spin. I had many entertaining moments from it.

My library had to borrow this book from a library in San Francisco! Amazing. Now on to Volume 4, which the library just got from North Carolina.

Dann Ball says

What a great read! Originally bought to read the short story 'We Can Remember It For You Wholesale'. But found myself enjoying other stories that were before, to me at least unheard of.

Really enjoy the conversational style of Phillip. K. Dick. He knew his strength of both dialogue and exposition. Allowing us the readers to peak into the the lives of alternate realities and worlds of his characters. Allowing characters to show us or hint at how these lives, societies, tech work without pages of exposition or narration. With a none overwhelming sense of humour.

Some of my particular favourites:

- The Little Black Box
 - The War with the Fnools
 - Precious Artifact
 - Retreat Syndrome
 - A Terran Odyssey
 - We Can Remember It For You Wholesale
-

Zero Jones says

I adore Philip K Dick's work. His style is somewhat pulpy, more so in his short stories. However, it is for his ideas that Dick should be revered. I've picked this collection to out myself as a Philip K Dick fan, as it contains my absolute favourite of his stories, The Electric Ant.

Simón says

I bought the 5th volume of Philip K. Dick's collected stories because of the one advertised in the cover, We can remember it for you wholesale, since I had enjoyed Paul Verhoeven's Total Recall and wanted to know what inspired him.

This volume has 25 short stories covering topics such as reality and perception, space colonisation, interaction with alien races, religion, nuclear war, time travel... Having read other of his novels, like Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep, The Man in the High Castle, or The Minority Report, one is already expecting -and ready to welcome!- some of Dick's oddities.

It wasn't hard to rate this book: there were a couple of stories that left me indifferent, but most of them were very good, and some were simply brilliant! In some cases, it was as if Philip K. Dick was right there, next to me, ready to shake the foundations of my understanding of his work.

I wrote some notes for each of the stories. I've tried to keep them spoiler-free (unless you display the spoiler section), but it is not always easy due to their short length.

The little black box. A new religion threatens the world's stability: Mercerism, and the strange empathy boxes that allow people to communicate with the even stranger religion's spiritual leader. (view spoiler) Mercerism plays a major role in Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep, and there is some connection to The Minority Report as well(view spoiler).

The war with the Fnools. An alien race is threatening the Earth. But they take strange appearances and each country takes different measures to fight them. This is one of the most surreal stories of the collection, simply brilliant. (view spoiler)

A game of unchance. A story about colonists living in Mars, under hard conditions. They often receive visits of spaceships which set up a Carnival for them, with prizes and games. Among the colonists, some people have developed psychic skills, and they are usually the ones trying to identify the games with the best odds to win prizes. However, things aren't that simple(view spoiler).

Precious Artifact. I liked this story very much. A terraformer working on Mars finishes his assignment and is ready to receive his allocated piece of land, but before that, he wants to go back to Earth for visiting: there is something odd that worries him. Here again Philip K. Dick plays with reality, perception, our subconscious... (view spoiler)

Retreat syndrome. When two policemen stop a driver going too fast, he shows them how he can get his arm through the windshield -without any damage to him or the windshield! The main character is confused: he thinks he is part of a simulation, but has no means to discover. However, he keeps trying to find flaws in such simulation... or is it the reality what is flawed? In a deliciously confusing story, one doesn't know which side to believe: is the character crazy? Is he right? But then, how can one explain certain things? Very much in line with "We can remember it for you wholesale"!

A Terran Odyssey. This was probably the most ordinary of the stories, and not in a bad way at all. A post-apocalyptic account of life after a nuclear war, displaying telepaths, trading, scavenging... It was very good, and didn't use any of the typical twists of the author.

Your appointment will be yesterday. And again, into a very original story where, after some invention, time moves backwards within a certain region. People cease to exist when they return to their mother's womb, they are born when they are "assembled" together from DNA remains, and pretty much everything is amazing. Another interesting passage is an account of how one would eat if you look at it with an inverted time reference. This story led to him writing Counter-clock world, which is mentioned by Sean Carroll in From Eternity to Here: The Quest for the Ultimate Theory of Time.

Holy Quarrel shows a computer that not only becomes self aware, it becomes superstitious. It tries to obliterate a region of the US for apparently no good reason, so a team of engineers try to "debug" the problem. Brilliant!

We can remember it for you wholesale is the short story behind Total Recall. Philip K. Dick plays with the reader and shakes us, so we can no longer tell what fiction, false memories, and reality are. A worker with a regular and monotonous life dreams of travelling to Mars and being a spy, but when he finally decides to go and get a memory implant, something odd is found. Another extraordinary story!

Not by its cover. A company in Mars sells Wub fur! The surprising thing is that these Wubs, somehow, manage to stay alive through their fur, and when this is used for bookbinding, it leads to extraordinary situations, with the Wur interacting with the book in clever ways. (view spoiler)

Return match. What starts as a “regular” police raid against an alien casino, ends up wrong after a pinball survives the self-destruction initiated by the aliens to destroy any evidence. Somehow, the pinball doesn’t like to be played with, and eventually... (view spoiler)

Faith of our fathers. In the future, after Communism has won, a large bureaucracy apparatus exists. One of the workers there receives an almost impossible task, and things get very odd when drugs and the recurring topic of altered reality come into play. (view spoiler)

The Story to end all stories. A short story in a couple of paragraphs, describing war, mutants, sex, cannibalism, God... Reminding, maybe, of Greeks myths.

The electric ant. This story plays with similar concepts to the ones found in Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep. Here, a sentient robot finds out who / what he really is. Only then he starts considering what reality is, where he gets his stimuli from, etc. Very good.

Cadbury, the beaver who lacked. I am still puzzled, this was too surreal. Could it be a fable? Or is it simply a random collection of thoughts? I wasn’t ready for this: a beaver with a wife he didn’t love and a job he didn’t like starts visiting a psychologist and tries to find a way out of that life into something better. It is unclear if what he finds is actually any better.

A little something for us tempunauts. What if instead of a Space Race between the U.S.’s Astronauts and the Soviet Union’s Cosmonauts we would have had Tempunauts and Chrononauts? What would happen if things go wrong and they accidentally entered a closed loop? How could they tell? Another great story.

The Pre-persons. Abortion of children younger than 12 is now legal. I found the story very good, but with a clear (and manipulative) anti-abortion message. It is sort of exposing a slippery slope, where you start aborting embryos and end up with children. It was very, very good how he proposed that the soul would only arrive when the pre-person learns higher math: algebra.

The eye of the Sybil. This story tells of an Oracle that gives a view of the future from Roman times (and eyes). It is very nicely written, maybe showing the things that seemed to annoy Philip K. Dick as he grew up, such as the lack of support from his family and relatives... It also talks about the future collapse of society, dark times to come, etc.

The day Mr computer fell out of its tree. Everything is controlled by a supercomputer. Clothing, food, transportation... Everywhere. But since this computer is a sentient being, it can get crazy. This has been accounted for, and a psychologist is always ready to help. (view spoiler)

The exit door leads in. A contest gets a person in a college where they submit him to a test. It is about ethics, about what’s right and wrong, authority and so on. This is another story in the same topic of reality and perception, “things are not what they look like”. We see intelligent computers again, pre-Socratic philosophy, and some of the problems of following rules without questioning them.

Chains of air, web of aether. In another colony, dome operators are living in isolation, with little human contact. One of them gets sick, and so another tries to help her. However, caring for a sick person takes its toll.

Strange memories of death. Although this story seems to talk about an eviction in its surface, it is mostly about psychopaths, social conventions, and... how the agreements between adults is, in a way, what

constitutes reality.

I hope I shall arrive soon. The cryogenic system of a spaceship fails, and the passenger stays awake for 10 years. The ship (which, of course, is sentient) has to feed him with stimuli to keep his brain from dying, but there is nothing available other than the passenger's own memories. (view spoiler)

Rautavaara's case. After an accident in a space vessel, three humans die. One is "restored" to life by some aliens from Proxima Centauri (they are called "Approximations", a term they hate), and hallucinates with Christ and the afterlife (or quite so). However, things quickly deteriorate when the aliens modify the life support system...

The alien mind. A guy kills his pet in retaliation for touching some buttons that divert his track, as he travels in a spaceship on his way to deliver a vaccine. However, the aliens receiving this vaccine don't like it at all. (view spoiler)

Paul Sloan says

It's a great series of short stories. Read them in any order. Some take a few pages to get into, some make no sense, and some are deftly rewarding.

Rich Daley says

I gave up halfway through. PKD has great sci-fi ideas, but his writing style leaves a lot to be desired.

Primarily my concern is with how misogynistic it is. Every female character introduced is completely incidental to the story and PKD spends a couple of paragraphs describing each one's physical attributes and attractiveness thereof. Ugh.

Luigi says

Not so much a review as just wanting to recognize that Philip K Dick remains one of my favorite authors. It was tragedy when he passed away and we were not going to get any more prophetic stories from him. I'm sure he would have lived to be around today and telling us what today's technology and society might turn into.

Simon says

I went for the fifth and final volume of this chronologically ordered collection of Philip K Dick's short stories because I supposed this one would contain his best stories. It covers the period from 1963 until 1982, the year he died. Novel wise, this period includes most of his greats although he was far less prolific short story wise, the majority of his short stories being written in the 50's.

Well, this collection does contain some real corkers. "Holy Quarrel" and "The Exit Door Leads In" are among the highlights. There are stories that are/were quite controversial like "Faith of Our Fathers" and especially "The Pre-Persons" that might even offend. There are a couple of stories that are (rather pointlessly in my opinion) adapted from novels such as "A Terran Odyssey" (Dr. Bloodmoney) and "Your Appointment Will Be Yesterday" (Counter-Clock World).

Dick explores themes that will be familiar to anyone who's read his novels such as notions of reality being repeatedly overturned. We see Mercerism that appears later in *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* in the story "Little Black Box". There's "We Can Remember It For You Wholesale" that was later adapted by the famous film "Total Recall". We see Dick's cynical and despondant humour pervading most of the stories although this subsides in the later stories that tend to dwell more on mental illness, dying and death.

Of additional interest is an introduction by Thomas Disch and the authors notes on many of the stories included, as well as some general notes about his short story writing. All of which helped provide an additional insight into the author and the context in which the stories were written.

Despite a few duffers, the overall quality of the collection is very high and I definitely plan to read some (if not all) of the earlier volumes in this series.

Jerry says

I do not understand where they find some of the people who do the introductions to collections.

It's not for his exquisite style he's applauded, or his depth of characterization. Dick's prose seldom soars, and often is as lame as any Quasimodo... Even stories that one remembers as exceptions to this rule can prove, on re-reading, to have more in common with Bradbury and van Vogt than with Borges and Pinter. Dick is content, most of the time, with a narrative surface as simple—even simple-minded—as a comic book.

He goes on to write that Dick lacks "polish, execution, economy of means, and other esthetic niceties."

Obviously, everything is opinion, especially when it comes to Philip K. Dick, but it seems an odd opinion to make the introduction to a collection of great Philip K. Dick stories. *Your appointment will be yesterday* is polished, well-executed and economical, and esthetically pleasing. *A Terran odyssey* and *Retreat syndrome* also, the latter adding a narrative depth as profound as a church bell. (And not even getting into the denigration of Bradbury and comic books, though Bradbury himself would have had no problem with the comparison, only the tone.)

It brought tears to his eyes to remember one of the old songs, from the world the way it was. All gone now, he said to himself. And what do we have instead, a rat that can play the nose flute, and not even that because the rat got run over.

Add a modern Jesus who uses high-speed communications technology to spread the knowledge of his suffering for mankind. A CEO discovers that he is a robot, and, after a suicidal bout decides to learn to reprogram his senses. And *I hope I shall arrive soon*, which takes the typical Dick illusions and reverses them. Very sad. Very touching.

There are also some interesting (and short) notes from Dick about some of the stories.

The majority of these stories were written when my life was simpler and made sense. I could tell the difference between the real world and the world I wrote about. I used to dig in the garden, and there is nothing fantastic or ultradimensional about crab grass... unless you are an sf writer, in which case pretty soon you are viewing crab grass with suspicion. What are its real motives? And who sent it in the first place?

Tomislav says

In 1987, Gollancz published a chronologically-ordered collection of all of Philip K. Dick's short stories in a five-volume series. This is the fifth and final volume, containing stories from 1963 up to PKD's death in 1981. There is an appendix that gives the date of manuscript submission for each story, and where it was published, plus notes. Volume Five is subtitled for the story "We Can Remember It for You Wholesale". The collection was also re-published in 1990 as a stand-alone collection using the title of a different story, "The Little Black Box." There are enough good stories here to make the collection worthwhile, but it is just sad to see the evidence of the deterioration of PKD's mind and writing in the last decade of his life. Individual stories described and rated * to ***** below...

The Little Black Box (1963) – A new religion is being introduced throughout the world using a device known as an Empathy Box, that channels the experiences of Wilbur Mercer, and converts anyone who grips its handles. Perhaps this is a form of alien mind control of humans. It is investigated and opposed by US government telepaths, who are themselves especially susceptible. Note that the Mercerism religion reappears in PKD's novel Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? (1968) ***

The War with the Fnools – An inept CIA contends with an invasion of aliens two feet tall. Not as comical as it was apparently intended. **

A Game of Unchance (1963) – An agrarian community on Mars cannot help itself from winning a carnival prize that is trouble. A vision of Mars as American frontier, where lessons are not learned. ****

Precious Artifact (1963) – A war was fought between Earth and the Proxmen over the right to send their own overpopulation to Mars. Earth won, and Milt Biskle is one of the engineers hired to terraform the planet. But he suspects he has been fooled and is sent to Earth before he has a chance to disclose his theories to his fellow engineers. ***

Retreat Syndrome (1963) – John Cupertino seeks the truth behind his memory of killing his wife. All levels of his reality are drawn under suspicion, as he may have false memories induced by his own mental illness, or by manipulation by legal authorities on Earth, or by Ganymedian rebels. The reality is even more ironic

than any of those. *****

A Terran Odyssey (1964) – I’m not sure which was written first, but this story is made up of sections of PKD’s novel Dr. Bloodmoney (1965). It is a post-nuclear holocaust Earth with rearranged geopolitics, and genetic mutation. It is a very complex setting, better conveyed by the novel than in this short story. ***

Your Appointment Will be Yesterday (1965) – PKD later expanded this into his novel Counter-Clock World (1967). Time is moving in reverse for most of the Earth, but things have backed up nearly to the point where Ludwig Eng created the Swabble that enabled time reversal. As his work is eradicated, will time go forward again? It is an interesting thought piece, as only events outside of the human mind itself are reversed – people see cause and effect reversed, without reversal of their minds and memories. In novel form, the novelty of this device wears out, so I prefer the story. *****

Holy Quarrel (1965) – It is possible construct sentences of English words that are not meaningful statements, or even that are self-contradictory. Only someone who is completely clueless about how computers work, would think that entering such sentences into one would have any effect on its “reasoning” or its developed “faith”. This is that kind of story. **

We Can Remember It for You Wholesale (1965) – Douglas Quail leads a boring life with an office job, and dreams of being a secret agent on Mars. One day he contracts with Rekal Inc. to implant that experience into his memory. During the procedure, it is discovered that this would conflict with some repressed memories he already has. While the two “Total Recall” films (1990 and 2012) that were adapted from this story further develop the action around that basic concept, the story further develops the concept itself. I prefer the story version. This was one of many stories on first ballot for 1967 Nebula Award. The footnotes of the book describe it as “nominated”, but because it did not make it to the final ballot, that would be inaccurate. *****

Not by Its Cover (1965) – Books published in “living” bindings are found to have been edited. ***

Return Match (1965) – A pinball machine is an instrument of alien invasion. ***

Faith of Our Fathers (1966) – This novelette was included in Harlan Ellison’s landmark anthology Dangerous Visions, and was nominated for 1968 Hugo Award. It concerns a rising partisan official in the global revolutionary government, who must choose whether to see the truth concerning the Absolute Benefactor. Mind altering substances may help or may hinder. Truth has multiple layers, and the evidence of his senses is untrustworthy. It is a theme much repeated in PKD’s writing, but this is a particularly outstanding piece of it. *****

The Story to End All Stories for Harlan Ellison’s Anthology Dangerous Visions (1968) – one paragraph *

The Electric Ant (1968) – Garson Poole finds that he is actually a humanoid android, programmed to avoid any considerations that would have revealed that. Playing with his own programming could lead to disastrous consequences. It’s easy to see how this overlaps with the concept of a human replicant in his novel Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep (1968). ****

Cadbury, the Beaver Who Lacked (1971) - Simplistic metaphorical story about a self-centered male beaver who wants out of his marriage. This was written in a time when PKD was abusing amphetamines and exhibiting extremely erratic behaviors in his personal life. Previously unpublished, for good reason, I think. *

A Little Something for Us Tempunauts (1973) – Time travelers stuck in a loop upon their return to the

present. The point of time travel stories is often the confrontation of a character with himself. In this story, the three tempunauts come near their deceased selves, but are unable to confront. They face depression and consider the desirability of suicide as a way out. ****

The Pre-Persons (1973) – In the near future, abortion has been made legal up to the age of 12 years. Several personal stories of terrified or captured children illustrate this future. Then the story continues into an explicitly misogynist rant about how selfish women will control men. Wretchedly bad story. *

The Eye of the Sybil (1975) – A citizen of the Roman Republic is able to see into our own time through the eye of a Sybil. Now is described as a time of secret police and mind control. PKD was suffering from hallucinations during the time this was written. Previously unpublished. **

The Day Mr. Computer Fell Out of Its Tree (1977) – Joe Contemptible leads a meaningless life, but meets the beautiful Joan Simpson. Previously unpublished. **

The Exit Door Leads In (1979) – Bob Bibleman wins a trivial contest and is sent to a military college. There he meets Mary Lorne and gets involved in a conspiracy ***

Chains of Air, Web of Aether (1979) – Leo McVane is assigned to live alone in a dome on a frontier planet, where he watches for disasters, and manages the import of music videos. He reaches out to a woman living alone in the next dome over, because she is dieing. He resists getting involved, but falls again into the traps of personal relationship. One of the few stories written in PKD's last decade that I actually enjoyed. ****

Strange Memories of Death (1980) – The Lysol Lady is being evicted, and the first-person narrator ponders the meaning of money. Auto-biographical? **

I Hope I Shall Arrive Soon (1980) – Victor Kemmings is in cryonic suspension for a ten year trip to another star system, but his automatic unit is malfunctioning. He is awake, but unable to move, and so the master computer struggles to find a way to keep his mind alive. It succeeds, sort of. ***

Rautavaara's Case (1980) – Aliens reanimate the brain of one member of a crew who has died in space. **

The Alien Mind (1981) – A space travelling pilot should have taken better care of his pet cat. PKD's last story before his death in 1982 **
