



Bradbury Stories: 100 of His Most Celebrated Tales

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For more than sixty years, the imagination of Ray Bradbury has opened doors into remarkable places, ushering us across unexplored territories of the heart and mind while leading us inexorably toward a profound understanding of ourselves and the universe we inhabit. In this landmark volume, America's preeminent storyteller offers us one hundred treasures from a lifetime of words and ideas. The stories within these pages were chosen by Bradbury himself, and span a career that blossomed in the pulp magazines of the early 1940s and continues to flourish in the new millennium. Here are representatives of the legendary author's finest works of short fiction, including many that have not been republished for decades, all forever fresh and vital, evocative and immensely entertaining.

Bradbury Stories: 100 of His Most Celebrated Tales Details

Date : Published March 21st 2013 by William Morrow Paperbacks (first published August 5th 2003)

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Author : Ray Bradbury

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From Reader Review Bradbury Stories: 100 of His Most Celebrated Tales for online ebook

Jean says

This book took a while. Part of that was because it is massive (888 pages); part of it is because this is the kind of book that you savor. If you read too much of it in a stretch, then you start losing the beauty of the writing. Bradbury paints pictures in his stories. Some of these are science fiction, some are fantasy, and others have just a touch of horror. It isn't the horror that leaves nothing to the imagination, but rather the one that you just know that what happens after the last word is going to be unpleasant.

Many of the stories I knew from other collections, still others were new to me. All of them are good. I'd suggest if you are reading to meet a goal of "X" number of books that you save this until after you've met your goal or that you read it in between books. You'll want to dip in and enjoy it.

Who will like this book? Anyone who enjoys fantasy or enjoys reading beautifully drawn stories. I think you will find it rewarding.

Bob says

It's taken me a few days to get around to writing this review. As soon as I completed the book, we went on a short vacation.

I don't think I'm old, but some of you may disagree. The last time I read a book by Bradbury was in High School back in roughly 19xx. So, it's been a while and I had forgotten when a great writer he was.

Bradbury stories is very long, almost 1,000 pages, including 100 of his best short stories. The reading is easy, quick and enjoyable. In fact, I have on only a few occasions in my life read a story where I can imagine the voice of the characters. There were several of his stories where I experienced that. If you have never "heard" a character in a story, you have not experienced a feeling that I cannot entirely describe. Suffice it to say that it was beautiful and all consuming.

A listing of all of the stories in the book can be found here:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bradbury...>

With 100 stories, I cannot go into specifics. But, the genres of the stories run the gambit from suspense to horror to science fiction to drama, and just about everything in between.

This was a great book. Can't say anything more.

Martyn Lovell says

This collection of Bradbury shorts contains 100 stories spread over 888 pages. Though Bradbury is best known for Sci Fi, the stories range widely beyond that.

I tried to read the book straight through, but gave up after about 350 pages. There were too many weak stories that I did not enjoy, and too little of the Sci Fi that I was most looking forward to. A challenge with stories whose average length is 8.8 pages is that many are short and so it isn't easy to 'give up' on the weak stories before they are done.

There is no doubt that Bradbury is an interesting writer with some fascinating ideas, and that his output is quite impressive. But this collection would be a lot better had it focused on quality over quantity.

Not worth reading unless you have recommendations from others of specific good stories to read.

T.D. Whittle says

This is an excellent collection. Like everything else Bradbury, I find some of the stories simply exquisite: finely written, chilling, clear, nothing extraneous, unique (especially in their time); others, I find sentimental and reveling in a kind of aching nostalgia whose absolute sweetness I cannot believe in: ode to the shiny, unblemished American Midwest boyhood, circa 1930s. Nevertheless, there is something worth savoring in the least of Bradbury's works. And the best of his works are small masterpieces.

classic reverie says

Great navigation and no errors noted. Will make notes and highlights here but review short stories over the title book page.

Gaby says

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Paul Brown says

I quit while almost half-way though this book.

Life is too short.

These stories are not his hit records, but rather the B-sides.

I can't take it anymore. Every story in this book makes you
wish you were reading something else.

Maybe there are better stories later in the book.

I am not caring anymore.

I'm actually a fan of Bradbury too, but these stories are just soooooo weak.

Sesana says

It's always hard to review a collection of short stories. It's especially hard with a collection like this. For one, it's massive. 100 short stories, nearly 900 pages, and a lethal weapon in eleven states. This is a long term investment of reading time. Probably it's better to keep it on your bedside table and read a story or two a night, but it can be read straight through.

There are many impressive things about this collection, but the consistent quality has to top the list. Even the stories that I didn't like as much are still really good. This is especially impressive because the stories were written over a period of more than 50 years (the earliest story is from 1943, the latest from 1999). Also impressive is how Bradbury seemed to be able to move through genres, from the science fiction he's probably best known for to fantasy to nostalgic realism and even bittersweet romance.

I love Bradbury's writing, especially in short stories. I had already read more than a few of the stories (much of *Dandelion Wine* and *The Martian Chronicles* is here, for example) and I'm familiar with his voice and style. He's very good at writing characters who live and breathe on the page after just a few lines. Really, I can't say enough good about Bradbury's short stories in general. My only criticism of the book, which is petty, is that it doesn't include "There Will Come Soft Rains", a nostalgic favorite of mine since it was the first of Bradbury's short stories that I ever read.

Allison says

I am no where near being done, BUT I love it too much not to start raving about Ray Bradbury and his magical writing. My current favorites are "Banshee", "Midnight In the Month of June", and "The Whole Town is Sleeping." His stories are full of rich-sensory images, and an almost child-like wonder towards things that go bump in the night.

Book Riot Community says

After rewatching the carnival X-Files episode, I remembered Something Wicked This Way Comes. After reading that again, I went on a huge Bradbury binge, which culminated in reading all 100 of the stories in the mammoth Bradbury Stories, without getting distracted by any other books during the reading.

He had a peerless imagination and took such joy in writing. This book is an absolute treasure, and will serve as a perfect way to revisit (or discover) his best short work. Also, if you're a Bradbury fan, Sam Weller's Bradbury-bio-via-Bradbury-interviews is worth a read. — Josh Hanagarne

From The Best Books We Read in February: <http://bookriot.com/2015/03/02/riot-r...>

Kevin Lucia says

What can I possibly say? There are some stories that you want to skip over...but not many in 100, so I'm giving this a 5 star review. So very comprehensive, and the thought that he wrote even more than THESE stories is mind-boggling...

Arun Divakar says

Dear Mr. Bradbury,

I took a lot of time to finish your book. Not because the stories were complicated to read or because this collection was a big one, it was for the simple reason that I wanted to savor the aftertaste of each and every one of the tales. After I finished a tale, I closed the book and my eyes to relive those images you so vividly explained. You made me relive my childhood days of carefree wanderings and never ending hours of play. How as a child you never feel the sun as you play on and on for hours altogether and yet come back home still raring to go. As you grow up, an hour outside in the sun wrings you out like a dishrag and you wonder where did all that reserve of energy disappear to. Childhood was this magical glen and your words were time machines alighted me on those meadows yet again, even though it was only for a short while.

You did love autumn didn't you ? The leaves the color of fire, the wind that comes down from the skies, Halloween and of mellow fruitfulness all make an appearance in these stories. I could practically see and feel the melancholy that the season inspires on the human mind. Beyond a set of stories, I was looking forward to just another tale set in autumn..and another...and another...I couldn't have enough of them. Then there were the sci-fi stories which to me always meant a backbone of science (no matter how impossible it is !) atop which a story it built. What I found in your tales was a gossamer thin thread of science which was only one ingredient of a magnificent set of other constituents. Mars beckoned to me after these tales ! Mars with its glorious civilizations and never ending wonders and Mars which was left a broken land by the greedy humans who colonized it. It was a Mars of your imagination and yet those stories set on the red planet are tinged with a sadness which can never be fully explained. Those magic days of Mars are now past us, never to be regained !

A look at the future as seen from your eyes is at times a bleak one. True villainy in your future takes the form of ignorance and appears as men hell bent on burning and destroying all the books they can find. A later novel of yours had its entire premise on the topic of burning books and this was truly a horrifying glimpse at a future devoid of imagination, art and literature. A wide variety of characters make their cameos in your stories : Poe, Bierce, Melville, Thomas Wolfe and Hemingway came alive and talked to me. I walked with them and comprehended but a tiny glimpse of their majestic and intimidating world of words. A book can never be forgotten Mr.Bradbury, it can never be mishandled and can never be taken anywhere near a flame ! Books may be mortal but the ideas they plant inside our heads, those are immortal and those can never be burned or stamped away. I believe in this and it is my guiding light. There was also the odd horror story in between the others with the moment of terror slowly building up and creeping up to me in all its fiendish glory. Nothing bloody or gore filled, just the plain unsettlement of having been a witness to something quite extraordinary.

The feel of being in love is a spell that you can never fully recreate as you age. The first time you held hands with your love, the endless conversations on seemingly inconsequential subjects, the first hurried (and

mostly awkward) kiss are all vivid memories you can never fully wipe out of your mind and yet you capture them perfectly. The naïve days of first love, the heartbreaks, the late bloomers in love, simple companionship : all of it find a place in your stories. A steady companion and a long conversation are rather blissful facts of life and sometimes we take them for granted, which we really shouldn't ain't it so ?

There is so much more I could write about your stories : Of Dublin, Heeber Finn's pub, quiet towns in America, the fireworks on the fourth of July, time machines, cathedrals.... It is a long list of wonders.

I will close this letter with an apology to you Mr.Bradbury. I always thought of you as a writer of sci-fi and horror and now I realize how grossly off the mark I was. You are way beyond all these stereotypes for you are a wizard. Someone who weaves spells with your tales. A wizard with words. Where ever you are right now sir, here's to you !

Yours Truly

My top picks from the hundred are these stories :

1. *The Rocket*
2. *The Beggar On O'Connell Bridge*
3. *The Flying Machine*
4. *Banshee*
5. *The Illustrated Man*
6. *The Dragon*
7. *The Kilimanjaro Device*
8. *Bless Me, Father, For I Have Sinned*
9. *Death & The Maiden*
10. *All On A Summer's Night*

Note : Read this book ! Just pick this up and start reading NOW !

Cleolinda says

Not a complete collection (there are several glaring omissions, like "The Veldt" and "A Sound of Thunder"), but it's the biggest one I've found so far. A nice mix of his Martian, Irish, sci-fi and childhood stories, ranging from the '40s to the '90s (!).

Rebecca McNutt says

Ray Bradbury's stories never disappoint. Some I liked more than others, but each one is unique and each one is not only whimsical and chilling, but often also giving metaphors for the problems in society.

Kenny says

Everything a short story should be: succinct, unique, and perfectly written. Plus, Bradbury does it 100 times! Easily one of the best writers of the last century.
