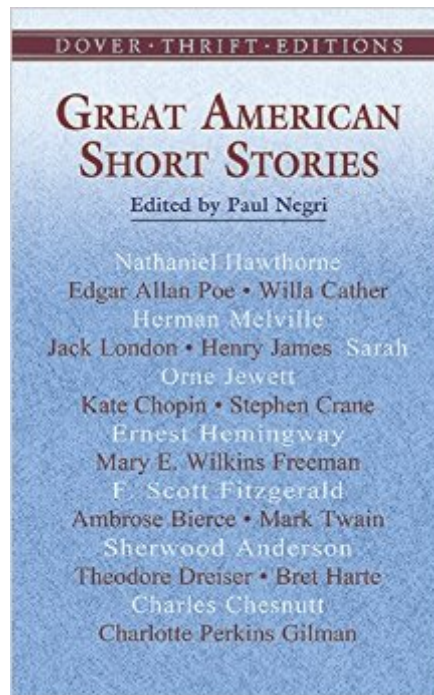


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# Great American Short Stories (Dover Thrift Editions)



## Synopsis

Featuring 19 of the finest works from the most distinguished writers in the American short-story tradition, this new compilation begins with Nathaniel Hawthorne's 1835 tale "Young Goodman Brown" and ranges across an entire century, concluding with Ernest Hemingway's 1927 classic, "The Killers." Other selections include Poe's "The Tell-Tale Heart," Melville's "Bartleby," Harte's "The Luck of Roaring Camp," "To Build a Fire," by Jack London, "The Real Thing" by Henry James, F. Scott Fitzgerald's "Bernice Bobs Her Hair," plus stories by Mark Twain, Sarah Orne Jewett, Charles Chesnutt, Kate Chopin, Stephen Crane, Willa Cather, Ambrose Bierce, Theodore Dreiser, and others. Perfect for classroom use, this outstanding collection of tales will also prove popular with fiction readers everywhere.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This volume is great. It includes some 20 short stories from a variety of masters. Hemingway, Poe, and Henry James are but a handful represented. Luckily the modest price means we can all enjoy to own this volume. Most of us were introduced to many of these fine authors in high school or college. Unfortunately we did not read them very carefully, we were too harried, more interested in a grade than in securing an education. So fine, water over the dam. Now, we can read them for pleasure, enjoy the elegant prose, learn from the insight provided into the human condition, etc. Classics should be read several times in our lifetime. The good ones always provide us with pleasant, revealing and useful surprises. Short and to the point this collection is a joy to read. The

important thing is that they should be read (or reread) and then we should take time to think about what the author has revealed. What was the author telling us? How does it relate to our own lives, to the particular stage we are going through? Read a story a day, think about it; it will add richness to your life.

Generally, the stories are transcribed correctly from reliable editions, but the date of publication is wrong on at least four of them. This is not something I paid attention to do when I was making up my teaching schedule. I have alerted Dover about this, and maybe they will correct the errors in a later edition. The stories themselves are sound choices for anyone interested in reading good writing that represents Romanticism, Realism, and Naturalism. As well, the collection serves as a sound introduction to the writings of accomplished American writers from Hawthorne to Hemingway. Of course, the collection has only about 18 stories, so a lot of great writers are ignored. Other collections address this, but the price of this book strongly recommends it. Many students can hardly afford to attend college, so keeping down the cost of books is a great help to many of them. A few of my students indicated their interest in reading had been rekindled by a close look at these stories. I hope it's true!

I read a lot of short stories. Many today I find full of sadness and somber mood. It is a pleasure to read some stories that have stood the test of time. Great book for the train or vacation. Very satisfying read.

Great American Short Stories is the kind of book I have formed a sentimental bond with; a Dover Thrift Book, it reminds me of the days of old, when Dover Books, in their flimsy paper or plastic covers, were located near the register of a bookstore, like an impulse buy of candy or gum at a Supermarket. This volume contains great American classics: "The Tell-Tale Heart," Melville's "Bartleby," Harte's "The Luck of Roaring Camp," "To Build a Fire," by Jack London, "The Real Thing" by Henry James, F. Scott Fitzgerald's "Bernice Bobs Her Hair," plus stories by Mark Twain, Sarah Orne Jewett, Charles Chesnut, Kate Chopin, Stephen Crane, Willa Cather, Ambrose Bierce, Theodore Dreiser, Ernest Hemingway. There are some stories here that readers will be very familiar yet. Still more that they once were from high school English class, and now can revisit in this volume. Regardless, not a bad value for three dollars (in an age when a latte costs far more).

This book is full of some of the classic and most well known short stories of America written by

well-known literary artists. They are easy reads but are very entertaining. I would recommend this book to those interested in the classics

Not a whole lot to say other than if you love modern American literature, this is a tome to add to your collection. The editors selected a bit of adventure, comedy, and tragedy from a wide range of authors. Something for everyone, and a nice value; if you're a reader, get a copy.

I've enjoyed this version every since I was first exposed to it in college. Especially if you aren't studying the technical components of what make these works "classics", they are captivating and make excellent short reading.

I was very excited for my professor to choose this book over a much heavier and expensive anthology! It is cheap, and I guess contained most of the works my professor wants to address in my course, so it was a win-win, especially for us students! Very happy. Probably will keep this after class though, since I love reading short stories, so that's a plus! :D

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