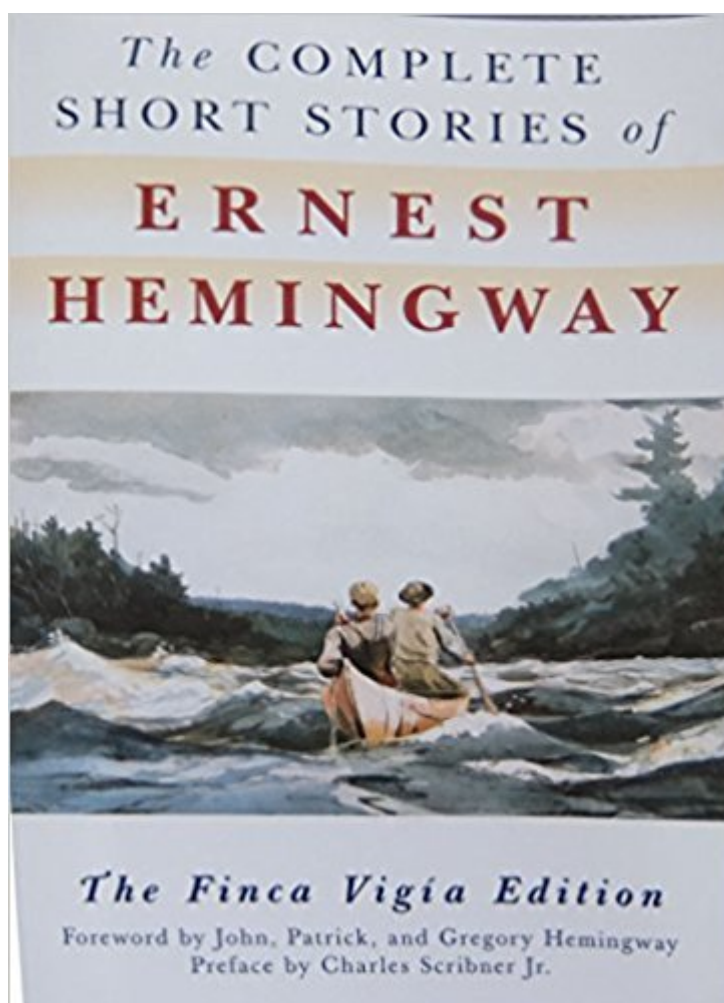


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The Complete Short Stories Of Ernest Hemingway: The Finca Vigia Edition



Synopsis

THE ONLY COMPLETE COLLECTION BY THE NOBEL PRIZE-WINNING AUTHOR In this definitive collection of Ernest Hemingway's short stories, readers will delight in the author's most beloved classics such as "The Snows of Kilimanjaro," "Hills Like White Elephants," and "A Clean, Well-Lighted Place," and will discover seven new tales published for the first time in this collection. For Hemingway fans The Complete Short Stories is an invaluable treasury.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The subtitle of this monumental collection refers to the home (Lookout Farm) that Hemingway owned in Cuba from 1939 to 1959. That time frame accounts for most of the short fiction, published and unpublished, that followed the major collection issued in 1938, *The First Forty-Nine*. There are 60 stories in all. Of the 21 not included in the 1938 collection, the seven heretofore unpublished pieces will interest readers most. Three are especially good. "A Train Trip" and "The Porter" are self-contained excerpts from an abandoned novel that match in tone and appeal the early Hemingway work in which he explored the adolescent sensibility exposed to an adult world that is exciting but at the same time threatening and morally complex. Drawing from the author's experiences in Europe during World War II, "Black Ass at the Crossroads" is excellent in its detailing of violent action, portraying an ambush of German soldiers from the point of view of an American infantry officer, depressed and angry over the suffering he has inflicted in the course of battle. The other previously unpublished pieces include a Spanish Civil War story reminiscent of Hemingway's

play, *The Fifth Column*; two quite touching stories about a father's disappointments with a troubled son; and a long section comprising four chapters from an early version of the novel, *Islands in the Stream*. Intrinsically readable, the collection is also significant in drawing together much that was unavailable or difficult to access. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

A thoughtfully arranged, comprehensive edition of Hemingway's short fiction justifies publication. This is not it. At best, it offers convenience rather than creativity or even completeness: it omits five stories published two years ago. It reprints the "the first 49" stories (1938), adds 14 subsequently published, and appends seven hitherto unpublished. What is lacking is a fresh reordering of the stories thematic, chronological, or stylistic. Further, three of the unpublished pieces are not stories but excerpts from novels. None of the new material is artistically significant. Yet each bears the hallmark of Hemingway's genius which will survive even this. Arthur Waldhorn, City Coll., Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

What more can be said about Ernest Hemingway? I enjoy his clear writing style and engaging characters. My husband and I were traveling to Key West and wanted to read some Hemingway before we visited the Hemingway museum, but I'm not great at getting through novels quickly so this book was an accessible way for me to read some of his works before our trip. It is a little bulky and the pages are thin - but that is to be expected for a complete works - I did decide to leave it at home for our trip though. This book isn't something you will sit down and read straight through unless you are a major Hemingway fan. I suspect one might get bored if they try since Hemingway tends to stick to the same themes over and over again. However, it will be great to pick up and read a few stories every now and again. I got this book used, and it was in the condition described - I'm completely satisfied with my purchase and am glad to have this one on my shelf!

I thoroughly enjoyed this collection of Hemingway's Short Stories. It's nice to have all the old favorites and a few more in an accessible collection. Hemingway's short stories are some of my favorite works of literature. I've always enjoyed his novels. But my favorite Hemingway works are the short stories. "A Clean and Well-Lit Place" "My Old Man" "The Nick Adams stories" "The Short Happy Life of Francis"

Macomber's essays are a great summary of Hemingway for me. So I enjoyed this book over the summer, taking it with me on my vacation to Italy, France and Spain. The classics are all here, and then there are less familiar stories, some previously unpublished, some unfinished. I found it interesting that the last story in the book "The Strange Country" brings you back to the beginning of Hemingway's career. In this story, Hemingway revisits the lost manuscripts and the devastation he felt when he found they were all missing. I keep hoping they show up at a Paris flea market. It's a thick book. Some reviewers complain of the small print, and the paper. I don't really know how they could have done it differently. I enjoy the paper it is printed on, the tactile comfort of it. The print is small. There isn't really any other way you are going to get all the material in a single volume. I suppose one could order the kindle version and expand the print to their desirability, or buy a magnifying glass.

I have a mixed response to this book. The manuscript materials are interesting--we can get insight from them into Hem's process of composition. But it is somewhat unwieldy, awkward--because the story and the manuscript materials are presented consecutively. OK, this is perhaps inevitable. But it is hard to move back and forth, back and forth from the story to (in a number of cases) three or four other separate sections, where the various manuscript materials are presented. Again, OK, I understand. But in an ideal world, the volume would have been prepared with at least some examples of the story on one page, and the manuscript version on the facing page. Then, you could do some much easier comparison. Something else--Buyer Beware! I bought this book thinking that it would be an update of the so-called Finca Vigia collection of Hem's stories. But it is NOT a complete collection. In fact, I would say that the title is misleading. Deliberately misleading? The book should be titled "The SELECTED Short Stories...." It does not include the full text of *In Our Time*, for example--so that none of the inter-chapters from that important book (1925) can be found here. Such great stories as "The End of Something" and "The Battler"--these are absent as well. "The End of Something" is not only a terrific story, but from other reading I have done, I know that the manuscript materials are very interesting. It should be in the book. All of this is troubling indeed. In effect the Hem Estate and the publisher are implying that here in this book are "the short stories" of Hem. But they are not all here. If you want all of the stories, you have to buy the Finca Vigia edition. And that volume itself is flawed--it needs to be redone.

This is the fourth volume in the Hemingway Library series. To this reviewer's mind, reading these

short stories is just as rewarding as reading, say, "The Sun Also Rises". Writing one story that takes root in literary history is remarkable, but here is classic after classic, including "Indian Camp", "Big Two-Hearted River", "The Killers", "Hills Like White Elephants", "A Clean, Well-Lighted Place", and "The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber". Some of the stories, such as "The Snows of Kilimanjaro", appear with alternate endings and notes showing additions and deletions. This material has long been available to scholars, but it's presented here in a thoroughly accessible way by Sean Hemingway, Ernest's grandson, who edited the volume and provides a helpful introduction.

Like many, I love reading Hemingway. I was a little hesitant to pay the cost of this collection of stories, but after reading it I love it. This is a collectible book, with a nice binding and hardcover. It has some stories displayed with several versions of the same story, with pencil lines through sections he scratched out. It provides a fascinating look into the mind of one of the truly great writers. Viewing the way he edited and rewrote stories as he tweaked and polished them, makes me admire Hemingway all the more, seeing what a true craftsman he was. I've read that he worked very hard at his writing, and this book gives us all a peak into that world he worked within, molding and shaping his stories to create what we have come to know of his works. I love this book.

Hemingway has a style of writing that transcends generations. This is a nice complete short story collection. I had read somewhere that much of Hemingway's early works were lost by his wife at that time on a train trip to meet him. She not only lost the original copies but the carbons as well. What a travesty. I would love to have read a complete collection of ALL of his works, but at least we have what came after that loss.

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