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Posted on 02 June 2017 By J.D. Salinger

Nine Stories Is A Collection Of Short Stories By American Fiction Writer J D Salinger Published In April It Includes Two Of His Most Famous Short Stories, A Perfect Day For Bananafish And For Esm With Love And Squalor Nine Stories Is The US Title The Book Is Published In Many Other Countries As For Esm With Love And Squalor, And Other Stories The Stories Are A Perfect Day For Bananafish Uncle Wiggily In Connecticut Just Before The War With The Eskimos The Laughing Man Down At The Dinghy For Esm With Love And Squalor Pretty Mouth And Green My Eyes De Daumier Smith S Blue Period Teddy This is as good of a short story collection that one could hope to find Salinger was a heck of a writer, certainly well known for his classic, The Catcher in the Rye, but there is much out there, like this little jewel for example I give this 5 stars on the strength of two stories alone, but they all were good The two stories I mention are A Perfect Day for Bananafish, and For Esme With Love And Squalor Both have themes involving troubled soldiers returning from World War II Salinger s experiences in the war certainly influenced his writing, and may have been partly responsible for his reclusiveness for the last 45 years of his life.Update September 2017 is the release of the movie Rebel in The Rye , which is based on the autobiography J.D Salinger A Life by Kenneth Slawenski I look forward to reading the book and seeing the movie to learn about this interesting man. If I can get serious for a moment, and cast aside the brittle, smartassed, persona that the social networking aspect of goodreads tends to bring out, I d like to try to express what it is that drives me in this life

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It is the following belief, instilled primarily by my mother, an exceptionally smart woman who never suffered fools gladly, but had the mitigating grace to be one of the warmest, most generous women you could ever hope to meet, as well as having one of the greatest voices you can imagine Buttercup Here s the main thing she taught me each of us has an inescapable responsibility to take whatever talent we have been given on this earth, and to develop it as far and as well as life allows.This is so deeply ingrained in my beliefs that I can pretty much trace every major decision I ve made in my life back to it.What does this have to do with the price of eggs Well, it s the reason Jerome David Salinger makes me as mad as all get out Because I can certainly understand why, given the perfection of the stories in this collection, any writer might not want to risk spoiling his reputation by following up with work that might not reach the same level Hell, nothing could possibly reach the perfection of the stories, For Esme with Love and Squalor , The Laughing Man , Down by the Dinghy , or Just Before the War with the Eskimos And while I m not really a great fan of Seymour Glass, A Perfect Day for Bananafish is pretty damned awesome as well.So, yeah, J.D after those stories, it s hard to imagine anything better Even anything comparable.But that s still no excuse for not trying, you arrogant egotistical bastard You were dealt a monumental, unimaginable, talent And for you to squat there in fucking comunicado in your bloody bunker in New England, resting on your admittedly golden freaking laurels, is an act of unconscionable, unpardonable, selfishness I could almost convince myself that your genius crossing over into madness was the explanation for your lack of output, but you seem craftily able to sic your lawyers on anyone perceived to encroach on your goddamned privacy.So, while I can understand the impulse of not wanting to risk your reputation, I sure as hell can t forgive it You were granted an incredible gift You should be using it.And, sorry folks, it s far beyond me to locate exactly where the genius lies in the particular stories mentioned You really just need to read them for yourselves.

Nine Stories by J.D Salinger There are nine deep, enigmatic narratives It is always about the motives of childlike innocence, the adult world and the invaders of war in the lives of individuals and the isolation of a traumatized man I was

Delta of Venus

Metamorphoses

Lady Chatterley's Lover

Kushiel's Dart

Sappho's Leap

Claudius the God and
His Wife Messalina

A Princess of Mars

The English Patient

Robert Mapplethorpe
and the Classical
Tradition

Tropic of Cancer

The Piano Teacher

I, Claudius

Sex and the City

The Nude: A Study in
Ideal Form

Thy Neighbor's Wife

surprised that some stories bored me, although literary quality can be no doubt Salinger's dialogues are fabulous, the course of the stories consistent. It's the portrait of an absolutely static Society.^{3,5} Each of his phrases was rather like a little ancient island, inundated by a miniature sea of whiskey. Oh Mr Salinger, why couldn't you have published these amazing stories in your lifetime? Nine Stories, a collection of brilliant short stories from J.D. Salinger. It is in this collection where the Glass family, the main constituents of Franny and Zooey, is first introduced. In the next eight stories, we meet and get to know characters with an assortment of mental and physical ailments, and self-discoveries. This is my second journey with Salinger after Franny and Zooey. My favorites here are To Esme With Love and Squalor, The Laughing Man, De Daumier Smith's Blue Period, and Teddy. A shared thread through all nine stories is the mood of desperation, of frustration, and of higgledy-piggledy identities. The characters are very real; these are real people with real issues starting to overflow into their everyday lives. These stories haunt me. I found To Esme With Love and Squalor a story about the effects of war on an individual stayed with me for days. It's so simply written, and yet, packs so much emotion and observation on the state of war and the mental and physical drain it can take on one person. From the one-line note about a twitch on the face, to a shaky hand, the subtle differences from the first half of the story to the second half create an overall dreadful vision. What is De Daumier Smith's Blue Period? Loneliness, isolation, misrepresentation, reinvention, escape, connection. Who is Jean De Daumier Smith? We never really know since this is the name the narrator calls himself. The fact that we never know Jean's real name is significant; it serves to highlight the idea of misrepresentation and reinvention. Jean appears to be uncomfortable with who he is and by changing his name Salinger allows Jean to reinvent himself. The trigger for Jean wishing to reinvent himself stems from the loneliness and isolation that he feels, possibly due to his mother's death. By reinventing himself, Jean is able to escape from the painful realities of the world around him. We, all of us, can relate. This collection of stories should be read over and over again. When I next read these stories, I'll discover something new about one of the characters or catch a new allusion or reference. What insights will I glean about the Glass

Atomised

Les Liaisons
dangereuses

The Naked Woman: A
Study of the Female
Body

Atlas Shrugged

Justine, Philosophy in
the Bedroom, and Other
Writings

family I could go on forever about the themes here I could write pages about these people I wonder where Esme is now What will become of Teddy Does the Chief find love and is he actually The Laughing Man It's what's left unsaid here that really intrigues Words may go unuttered, but still one hopes If kidnappers had snatched up J D Salinger some time in the early 1970s, driven like madmen through the night and the next day too and imprisoned him in a small but pleasant room somewhere near Boise, furnished him with with all mod cons, and told him he wasn't going anywhere soon until he'd finished at the very least another nine stories, and at best three or four complete novels and if the kidnappers due to an endearing cocktail of naivete and compassion because you know they were just literature fans like you and me, not blank eyed killers, and they weren't entirely convinced about this whole caper to begin with let it be said let JD go for long walks to get inspiration, but really to beat on a nearby farmhouse door and call the cops and if they were then rounded up not too hard, said the cops and put on trial not a jury in the land would have convicted them When the prosecution rested and the defence opened, their lawyer would simply have issued a copy of Nine Stories to all 12 jurors and said Ladies and gentlemen, I rest my case This is not to say that each of the Nine is such a great golden glowing nugget of controlled power, insight and wisdom some are but that the whole is such eloquent proof of the perspicacity, intelligence and all round humanbeingness of JDS that reading this collection is very bittersweet how lovely it all is, and how very little of it there is, when duller, pudgier fingered writers type on, and on, and publish, and publish Anyone who has encountered comments by myself on Ye Olde Catcher in Ye Rye will now accuse me of inconsistency, or at least, be expecting me to accuse JDS of the same How can I hate the novel for its unbearable whine and Johnny one note somebody shut him up please tiresomeness and yet enjoy all the rest of JDS as I do They're cut from the same cloth, it's not like Picasso's blue period and Picasso the cubist which could have been different guys, or the Velvet Underground's first and third albums which could have been a different band But I've come across this in different areas of the universe can't stand Tom Waits until Swordfishtrombones, think he's a genius for three albums, then can't stand him again Shakespeare's

tragedies or Shakespeare's comedies or, non So maybe not that unusual. JDS famously published all his stuff between 1951 and 1963 and then STOPPED Which is why the kidnapers pounced, they gave him a good ten year rest and that was ENOUGH to their way of thinking And he stopped just as things were getting really interesting He writes of the murderous conformities of American educated middle class life and of the outcasts and especially young kids who either subvert this button down world or bail out swiftly Just as he stopped publishing things began to change the 60s began swinging, and the youthquake as it has been termed was upon us Just the very stuff that you might have thought would have fascinated JD What do the kids do when they try to make their own rules up I feel the absence of JDS throughout the 60s and 70s, as I feel the absence of another American writer who STOPPED in 1963, Sylvia Plath I want to know what these two clever clogs would have made of the tumultuous ten years which followed the self stilling of their voices But back to the Nine Stories and to steal a fellow reviewer's catch phrase Is it a classic Answer Yes Goddamn PS I realise I also speculated upon the advisability of kidnapping Thomas Bernhard elsewhere but that was to save the world from any further novels like Extinction, whereas the JD Salinger kidnap is for the opposite reason But I would like to publicly state that I do not condone the imprisonment of any writers for any reasons, so please don't try this at home. Salinger's Nine Stories should be renamed How to Write Short Stories While many hold up Catcher in the Rye as the zenith of his achievements for me it will always be this wistful and brave little book I re read it two or three times or year I love it that much To be honest out of the nine stories collected here I would say that only a third are Salinger's best Perfect Day for Banafish, For Esme With Love and Squalor, and The Laughing Man are to me the peaks of short fiction Everything that Salinger does best he does in these three tales Nobody wrote children better than him They leap off the page at you right into your lap Esme, her brother, Seymour's little friend and the narrator of Laughing Man are so vivid and real you feel like running them all down the street for ice cream and cake They are that true to life Same goes for Seymour in Banana Fish and the narrator of For Esme Nobody got into the heads of brilliant but troubled young people better

than Salinger What we hear about Seymour as opposed to what we see creates a palpable and beautiful tension The narrator of For Esme s war inflicted emotional problems are drawn with such artistry as to flood over you as you read Uncle Wiggily in Connecticut, Daumier Smith s Blue Period, and War with the Eskimos to me fall into the damn entertaining but not great category These stories are beautifully observed, funny, poignant and always a pleasure to read but lack that magic the first three have to spare Of course that being said even being good but not great Salinger makes them better than most.Finally Teddy, Down in the Dinghy and Pretty Mouth Green My Eyes are good stories but I feel they suffer from being collected in the same book as the others Each alone is enthralling but not a one of them is a patch on Esme, or Bananafish Where the other stories feel like a full meal these come off like snacks Tasty but not quite filling.If you like Salinger and want to read something by him that won t make you want to shoot a president or a sixties rock star this my friend is the book for you. Nine Stories A Perfect Day for Bananafish 1948 , Uncle Wiggily in Connecticut 1948 , Just Before the War with the Eskimos 1948 , The Laughing Man 1949 , Down at the Dinghy 1949 , For Esm with Love and Squalor 1950 , Pretty Mouth and Green My Eyes 1951 , De Daumier Smith s Blue Period 1952 , Teddy 1953 , J.D Salinger, Ahmad Golshiri Translator 1998 1364 263 1377 1380 1381 1382 1385 1386 1387 1388 1389 9789643111564 20 1394 224 9786007364246 1364 1381

Nine Stories

by J. D. Salinger