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The Conductor and Other Tales Tatterhood and Other Tales *Tomie's Three Bears and Other Tales* **Mona and Other Tales** *Aladdin and Other Tales from the Arabian Nights* *Broccoli and Other Tales of Food and Love* *Taste and Other Tales* **Dragon, Dragon** *The Golden Pot and Other Tales* **Crossroads and Other Tales of Valdemar** **Heart of Darkness and Other Tales** *Treasure of the Spanish Civil War* **Night-Gaunts** *Sourdough and Other Stories* **The Magic Carpet and Other Tales** **A Wild Swan** *The Devil Delivered and Other Tales* *Storyhood as We Know it and Other Tales* **The Prophet and Other Tales** **The Truth and Other Stories** *The Red Shoes and Other Tales* *Twenty Grand* *Daisy Miller and Other Tales* *Billy Budd and Other Tales* *The Foundling* **The Story of Cinderella and Other Tales** *A Wild Swan* *Bantu Myths and Other Tales* *Food Network Magazine* *The Big, Fun Kids Baking Book* *The Fox's Tower and Other Tales* **Bad Dreams and Other Stories** **The Tomb** *Orange World and Other Stories* *The Devil in Manuscript* *And Other Tales of Forbidden Books* **Violets and Other Tales** *The Juniper Tree and Other Tales* *The Merry Men and Other Tales and Fables* *Among The Wild Mulattos and Other Tales* *The Tomb and Other Tales* **Attrib. and Other Stories**

Jean Ferry's only published book of fiction, translated into English for the first time First published in French in 1950 in a limited edition of 100 copies, then republished in 1953 (and enthusiastically praised by André Breton), *The Conductor and Other Tales* is Jean Ferry's only published book of fiction. It is a collection of short prose narratives that offer a blend of pataphysical humor and surreal nightmare: secret societies so secret that one cannot know if one is a member or not, music-hall acts

that walk a tightrope from humor to horror, childhood memories of a man never born, and correspondence from countries that are more states of mind than geographical locales. Lying somewhere between Kafka's parables and the prose poems of Henri Michaux, Ferry's tales read like pages from the journal of a stranger in a familiar land. Though extracts have appeared regularly in Surrealist anthologies over the decades, *The Conductor* has never been fully translated into English until now. This edition includes four stories not included in the original French edition and is illustrated throughout with collages by Claude Ballaré. Jean Ferry (1906-1974) made his living as a screenwriter for such filmmakers as Luis Buñuel and Louis Malle, cowriting such classics as Henri-Georges Clouzot's *Le Quai des orfèvres* and script-doctoring Marcel Carné's *Les Enfants du paradis*. He was the first serious scholar and exegete of the work of Raymond Roussel (on whom he published three books) and a member of the Collège de 'Pataphysique. NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER! The ultimate kids' cookbook for beginner bakers, from the editors of America's #1 food magazine and bestselling authors of *The Big, Fun Kids Cookbook*. This collection is packed with tons of recipes for easy sweets and treats, designed with young cooks in mind and triple tested by the chefs in Food Network Kitchen. Kids will get all the info they need to make their favorite desserts: muffins and quick breads, brownies and bars, cookies, cupcakes, sheet cakes, and more. The recipes are simple to follow and totally foolproof, and each one comes with a color photo and pro tips to help junior chefs get started in the kitchen. Inside you'll find: 110+ delicious recipes Fun food trivia A visual recipe index with a photo of every recipe Choose-your-own adventure recipes (such as design-your-own Whoopie Pies and Banana Bread)

Crowd-pleasers like Red Velvet Brownies, Pumpkin Spice Chocolate Chip Cookies, Mini PB & Chocolate Cupcakes, Chocolate Candy Bar Layer Cake, and more! Fun food crafts such as cookie puzzle pieces and DIY sprinkles Amazing fake-out cakes including spaghetti and meatballs, a taco, and a pineapple Bonus food-themed activity pages with word scrambles, spot-the-difference photo games, and more Lay-flat binding and a heavy paper stock that will stand up to frequent use Some of the best-loved stories in the world, originating in Persia, India and Arabia, retold especially for children. An original short fiction anthology set in Mercedes Lackey's bestselling world of Valdemar-featuring heroic Heralds and their horselike companions-and including an all-new novella by Lackey herself, as well as stories by masters such as Mickey Zucker Reichert, Judith Tarr, Tanya Huff, and others. For all readers a spectacular book combining the arts of illustration and narrative *Mona and Other Tales* covers Reinaldo Arenas's entire career: his recently rediscovered debut (which got him a job at the Biblioteca Nacional in Havana), stories written in a political prison, and some of his last works, written in exile. Many of the stories have not previously appeared in English. Here is the tender story of a boy who recognizes evil for the first time and decides to ignore it; the tale of a writer struggling between the demands of creativity and of fame; common people dealing with changes brought about by revolution and exile; a romp with a famous, dangerous woman in the Metropolitan Museum; an outrageous fantasy that picks up where Garcia Lorca's famous play *The House of Bernardo Alba* ends. Told with Arenas's famous wit and humanity, *Mona* makes a perfect introduction to this important writer. Translated from the Spanish by Dolores Koch. "It's just the real inexplicable gorgeous brilliant thing this book. I love it in a way I usually reserve for people." --Max Porter A dazzling, prizewinning short story collection that showcases a bold new talent Eley Williams has been a literary sensation ever since this collection of experimental short fiction was published in the UK. Lauded as "elegant" (*The Guardian*) and "exhilarating" (*Vanity Fair*), *Attrib. and Other Stories* won the James Tait Black Prize, was longlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize, and was named a best book of the year by *The*

Guardian. *Attrib.* presents a cast of unforgettable characters standing at the precipice of emotional events (a disastrous breakup, a successful date, an unexpected arrival) and finding it fiendishly impossible to express themselves. With intimate, irreverent, and playful prose, Eley Williams rejoices in both the possibilities and limitations of language, as well as the very human need to be known and understood--despite our own best efforts. Original and inventive in the vein of Lydia Davis, Deborah Eisenberg, and Amy Hempel, these stories are "emotionally delicate and tenderly introspective" (*New Statesman*) and "an absolute must-read" (*The London Magazine*). "Locus Award winner Lee (Phoenix Extravagant) takes on the folktale form in a collection of 25 gorgeous, magical stories, tiny jewels of worldbuilding that tap into mythic themes to feel somehow both ancient and delightfully fresh... The result is breathtaking in its playful grace."—*Publisher's Weekly* Starred Review Enter a world of magic and myth, where foxes fall in love and robots build their own dragons. In *The Fox's Tower and Other Tales*, New York Times bestselling author Yoon Ha Lee crafts together short and moving stories of love, adventure, magic, and nature. With poetic language and intricate world building, readers will be whisked away to a different adventure with every new story. Full of fascinating creatures and LGBT+ romances, this flash fiction collection combines the classic with the contemporary in Yoon's captivating style. A companion book to *The Chronicles of Prydain*, this collection of short stories revisits beloved characters and reveals more about the history of the magical land of Prydain. Here, readers will find Dallben, destined to be an enchanter; Angharad, a princess of the House of Llyr; Kadwyr, the rascal crow; and Medwyn, the mystical protector of all animals. They'll learn the grim history of the sword of Dyrnwyn and even find out how Fflewddur Fflam came by his enchanted harp. How did Coll rescue Hen Wen when she disappeared at the hand of Arawn, Lord of the Land of Death? Find the answer to this question and many more, in *The Foundling: And Other Tales of Prydain* by Lloyd Alexander. Fairy tales for our times from the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Hours Named* a Best Book of the Year by NPR, Slate, and Bustle A poisoned apple and a monkey's paw

with the power to change fate; a girl whose extraordinarily long hair causes catastrophe; a man with one human arm and one swan's wing; and a house constructed of gumdrops and gingerbread. In *A Wild Swan and Other Tales*, the people and the talismans of lands far, far away—the mythic figures of our childhoods and the source of so much of our wonder—are transformed by Michael Cunningham into stories of sublime revelation. Here are the moments that our fairy tales forgot or deliberately concealed: the years after a spell is broken, the rapturous instant of a miracle unexpectedly realized, or the fate of a prince only half cured of a curse. Reimagined by one of the most gifted storytellers of his generation, and exquisitely illustrated by Yuko Shimizu, rarely have our bedtime stories been this dark, this perverse, or this true. "Violets and Other Tales" is a collection of essays, short stories, and poems, by Alice Dunbar-Nelson, which were written with a motive to inculcate morals and books teaching lessons. Table of Contents: Violets Three Thoughts The Woman Ten Minutes' Musing A Plaint In Unconsciousness Titee Anarchy Alley Impressions Salamambo Legend of the Newspaper A Carnival Jangle Paul to Virginia (Fin de Siecle) The Maiden's Dream In Memoriam A Story of Vengeance At Bay St. Louis New Year's Day Unknown Life of Jesus Christ In Our Neighborhood Little Miss Sophie Little Miss Sophie If I Had Known! Chalmette At Eventide The Idler Love and the Butterfly The Bee-Man Amid the Roses A collection of traditional tales from Norway, England, China, and many other countries. Set in the suburbs and cities of the Midwest, Mid-South, and Texas, these stories explore the lives of characters biracial, black, white, and all sorts of in-between. The intersections and collisions of contemporary life are in full effect here, where the distinctions between fast food and fine art, noble and naked ambitions, reality and reality shows have become impossible to distinguish. Read these stories and understand why Steve Yarbrough said Williams "writes like Paul Auster if he were funnier or like Stanley Elkin might have if he'd ever been able to stop laughing." " Tom Williams has done the near impossible in penning a book that is both undeniably entertaining and deeply thoughtful, Millhauser meets Bukowski meets Ellison." --Alan Heathcock, author of *Volt* "Sure, we need the nudge of

category to help us all think straight, but we also need the rangy trickster, Tom Williams, to do the bang-up boundary work of imaginary anthropology in these deadpan dead-on gems. These infiltrating texts take us sideways, through and through, turn us inside-out." . --Michael Martone, author of *Michael Martone and Four for a Quarter Jervas Dudley* was only a child when he found the mausoleum of the Hyde family. The place becomes very important to Dudley - one day he will find his way to open the door to the mausoleum. As the days pass, Dudley becomes more and more obsessed with the grave. He even starts to sleep next to the mausoleum. When Dudley finally finds the key, however, he is about to discover something he was not prepared for... H.P. Lovecraft (1890-1937) was an American horror writer. His best known works include 'The Call of Cthulhu' and 'the Mountains of Madness'. Most of his work was originally published in pulp magazines, and Lovecraft rose into fame only after his death at the age of 46. He has had a great influence in both horror and science fiction genres. From the Pulitzer Finalist and universally beloved author of the New York Times best sellers *Swamplandia!* and *Vampires in the Lemon Grove*, a stunning new collection of short fiction that showcases Karen Russell's extraordinary, irresistible gifts of language and imagination. Karen Russell's comedic genius and mesmerizing talent for creating outlandish predicaments that uncannily mirror our inner lives is on full display in these eight exuberant, arrestingly vivid, unforgettable stories. In "Bog Girl", a revelatory story about first love, a young man falls in love with a two thousand year old girl that he's extracted from a mass of peat in a Northern European bog. In "The Prospectors," two opportunistic young women fleeing the depression strike out for new territory, and find themselves fighting for their lives. In the brilliant, hilarious title story, a new mother desperate to ensure her infant's safety strikes a diabolical deal, agreeing to breastfeed the devil in exchange for his protection. The landscape in which these stories unfold is a feral, slippery, purgatorial space, bracketed by the void—yet within it Russell captures the exquisite beauty and tenderness of ordinary life. *Orange World* is a miracle of storytelling from a true modern master. The folk tales collected by the

brothers Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm were first published in 1812–15, and in many more editions up to the deaths of the brothers around 1860. While no one knows where the tales first came from; features of many are found in myths from all over the world. They were passed on for centuries in the oral tradition, until at last collectors began recording them in print for the world of today, where we still respond to them. This volume contains a small but representative selection from the Grimms' Children's and Household Tales, the most famous and influential of all the great nineteenth-century folklore collections. A wonderful new collection of tales exploring Henry James's favourite 'international theme': the experiences of Americans in Europe, and the meeting of the old world and new. Daisy Miller is one of Henry James's great heroines - a young, independent American travelling in Europe, whose flouting of social conventions has the potential to lead to disaster. Her story is here accompanied by six more set among English castles, Swiss hotels and French ports, and all riffing on a classic Jamesian theme: the clash between the old world and new, Europe and America. The tales included in this volume are 'Travelling Companions', 'Madame de Mauves', 'Four Meetings', 'Daisy Miller', 'An International Episode', 'Europe' and 'Fordham Castle', and the collection has been edited by renowned scholar of Anglo-American literature, Stephen Fender, under the general editorship of Philip Horne. This is one of three new volumes of James's greatest tales in Penguin Classics, and is accompanied by *The Aspern Papers and Other Tales* and *The Turn of the Screw and Other Tales* (forthcoming). "The Green Book," a small, unassuming diary of a young girl; an unheard of book of the Talmud known as the "Tractate Middoth"; "The King in Yellow," a play that drives people to insanity; two mysterious grey stone plaques from the sands of Chaldea known as the "Tablets of The Gods"; "The Confessions of Constantine," which drives its readers into a homicidal rage—these accursed books are the subject of this collection of olden tales. Table of Contents: The Tractate Middoth by M.R. James The White People by Arthur Machen The Devil in Manuscript by Nathaniel Hawthorne The King in Yellow by Robert W. Chambers The Man Who Found Out (A Nightmare) by Algernon Blackwood P.'s

Correspondence by Nathaniel Hawthorne The Innmost Light by Arthur Machen The Birthmark by Nathaniel Hawthorne For Art's Sake by Tod Robbins Appendix: In Search of the Real Necronomicon by Osie Turner A master of the american short story Included in this rich collection are: The Piazza, Bartleby the Scrivener, Benito Cereno, The Lightning-Rod Man, The Encantadas, The Bell-Tower, and The Town-Ho's Story. Contains different childrens stories. Welcome to the beautiful magic, restless passion and exquisite horror of Angela Slatter's impeccably imagined tales. In the cathedral-city of Lodellan and its uneasy hinterland, babies are fashioned from bread, dolls are given souls and wishes granted may be soon regretted. There are ghosts who dream, men whose wings have been clipped and trolls who long for something other. Love, loss and life are elegantly dissected in Slatter's earthy yet poetic prose. As Rob Shearman says in his Introduction: 'Sourdough and Other Stories manages to be grand and ambitious and worldbuilding-but also as intimate and focused as all good short fiction should be . . . The joy of Angela Slatter's book is that she's given us a set of fairy tales that are at once both new and fresh, and yet feel as old as storytelling itself.' Contains: 'Introduction' by Robert Shearman, 'The Shadow Tree', 'Gallowberries', 'Little Radish', 'Dibblespin', 'The Navigator', 'The Angel Wood', 'Ash', 'The Story of Ink', 'Lost Things', 'A Good Husband', 'A Porcelain Soul', 'The Bones Remember Everything', 'Sourdough', 'Sister, Sister', 'Lavender and Lychgates', 'Under the Mountain, 'Afterword' by Jeff VanderMeer. An intimate portrait of childhood during Spain's violent fascist regime, rendered in a surreal kaleidoscope of linked stories. Serge Pey's stories are lyrical, vivid vignettes of life during and directly following Spain's violent fascist regime of the thirties and forties. The collection is a defiant ode to the resilience of the human spirit, each story depicting a small act of human resistance: a man plants a fruit tree for each of his assassinated comrades; a professor hides a secret library of banned books in plain sight. Many of the stories are surreal, fable-like impressions from the perspective of children caught in the midst of the political violence. Pey's understated yet unusual prose renders a brutal landscape with childlike wonder. The Treasure of the Spanish Civil War

and *Other Tales* is a strikingly original meditation on courage, survival, and hope in the face of oppression. Hoffmann, among the greatest and most popular of the German Romantics, is renowned for his humorous and sometimes horrifying tales of supernatural beings. This selection, while stressing the variety of his work, focuses on those stories in which the real and the supernatural are brought into contact and conflict. This new translation includes *The Golden Pot*, *The Sandman*, *Princess Brambilla*, *Master Flea*, and *My Cousin's Corner Window*. Four tales of fantasy from a twentieth-century literary master—selected as the 1975 New York Times Outstanding Book for Children John Gardner's first children's book takes the traditional fairy tale and turns it on its head. In the title story, a meddling dragon meets his match. "The Tailor and the Giant" tells the story of a cowardly man who finally faces his fears. A villainous beast of burden attempts to rid himself of his master in "The Miller's Mule." And in "The Last Piece of Light," a brave young chimney-sweep saves the world from darkness. Filled with irreverent twists on the classic elements of princes and princesses, witches and wizards, and the magical realms that they inhabit, *Dragon, Dragon* is a collection of fun and fantastic tales to be cherished by readers of all ages. As the child of peasants, Karen grew up with a pair of simple red shoes. Then, when her parents died, Karen was adopted by a rich old woman who gave Karen a new pair of red shoes that would make princesses green with envy. This newfound wealth causes Karen to forget her humble origins and grow up to become a cruel and vain adult. Then, one day, the red shoes that sparked her greed come to life and steer Karen down a path she never would have imagined in her wildest dreams. This volume also includes Metaphrog's adaptation of the Hans Christian Andersen classic, "The Little Match Girl" and a tale of their own invention, "The Glass Case". Penguin Readers is a series of simplified novels, film novelizations and original titles that introduce students at all levels to the pleasures of reading in English. Originally designed for teaching English as a foreign language, the series' combination of high interest level and low reading age makes it suitable for both English-speaking teenagers with limited reading skills and students of English as a second language. Many titles

in the series also provide access to the pre-20th-century literature strands of the National Curriculum English Orders. Winner of the Edge Hill Short Story Prize A New York Times Notable Book of the Year An NPR Best Book of the Year The award-winning author of *The Past* once again "crystallizes the atmosphere of ordinary life in prose somehow miraculous and natural" (Washington Post), in a collection of stories that elevate the mundane into the exceptional. The author of six critically acclaimed novels, Tessa Hadley has proven herself to be the champion of revealing the hidden depths in the deceptively simple. In these short stories it's the ordinary things that turn out to be most extraordinary: the history of a length of fabric or a forgotten jacket. Two sisters quarrel over an inheritance and a new baby; a child awake in the night explores the familiar rooms of her home, made strange by the darkness; a housekeeper caring for a helpless old man uncovers secrets from his past. The first steps into a turning point and a new life are made so easily and carelessly: each of these stories illuminate crucial moments of transition, often imperceptible to the protagonists. A girl accepts a lift in a car with some older boys; a young woman reads the diaries she discovers while housesitting. Small acts have large consequences, some that can reverberate across decades; private fantasies can affect other people, for better and worse. The real things that happen to people, the accidents that befall them, are every bit as mysterious as their longings and their dreams. *Bad Dreams and Other Stories* demonstrates yet again that Tessa Hadley "puts on paper a consciousness so visceral, so fully realized, it heightens and expands your own. She is a true master" (Lily King, author of *Euphoria*). Twelve stories by science fiction master Stanisław Lem, nine of them never before published in English. Of these twelve short stories by science fiction master Stanisław Lem, only three have previously appeared in English, making this the first "new" book of fiction by Lem since the late 1980s. The stories display the full range of Lem's intense curiosity about scientific ideas as well as his sardonic approach to human nature, presenting as multifarious a collection of mad scientists as any reader could wish for. Many of these stories feature artificial intelligences or artificial life forms, long a Lem preoccupation;

some feature quite insane theories of cosmology or evolution. All are thought provoking and scathingly funny. Written from 1956 to 1993, the stories are arranged in chronological order. In the title story, "The Truth," a scientist in an insane asylum theorizes that the sun is alive; "The Journal" appears to be an account by an omnipotent being describing the creation of infinite universes--until, in a classic Lem twist, it turns out to be no such thing; in "An Enigma," beings debate whether offspring can be created without advanced degrees and design templates. Other stories feature a computer that can predict the future by 137 seconds, matter-destroying spores, a hunt in which the prey is a robot, and an electronic brain eager to go on the lam. These stories are peak Lem, exploring ideas and themes that resonate throughout his writing. 'I like to think of my characters as accumulations of past moments-forgotten and remembered, adventitious and self-created,' writes Jack Matthews. 'If the present moment is the surface, then the past is depth.' In 'Storyhood As We Know It' and Other Tales, the widely acclaimed Matthews provides fifteen short stories that are 'Saturated With Time.' Fairy tales for our times from the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Hours* A poisoned apple and a monkey's paw with the power to change fate; a girl whose extraordinarily long hair causes catastrophe; a man with one human arm and one swan's wing; and a house deep in the forest, constructed of gumdrops and gingerbread, vanilla frosting and boiled sugar. In *A Wild Swan and Other Tales*, the people and the talismans of lands far, far away—the mythic figures of our childhoods and the source of so much of our wonder—are transformed by Michael Cunningham into stories of sublime revelation. Here are the moments that our fairy tales forgot or deliberately concealed: the years after a spell is broken, the rapturous instant of a miracle unexpectedly realized, or the fate of a prince only half cured of a curse. The Beast stands ahead of you in line at the convenience store, buying smokes and a Slim Jim, his devouring smile aimed at the cashier. A malformed little man with a knack for minor acts of wizardry goes to disastrous lengths to procure a child. A loutish and lazy Jack prefers living in his mother's basement to getting a job, until the day he trades a cow for a handful of

magic beans. Reimagined by one of the most gifted storytellers of his generation, and exquisitely illustrated by Yuko Shimizu, rarely have our bedtime stories been this dark, this perverse, or this true. Each of Lara Vapnyar's six stories invites us into a world where food and love intersect, along with the overlapping pleasures and frustrations of Vapnyar's uniquely captivating characters. Meet Nina, a recent arrival from Russia, for whom colorful vegetables represent her own fresh hopes and dreams . . . Luda and Milena, who battle over a widower in their English class with competing recipes for cheese puffs, spinach pies, and meatballs . . . and Sergey, who finds more comfort in the borscht made by a paid female companion than in her sexual ministrations. They all crave the taste and smell of home, wherever—and with whomever—that may turn out to be. A roundup of recipes are the final taste of this delicious collection. This classical work of philosophy has inspired readers around the world for generations. Upon its initial publication in 1923, Kahlil Gibran's *The Prophet* garnered little acclaim, but it became a critical success in the 1930s and again in the 1960s when it inspired a generation of readers with its philosophical discussion on subjects such as love, friendship, beauty, and freedom. Gibran's masterpiece of poetic prose has now been translated into more than a hundred languages, and is regarded as one of the most important works of the early twentieth century. This Word Cloud edition of *The Prophet and Other Tales* also includes two of Gibran's earliest works, *The Madman* and *The Forerunner*, along with illustrations by the author. Steven Erikson has carved a name for himself among the pantheon of great fantasy writers. But his masterful storytelling and prose style go beyond the awe-inspiring Malazan world. In *The Devil Delivered and Other Tales*, Erikson tells three different, but captivating stories: "The Devil Delivered" tells a story set within the near future, where the land owned by the great Lakota Nation blisters beneath an ozone hole the size of the Great Plains. As the natural world falls victim to its wrath, and scientists scramble to understand it, a lone anthropologist wanders the deadlands, recording observations that threaten to bring the entire world to its knees. "Revolvo" takes place in an alternate Earth where evolution took an

interesting turn and the arts scene is ruled by technocrats who thrive in a secret, nepotistic society of granting agencies, bursaries, and peer-review boards, all designed to permit self-proclaimed artists to survive without an audience. "Fishin' with Grandma Matchie" is told in the voice of a nine-year-old boy, writing the story of his summer vacation. What starts as a typical recount of a trip to see Grandma quickly becomes a stunning fantastical journey into imagination and perception in the wild world that Grandma Matchie inhabits. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied. Set in an atmosphere of mystery and menace, Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* tells the story of Marlow's journey up the Congo River to meet the remarkable Mr. Kurtz. It reveals Conrad at the height of his powers as a writer of great vividness, intensity, and sophistication. *An Outpost of Progress* is also set in central Africa and offers a fiercely sardonic view of European imperialism. *Karain*, with its Malaysian setting, questions conventional ideas of the contrasts between races. *Youth* is a largely autobiographical account of an ill-fated voyage in which Marlow makes his first appearance. The four tales variously appraise the glamour, folly and rapacity of imperial adventure. Intro. and Notes by Cedric Watts. Biblio. Chronology. Glossary. Adapted from Tomie's classic collection Tomie dePaola's Favorite Nursery Tales, this new board book features three favorite stories--"The Three Bears," "The Three Little Pigs," and "The Little Red Hen," retold for the youngest readers. With simple, short texts and Tomie's beautiful artwork, young children will love to read Tomie's Three Bears and Other Tales again and again! Dark, brilliant fiction from the New York Times bestselling author: "Oates' spookiness is visceral, psychologically involving, and socially astute."—Booklist In the title story of her taut new fiction collection, Joyce Carol Oates writes: Life was not of the surface like the glossy skin of an apple, but deep inside the fruit where seeds are harbored. There is no writer more capable of picking out those seeds and exposing all their secret tastes and poisons than Oates herself—as demonstrated in these six stories. One tale opens with a woman, naked except for her high-heeled shoes, seated in front of the window in an apartment she cannot,

on her own, afford. In this exquisitely tense narrative reimagining of Edward Hopper's *Eleven A.M.*, 1926, the reader enters the minds of both the woman and her married lover, each consumed by alternating thoughts of disgust and arousal, as he rushes, amorously, murderously, to her door. In "The Long-Legged Girl," an aging, jealous wife crafts an unusual game of Russian roulette involving a pair of Wedgwood teacups, a strong Bengal brew, and a lethal concoction of medicine. Who will drink from the wrong cup, the wife or the dance student she believes to be her husband's latest conquest? In "The Sign of the Beast," when a former Sunday school teacher's corpse turns up, the blighted adolescent she had by turns petted and ridiculed confesses to her murder—but is he really responsible? And another young outsider, Horace Phineas Love, Jr., is haunted by apparitions at the very edge of the spectrum of visibility after the death of his tortured father in "Night-Gaunts," a fantastic ode to H.P. Lovecraft. "Consummately well-written, stylistically dashing...forthrightly nightmarish."—Kirkus Reviews In this dazzling literary debut, Rebecca Curtis displays the gifts that make her one of the most talented writers of her generation. Her characters—young women struggling to find happiness, love, success, security, and adventure—wait tables, run away from home, fall for married men, betray their friends, and find themselves betrayed as well. In "Hungry Self," a young waitress descends into the basement of a seemingly ordinary Chinese restaurant; in "Twenty Grand," a young wife tries to recover her lost fortune; in "Monsters," one family's paranoia leads to a sacrifice; and in "The Witches," an innocent swim on prom night proves more dangerous than anyone could have imagined. With elegant prose and a wicked sense of humor, these stories reveal Curtis's provocative and uncompromising view of life, one that makes her writing so poignant and irresistible.

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