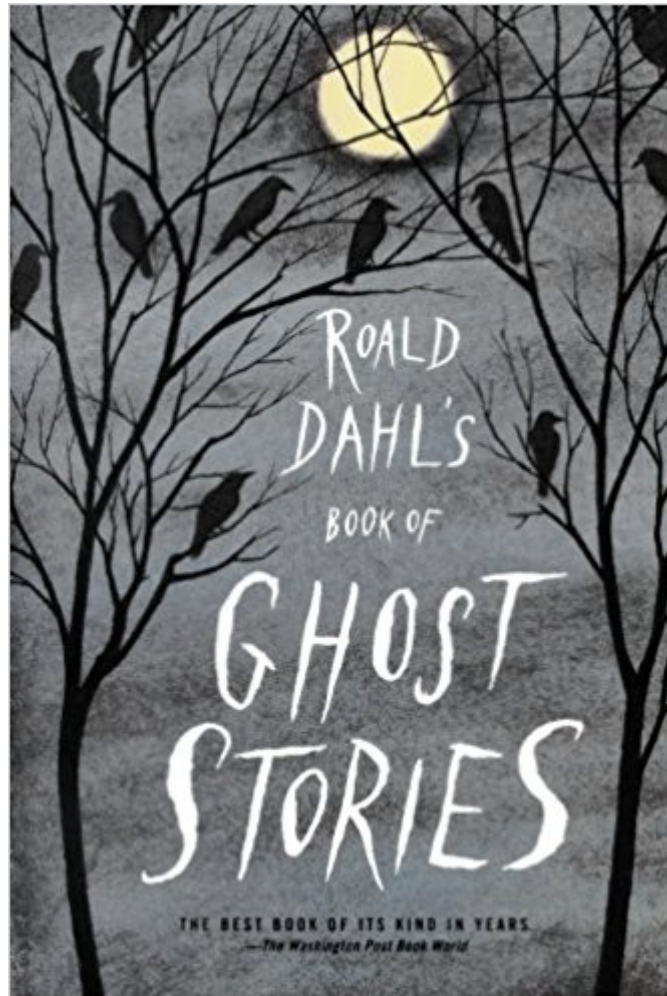




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Roald Dahl's Book Of Ghost Stories



Synopsis

Who better to investigate the literary spirit world than that supreme connoisseur of the unexpected, Roald Dahl? Of the many permutations of the macabre or bizarre, Dahl was always especially fascinated by the classic ghost story. As he relates in the erudite introduction to this volume, he read some 749 supernatural tales at the British Museum Library before selecting the 14 that comprise this anthology. "Spookiness is, after all, the real purpose of the ghost story," Dahl writes. "It should give you the creeps and disturb your thoughts." For this superbly disquieting collection, Dahl offers favorite tales by such masterful storytellers as E. F. Benson, J. Sheridan Le Fanu, Rosemary Timperley, and Edith Wharton.

Book Information

Paperback: 235 pages

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (October 1, 1984)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 77 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #18,857 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Short Stories](#) #87 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Horror > Ghosts](#) #109 in [Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Horror](#)

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Roald Dahl (1916-1990) was a prickly, colorful character who wrote maliciously funny short stories for adults (*The Best of Roald Dahl*) as well as better-known works for children (*James and the Giant Peach*). As he relates in the introduction, he started the research for this book by making a call to the celebrated ghost-story anthologist/writer, Lady Cynthia Asquith. He then went to the British Museum Library, and read a total of 749 tales before selecting 14 for this anthology. His criterion: "Spookiness is, after all, the real purpose of the ghost story. It should give you the creeps and disturb your thoughts." Included here are not only acknowledged classics by Robert Aickman, Edith Wharton, J. S. Le Fanu, and F. Marion Crawford, but also tales by lesser-known writers such as L.

P. Hartley, Rosemary Timperley, Jonas Lie, Mary Treadgold, and A. M. Burrage. The Washington Post writes, "Dahl's taste, it will surprise no one, is impeccable."

“Roald Dahl has selected fourteen of his favorite ghost stories that will deliver chills and goose bumps. "This is the best book of its kind in years. The Washington Post Book World

Read thru this book, which was requested by my grandson...Roald Dahl, best known as a children's author, was researching ghost stories for a possible TV series. He read HUNDREDS of stories, and distilled them down to just over 20. These are mostly old stories, and enjoyable, but a bit tame for these days. Which is a good thing, as a 7 year old will be getting this book for Christmas!

I'm only half way through this collection, gathered by Roald Dahl and four out of 5 of the stories have been really exceptional. It is exciting to have horror stories that to not include blood and gore, just frightful surprises!

A fun and thrilling read. Roald Dahl was commissioned to do a TV series of ghost stories back in the 1960's a la "Alfred Hitchcock Presents". In looking for the best stories to turn into teleplays, he read over 700 short ghost stories spanning the past 100+ years to filter the best ones down to these and had some interesting observations about women writers along the way (they're damn good at writing ghost stories). Every story is extremely well-crafted and exquisitely written. This book is a real find for anyone who loves a good ghost story.

a little scary for my 8 year old but she will grow into them.

Great selection of stories. I thoroughly enjoyed this.

My 4th graders love all things spooky and have really enjoyed this book!

kids enjoyed it

I'm biased because I like ghost stories - some better than others, of course. This was one of the best!

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