



The Young King

Oscar Wilde

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Playwright, poet, essayist, flamboyant man-about-town, Oscar Wilde pack an astonishing amount of work, genius, and controversy into two short decades, producing masterworks in every literary genre. This selection includes almost all of his short stories, including "The Canterville Ghost," "The Fisherman and his Soul," and "The Remarkable Rocket."

Alongside THE MODEL MILLIONAIRE, Harper Perennial will publish the short fiction of Fyodor Dostoevsky, Herman Melville, Willa Cather, Leo Tolstoy, and Stephen Crane to be packaged in a beautifully designed, boldly colorful boxset in the aim to attract contemporary fans of short fiction to these revered masters of the form. Also, in each of these selections will appear a story from one of the new collections being published in the "Summer of the Short Story." A story from Simon Van Booy's forthcoming collection, LOVE BEGINS IN WINTER, will be printed at the back of this volume.

The Young King Details

Date : Published April 28th 2009 by HarperCollins e-books (first published 1891)

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Author : Oscar Wilde

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From Reader Review The Young King for online ebook

Rumi says

{5/5}

Gary says

Wilde's sincere and compassionate side.

Rao Javed says

Not the normal style of Wilde but very good indeed. Then the concept exports the life of luxurious king which is somewhat clichéd idea. Then the story line was good, justified and understandable. There where no such good characters however the ending was good.

Julia Leporace says

"- En la guerra - contestó el tejedor - el fuerte esclaviza al débil, y en la paz el rico esclaviza al pobre. Nosotros tenemos que trabajar para vivir y ellos nos dan unos salarios tan miserables que nos morimos. Trabajamos para ellos todo el largo día y ellos almacenan el oro en sus cofres, mientras nuestros hijos se debilitan y los rostros de los seres que amamos se hacen duros y malos. Pisamos las uvas y otros se beben el vino. Sembramos el trigo, pero nuestros estómagos están vacíos. Estamos encadenados, aunque nadie se da cuenta; y somos esclavos, aunque los hombres nos llamen libres."

Megan L says

Know thyself
and be true to thee

Blanca Ruiz says

Great short story!

Stuart Aken says

So well written and bursting with detail and imagery of distant lands and cultures, this story is, unfortunately,

marred by its blindness to the faults in Christianity. Having castigated the material wealth of the secular and told a parable of the rich and the poor in society, Wilde then goes on to finish the story with an account of a form of miracle, but fails to recognise that the same materialistic values rule in the church. Although the young King of the title has learned his lesson from his dreams, the church is left inviolate in spite of its own reliance on material wealth gained at the expense of the poor and the enslaved.

This is one of a series of 'fairy tales' Wilde wrote, apparently for children, but his faith unfortunately gets in the way of the message, so that the strength of the parable is lost in his insistence on the goodness of his god. It's a shame, because the story is otherwise so well told, so well written. I enjoyed it until I reached the last few paragraphs.

Jason Koivu says

Seeing in a dream all the toil and degradation the common man must go through on his behalf, a young king has an existential breakdown and tries to eschew all royal trappings. The common man does not thank him for it and the noblemen think him mad. Neither wants him as a ruler unless he's willing to play by the old rules. The moral seems to be that you shouldn't bother trying to change the heinous ways of man. Just give up and go with it.

Satyabrata Mishra says

As his forte, Oscar Wilde weaves a web of allusions. A king who does not want a golden robe or pearls of white, is accepted not even by his subjects. Have we put such a price on perfection that we see nothing but the price now? Beautifully composed and lovely descriptions.

Elle says

another lovely short story. rated it a 3 as I much prefer some of Wilde's other works, however this story does have lovely writing style and imagery along with a deep and scarily relevant message.

Fatima Naqshbandi says

it is a nice story i liked it and i think it showed the reality of societies in an indirect way. The idea of it is really deep

Stephen Matlock says

One of the most profoundly moving stories of my childhood. I have never forgotten the first time I read it.

The whole thing here:

<http://www.online-literature.com/poe/...>

The YouTube/animation here:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=QIwupcYwimY

K. Anna Hardy says

I have arranged my takeaway thoughts on this fairytale into a haiku:

"The golden hurdle:
Rescinding the profaned ways
That degrade the poor."

Shrena says

Beautifully weaved.

The story of a King who refused to be, his three dreams describe the world using metaphorically.

Greed,Avarice,Death,Famine are explained by giving life to each of these characters.

How monarchy affects the working class, the spectre of the king affects all.

A king who has a change of heart and refuses to be, he decides to take up the burden of all, and break through the tradition of Monarchs.

Hera Sabato says

Super !

Darya Holmes says

?????? ??? ???? ??? ???? ?? ??????? ?????????????? ?????? ???????

Neeraj Chavan says

Oh, I just love how Wilde can mould two opposite ideas in a single story and even then make it interesting. This one's a parable about a young King who doesn't want his riches and his crown. All he wants is that the divide between the rich and the poor to disappear away. Ideas like monarchy, greed and poverty are explored in a rather beautiful way. However, such a wonderful tale has been dulled by a fairy-tale like end in which Wilde has a preachy tone regarding Christianity. It could have been avoided. However, the entire story is just

brilliant. Definitely worth reading!

Abhishek Poojary says

Review of individual short story- The Young King.

Short stories are an easy bet. If they aren't good - fair enough, you didn't loose much time.
And if they turn out good - Majja ! (Couldn't think of a better description xD)

This book, being a Wilde of course belongs to the latter category.

The story is built upon the familiar tropes of bastards, coronations and renunciation of throne (think Jon Snow, Karna and Buddha)

Favorite highlight - "From the luxuries of rich, comes the life of poor." *DEEP*

I couldn't quite comprehend the ending though, will be glad to hear an explanation (if there's one).

Vatroslav Herceg says

Sveučilišna naklada Liber
Zagreb, 1986.

S engleskoga preveo Ivo Velikanović

Ilustrirao Ljubo Babić (i to dobro)

Radi se o novokompanovoj bajci, novokompanovana u vidu furke rane moderne. U našoj književnosti Fran Galović je kompanovao tu usmenu formu.

Jezik na situacija je duboko povezana sa žanrovskom klasifikacijom s time da mogu ustvrditi da je, iako se radi o žanrovskom djelu (istina-bajka je žanr visoke književnosti), jezik izrazito siromašan. Možda je u pitanju loš prijevod? Eh, ako je tako, moj Ivo okreni se sad u grobu. No, ipak ne bih rekao da je u vezi siromaštva i neaktualizacije jezika problem prijevod. Fran Galović je pisao bajke baš poput Wildea, no s daleko raskošnijim jezikom, esteticizam fin de sièclea je kod Galovića daleko više esencijalniji. Matoš je pisao dosta slično poput Galovića ili Wildea (nisu bajke, ali to je ta gotovo istovjetna furka rane moderne u vezi kratke proze) te je ostvario jezik koji je bolji od hrane. Bez imalo ironije ili hiperboliziranja kada citam Matoševe novele (ove larpurlartističko-estetičističke provenijencije) meni se javlja slina u ustima. Matoš je jednako dobar kao breskvice (onaj božanski kolač?) ili Raffaello. Oscar Wilde piše jedno i provincijalno u usporedbi s Matošem ili Galovićem. Opet tu spomenuti mogu u problematiku prijevoda, odnos baroknosti jezika i potencijalnog materinjstva u samom jeziku.

Sadržajno dosadno virtuelno signalizirajuće djelo. Wildeove socijalističke zablude izlaze na vidjelo. To je to lijevaarsko vojevanje s fantomima, stvarnost se doživljava kao nepravda. Ako je nešto nepravda onda se nužno može promijeniti, ali ako je nešto stvarnost onda se ne može promijeniti. Dvadeseto stoljeće je pokazalo kako je stvarnost nepromjenljiva, jedino što se može promijeniti u borbi protiv "nepravde" jest to da se ubije milijune u pokušaju ostvaraja pravde i ravnopravnosti.

Mogu zamisliti Justin Trudeaua kako citira ove korice i kako misli u sebi: -Dobru ideološku podlogu daje ovaj

Wilde, no on je ipak bijeli muškarac. Ups! Pa i ja sam bijeli muškarac...

Da je Oscar Wilde danas živ bio bi vjerojatno u nekom virtue signaling podcastu s kosmatim Russell Brandom i, naravno, Justinom Trudeauom gdje bi govorili kako je nepravedno da je nekome hladno a nekome nije. Oscar Wilde bi ipak bio u prednosti jer on nije heteroseksualan, a taj biljeg nose ova druga dvojica.

Hasta luego!

Lou says

This is a story a bit strange but fun. I liked the three dreams that the king had and I think a story is not necessarily just for kids, everyone can enjoy reading.
