



The Collected Stories (New Directions Paperback)

By Dylan Thomas



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This gathering of all Dylan Thomas's stories, ranging chronologically from the dark, almost surrealistic tales of Thomas's youth to such gloriously rumbustious celebrations of life as *A Child's Christmas in Wales* and *Adventures in the Skin Trade*, charts the progress of "The Rimbaud of Cwmdonkin Drive" toward his mastery of the comic idiom.

Here, too, are stories originally written for radio and television and, in a short appendix, the schoolboy pieces first published in the *Swansea Grammar School Magazine*. A highpoint of the collection is Thomas's *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Dog*, a vivid collage of memories from his Swansea childhood that combines the lyricism of his poetry with the sparkle and sly humor of *Under Milk Wood*. Also here is the fiction from *Quite Early One Morning*, a collection planned by Thomas shortly before his death.

Altogether there are more than forty stories, providing a rich and varied literary feast and showing Dylan Thomas in all his intriguing variety-somber fantasist, joyous word-spinner, comedian of smalltown Wales. The book includes an entertaining, informative reflection on Thomas by another Welsh poet and storyteller, Leslie Norris, as well as a brief listing of publication details by Professor Walford Davies, editor of *Dylan Thomas: Early Prose Works*.

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Editorial Review

Review

His prose, his images, his stories all pulsate with life, with a beat and a variety that captivate, invigorate, and clarify.

About the Author

Dylan Thomas was born in Swansea on 27 October 1914, the son of a senior English master. On leaving school he worked on the South Wales Evening Post before embarking on his literary career in London. Not only a poet, he wrote short stories, film scripts, features and radio plays, the most famous being Under Milk Wood. On 9 November 1953, shortly after his thirty-ninth birthday, he collapsed and died in New York city. He is buried in Laugharne, Carmarthenshire, which had become his main home since 1949. In 1982 a memorial stone to commemorate him was unveiled in 'Poet's Corner' in Westminster Abbey.

Users Review

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Loretta Manson:

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Danny Solberg:

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