

Wunderkind

Carson McCullers

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Writing about outcasts, dreamers and misfits in the Deep South, Carson McCullers was acclaimed for her sympathetic depictions of loneliness, the need for understanding and the search for love. These four masterly stories of eccentrics, failed prodigies, injustice and hope, written when she was in her twenties, explore the human condition with humour and pathos. This book includes "Wunderkind", "The Jockey", "Madame Zilensky and the King of Finland", "A Tree, A Rock and A Cloud".

Wunderkind Details

Date : Published 2011 by Penguin Group

ISBN: 9780141196121 Author: Carson McCullers Format: Paperback 62 pages

Genre: Short Stories, Fiction, Classics, Literature, American, Womens



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From Reader Review Wunderkind for online ebook

Michelle says

I like the writing. The stories couldn't hold my attention though.

Swarnadeep Banik says

this is the first time that i have read carson mccullers's work. i loved her prose her prose is for the sad and lonely people, her prose talks about the people who need love, because they are alone for the lack of it in their lives.

but, this short-story collection consists of her stories which are okay. yes, the materials are decent but her writing speaks very very differently. her writing is so strong and intense that you feel immersed in it. and, some of the stories, specially the last one, are like that. i want to read more of her works, but this was a nice start.

Mafalda Fernandes says

Wunderkind - 4*
The Jockey - 2*
Madame Zilensky and the King of Finland - 4*
A Tree, a Rock, a Cloud - 4*

Laura says

The first two werent my piece of cake but I quite liked the second two, and I really liked McCullers' writing style.

Jamie says

I picked this little volume up as an introduction to Carson McCullers' writing. Since I had never previously read her works I had no idea what to expect, other than that her writing is considered to be of the "Southern Gothic" genre.

The first two stories "Wunderkind" and "The Jockey" were very simply and precisely written. I felt as if I had been plopped down into someone's world for a few minutes and plucked back out again, feeling a little baffled at the ambiguous and unresolved endings of the stories. However, the final two stories "Madame Zilensky and the King of Finland" and "A Tree, A Rock, and A Cloud" Completely drew me in, carried me along with a sense of curiosity and foreboding, and took me to what I felt was a satisfying conclusion to the scene.

In hindsight I think it took me reading all of these 4 stories to get into the tone and rhythm of McCullers' writing. I love the empathetic tone of her storytelling. It's clear that she wants to tell the stories of everyday people and validate their struggles and feelings. I will definitely be reading more Carson McCullers in the future! 3.5 Stars
The four short-stories in this book where taken from "The Ballad of the Sad Cafe and Other Works".
DAC I
Miranda says
I'm not usually a fan of short stories, and the ones in this collection were very, very short, but I absolutely loved them. McCullers introduced the characters in such a way that I immediately felt drawn into the stories and each stood alone perfectly. Lovely.
Kate says
I reallllly did not like Wunderkind. It was boring, to be quite honest.
D.A.Calf says
A grand little collection of short stories. McCullers is great at portraying characters in discomfort and there are many of those herein. The standout piece is 'The Jockey'.
John says
Four short stories. Wunderkind, The Jockey, Madame Zilensky and the King of Finland and A Tree, a Rock, a Cloud. An amazing collection of well crafted short stories about loneliness, anger and hope.
I think we all know someone with the characteristics of Madame Zilensky who embellish their lives

unknowingly with fantasy or exaggerations. The last story about love lost and making sense of it was

enthralling.

Ryan says

I had never read any Carson McCullers before these, so I was really pleasantly surprised by how great they were. There's a lot of humor to these without being absurd, especially in how the peculiarities of the character come out.

Mark J Easton says

Peopled by an assortment of harried, lost, ethereal, and absorbed characters, a cast of musicians, jockeys, drunks, and children, McCullers four short stories in this collection are at once thoughtful as they are neat and bittersweet. The stories exhort the reader to feel the human breadth that exists in the parochial and even the smallest of towns, and act as a healthy reminder that wonder exists in every nook and cranny, if only we care to look with the right and sympathetic eyes.

C says

A lovely little quartet of stories.

Vanessa says

I liked this little collection of Carson McCullers's stories for the most part, but honestly I don't think this was a great place to start for me. I enjoyed McCullers's writing style, and her ideas for stories were very unique and had a cast of interesting, quirky characters, but the plots for the most part I found a little dull. I'm looking forward to getting into some of her novels though.

tomwrote says

A small high-quality selection of short stories. Loneliness is the recurring theme that all others are filtered through. There is anger, fear and love too amongst the effortlessly evoked southern settings. 'Madame Zilensky and the King Of Finland' was the stand out for me and 'A Tree, A Rock and A Cloud' aches beautifully.

Ricardo Rodríguez Quintero says

Powerful use of language. Vivid, heart-warming/freezing descriptions. Delightful.