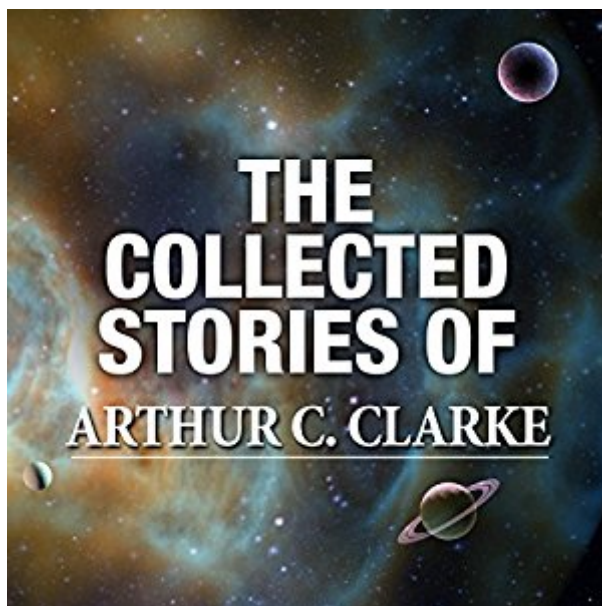


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The Collected Stories Of Arthur C. Clarke



Synopsis

Author of the Hugo and Nebula Award-winning novels *Rendezvous with Rama* and *The Fountains of Paradise* along with such memorable novels as *Childhood's End*, Sir Arthur C. Clarke was - with Isaac Asimov and Robert A. Heinlein - one of the writers who defined the classic era of science fiction. From early work like "Rescue Party" and "The Lion of Comarre" through classic stories including "The Star", "Earthlight", "The Nine Billion Names of God", and "The Sentinel" (kernel of the later novel and movie *2001: A Space Odyssey*), all the way to later work like "A Meeting with Medusa" and "The Hammer of God", this comprehensive short story collection encapsulates one of the great science fiction careers of all time.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Arthur C. Clarke remains a seminal figure in 20th-century science fiction literature. Coming back to his work after a long hiatus, I find that his prose can be flat, and his specific visions sometimes dated (he obviously, like the rest of us, did not foresee the coming of Bill Gates, Steve Jobs and the personal computer). A few of his stories are mere catalogs of the trappings of future worlds, interesting for what he gets right and wrong but not much more. Nevertheless, the grandeur and emotional power of his conceptions can still take one's breath away. I think of his classic "Nine Billion Names of God," wherein a computing project quietly precipitates the Apocalypse; or "The Star," in which a discovery of a planetary civilization destroyed by a supernova has unexpected and shattering ramifications for a clergyman of the future. It's good to have so much of this author's work together in one volume. One wishes it had been more carefully edited and proofread--as I've gone

through the stories I have detected an inordinate number of typographical errors and omitted words, suggesting haste in production. Although there are notations about which collection a story originally came from, and occasional brief commentaries from the author, it is nevertheless difficult to locate a half-remembered favorite story. Finally, the paper on which this collection is printed is flimsy and perishable--perhaps the publisher has already decided print books are obsolete. Nevertheless, Clarke's stories seem assured of survival, in whatever medium.

Whenever I take a a trip, this book is in my carry on. If I lose interest in whatever else I have to read, I know I can lose myself in this wonderful collection of classic science fiction. Clarke entertains you, makes you think, makes you laugh, and above all instills that "Sense of Wonder" that only the masters of this genre can. Some of the stories are very short, a few are novella length. Clarke's science is always sound, but good sf, like any good literature, is about people, not gadgets. The gadgets are there to create the scene, but it's the people who are the story. Why not 5 stars? Two reasons:- More typographical errors than the man deserved. There should have been more proofreading before printing this.- Still no ebook edition in most of the world. (Yes, there is an epub edition available only in Australia, but what about the rest of the planet?) Open the book to any page. Find the beginning of the next story. Start reading. Enjoy. I envy anyone who has never read Clarke before, picking this up for the first time.

When it comes to SF, I was born in the wrong generation. I really love the SF from Clarke's day. Yes some of it is dated, but I can look past that and enjoy the story for what it is. The first time I read this collection, I had not read Arthur C. Clarke. I was astounded, as almost every story I read had me thinking "Wow! That was fun!" or "Wow! What a concept!" I am not sure how I had not read Clarke before then. I loved nearly every story in this volume and later decided it would be worth owning. As others have said, the editing is lousy, and misspelled or downright incorrect words abound, but for me, this collection is good enough to look past that. I can't get these stories anywhere else in such a complete and practical way. I highly recommend these if you are into the classic SF.

I had read a lot of these, and enjoyed re-reading them. It is amazing how much more the inventor of the communications satellite got right.

Really enjoying this. As a teenager in the 50's I read many of these and remember bits now.

A fantastic collection of Clarke's work. If you love science-fiction or just like it, this is a book you should check out. Clarke is one of the founders of modern science fiction and any fan of the genre would be remiss without experiencing his work.

This was fun to read. I have read many of these, but there were still a lot that were new to me. This man puts enough detail into his stories that they ring true, but they are still enjoyable to read. A great collection! As always, boxed well and shipped quickly.

Classic Sci-Fi. Great stuff!

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