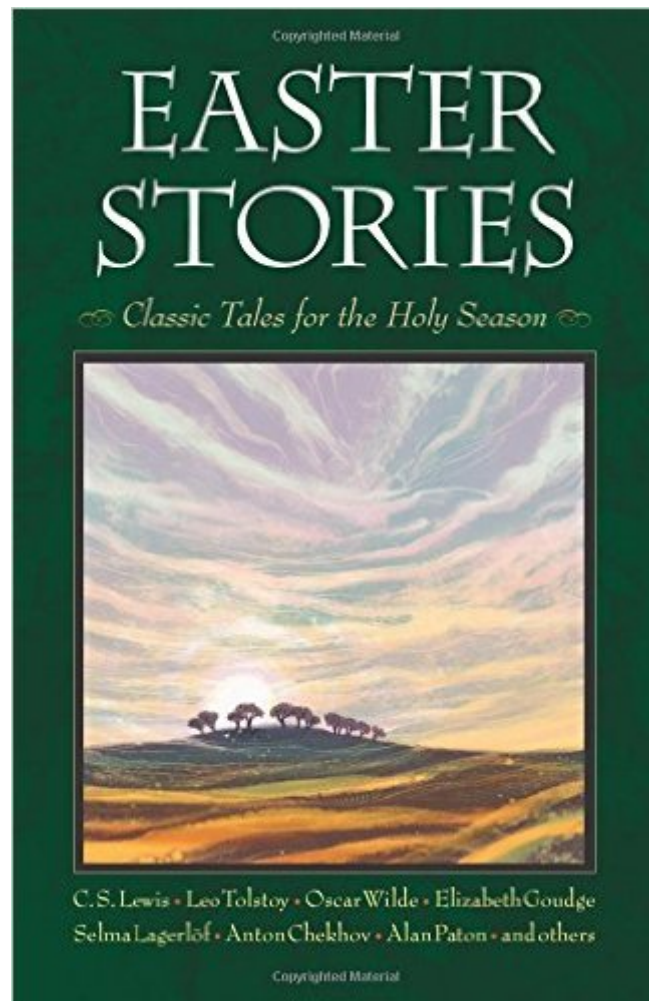


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# Easter Stories: Classic Tales For The Holy Season



## Synopsis

Everyone who believes Easter is about more than bunnies and eggs will be grateful for this new collection of short stories that shed light on the deeper meaning of the season. Selected for their spiritual value and literary quality, these classic tales capture the spirit of Easter in a way that will captivate readers of all ages. Parents and grandparents will find that children love to hear these stories read aloud, year after year. Easter Stories includes time-honored favorites from world-famous storytellers such as C.S. Lewis, Leo Tolstoy, Selma Lagerlof, Oscar Wilde, Elizabeth Goudge, Maxim Gorky, Ruth Sawyer, and Walter Wangerin as well as many you've never heard before. Illustrated with original woodcuts.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Before I began reading the short stories or tales, I perused the source page that is included at the end of the book. From that information, I was astounded by the age and places where some of the writings took place as well as the point in history when these were written. Some of what readers will enjoy knowing is that the original writings in some cases had to be translated into English before most would be able to enjoy. Though the intent of the publication is to help hearts prepare for the Easter season, I firmly advocate reading them throughout the year. One of the installments that really touched my heart deeply was titled, The Church of the Washing of the Feet, written by Alan Patton in 1981. While that wasn't so long ago, it strikes the heart because of where the story is placed. When I think of that country's history, it takes my breath away. I was arrested right in my

tracks, having to take time to meditate and ponder the richness of what the tale presents. In a compilation such as this, when looking back, it is with new eyes one sees past events and people. Sometimes it is with a new appreciation for the gift of writing and sharing a story with audiences then and now with a new generation. Please consider *Easter Stories* in a different light than perhaps other books published or marketed simply because of the season and a desire to increase revenue. As I read, I kept returning to the thought that the jewels in the stories are touching or can touch the heart and mind of people who otherwise may not be open to hearing about Jesus through conventional means. Personally, I am thankful for the opportunity to read and share this book with others as it really resonated with my spirit.

*Easter Stories: Classic Tales for the Holy Season* is a collection of short stories for all ages. All of the stories in this collection share the rich Christian imagery of life through death. In a world that co-opts Easter for stories of the Easter Bunny and painted eggs, *Easter Stories* contains the best collection of stories for Lent and Easter imagery that I've ever read. Included here are short stories from C.S. Lewis, Leo Tolstoy, Clarence Jordan, Selma Lagerlof, Oscar Wilde, Elizabeth Goudge, Maxim Gorky, Ruth Sawyer, Walter Wangerin, among others. My favorite of the collection is from Andre Tocme, "How Donkeys Got the Spirit of Contradiction". The book opens with a poem written by Jane Tyson Clement, "Carol of Hope". It sets the tone for the book. And the original woodcuts by Lisa Toth make this a collection for younger ages, too. *Easter Stories* is a book for families, to read and share year after year. It a real treasure for Christians. \_\_\_\_\_ I received a free copy of this book from Plough Publishing in exchange for my honest review here.

Do you celebrate Easter (aka Resurrection Sunday)? If so, do you believe the holiday is about more than just Easter egg hunts and bunnies? If so, do you enjoy reading short stories? If you answered yes to all of these questions, then you might enjoy a new anthology of short stories that were chosen for their spiritual value. *Easter Stories* includes favorite short stories from world-famous storytellers such as C.S. Lewis, Leo Tolstoy, Selma Lagerlof, Oscar Wilde, Elizabeth Goudge, Maxim Gorky, Ruth Sawyer, Anton Chekhov, and Walter Wangerin as well as many you've probably never heard before. I have been reading these stories out loud to my kids. Each of the stories has a hidden meaning, or a moral to it, and one of our favorites is "The Ragman" by Walter Wangerin, Jr. - a timeless classic about a man (symbolic of Jesus) who took away old rags and gave new ones in return. We understood this story and enjoyed reading it, but there are others we didn't quite understand. With that in mind, I think the book could benefit from having a section that

actually explains what each of the stories means.

My rating is as an adult reader... Another woman selected this book for our small group to read and discuss. The stories are generally short, and most read like fairy tales, without much depth to characterization or descriptions, and often with obvious "moral". It would probably be great and much enjoyed by younger readers through perhaps middle-school-age. For our group, I was very quickly bored, and could not find much of substance for our discussions.

This book is full of spiritual stories that captivate the Holy week and of Easter. There are 27 classic tales in the book. One that I loved is the story titled, "The White Lily." The story of how the Robin became red breasted is also awesome. God teaches the Robin that one day it will have the color of red on his breast, but it isn't until the death of Christ on the cross that the redbird tries to remove a thorn from the Lord's head and blood spills upon the bird, which then makes all Robins have a redbreast from there on out. Each beautiful story in this book is written with love and with God's touch. You will love reading these stories to your children and grandchildren because they are all filled with love. "Easter Stories" would make a great gift for every home or in every children's church classroom. C.S. Lewis, Leo Tolstoy, Jayne Tyson Clement, Oscar Wilde, and a myriad of other authors are the writers of these great stories. This book is not just meant for Easter time reading, it can be read anytime of year. Great book!

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