

About the book

What does it feel like to be a child? Learning how to negotiate with the unpredictable adult world, learning how to pick a path through life's traps and hazards, learning when the time has come to put away childish things.

The writers of these short stories show us the world as seen from the far side of the child-adult divide, a gap that is sometimes small, and sometimes an unbridgeable chasm.

This collection contains stories by John Updike, Graham Greene, William Boyd, Susan Hill, D. H. Lawrence, Saki, Penelope Lively, Bernard MacLaverly, Frank Tuohy, and Morley Callaghan.







Discussion Questions




Which was your favourite story? Why?




Did you identify with any of the characters?



Was there any message that you think some of the authors wanted to transmit?




Is there any character who plays an important role?



What is ironic about the end of the party? (Graham Green)





What happened to Miss Reece? (Friends of Miss Reece)



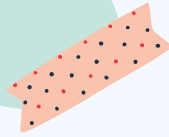


What is the moral of the story *The Rocking-Horse Winner*? (D.H.Lawrence)

What usually happens to the "new boys" in *"Next Term, We'll Mash You"* by Penelope Lively?

What are the major themes in *"Secrets"* by Bernard MacLaverly?



Who is Mrs Macdonnell and what does she represent in *"Licence"* by Frank Tuohy?



Why does Michael feel the need to escape in *"Runaway"* by Morley Callaghan?