



## The Man Who Would Be King: Selected Stories (Penguin Classics)

By Rudyard Kipling

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Rudyard Kipling is one of the most magical storytellers in the English language. This new selection brings together the best of his short writings, following the development of his work over fifty years. They take us from the harsh, cruel, vividly realized world of the "Indian" stories that made his name, through the experimental modernism of his middle period to the highly-wrought subtleties of his later pieces. Including the tale of insanity and empire, "The Man Who Would Be King," the high-spirited "The Village that Voted the Earth Was Flat," the fable of childhood cruelty and revenge "Baa Baa, Black Sheep," the menacing psychological study "Mary Postgate" and the ambiguous portrayal of grief and mourning in "The Gardener," here are stories of criminals, ghosts, femmes fatales, madness and murder.

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### Editorial Review

About the Author

**Rudyard Kipling** (1865-1936) was born in Bombay. During his time at the United Services College, he began to write poetry, privately publishing **Schoolboy Lyrics** in 1881. The following year he started work as a journalist in India, and while there produced a body of work, stories, sketches, and poems—including “Mandalay,” “Gunga Din,” and “Danny Deever”—which made him an instant literary celebrity when he returned to England in 1889. While living in Vermont with his wife, an American, Kipling wrote **The Jungle Books**, **Just So Stories**, and **Kim**—which became widely regarded as his greatest long work, putting him high among the chronicles of British expansion. Kipling returned to England in 1902, but he continued to travel widely and write, though he never enjoyed the literary esteem of his early years. In 1907, he became the first British writer to be awarded the Nobel Prize.

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**Alysa Appel:**

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**John Martindale:**

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