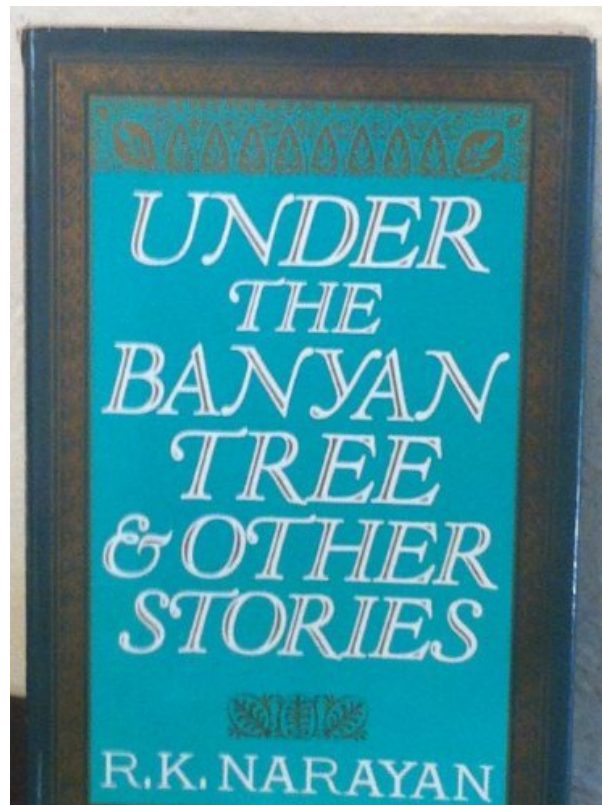
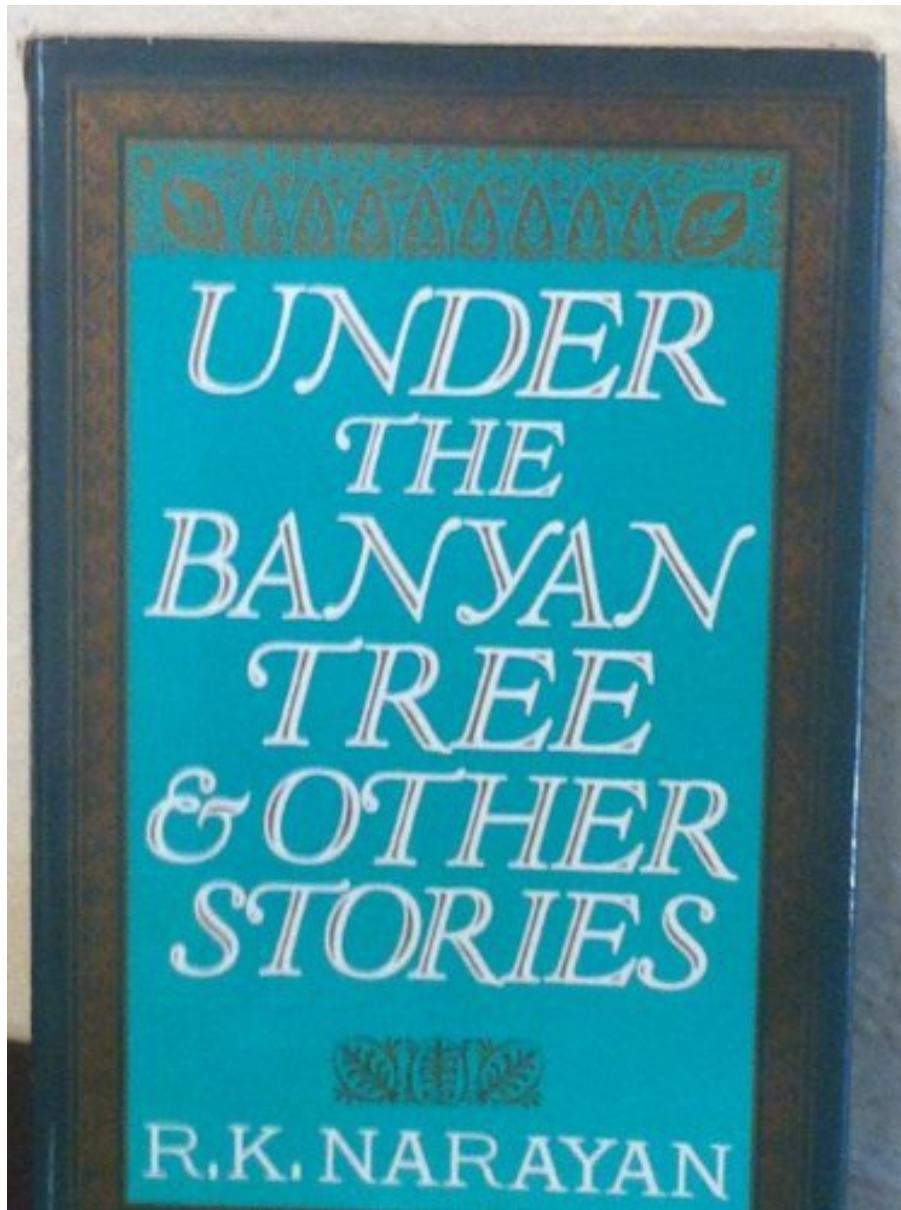


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## **About the Author**

R.K. Narayan was born in Madras, South India, in 1906, and educated there and at Maharaja's College in Mysore. His first novel, Swami and Friends and its successor, The Bachelor of Arts, are both set in the enchanting fictional territory of Malgudi and are only two out of the twelve novels he based there. In 1958 Narayan's work The Guide won him the National Prize of the Indian Literary Academy, his country's highest literary honor. In addition to his novels, Narayan has authored five collections of short stories, including A Horse and Two Goats, Malgudi Days, and Under the Banyan Tree, two travel books, two volumes of essays, a volume of memoirs, and the re-told legends Gods, Demons and Others, The Ramayana, and the Mahabharata. In 1980 he was awarded the A.C. Benson Medal by the Royal Society of Literature and in 1982 he was made an Honorary Member of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. Narayan died in 2001.

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A collection of stories about characters from every walk of Indian life - merchants, beggars, herdsmen, rogues - all of whose lives are microcosms of the human experience.

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- Brand: Brand: Viking Adult
- Published on: 1985-07-31
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 20.00" h x 20.00" w x 20.00" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
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## Features

- Used Book in Good Condition

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3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

Enchanting like "Malgudi Days"

By A Customer

This book is in the same mold as "Malgudi Days". Some stories ,like the title story & "Dodu" are pure gems. I read and re-read this book and still found them as fresh.The characters ,the situations are so real that one wonders whether the author picked them out of his own experiences.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Kipling's India through an Indian's eyes

By AYJ

I was put off by the first of the stories in this collection - it seems a tale without a conclusion or

consequences. I stuck with the book because of the cover comment by Graham Greene: "Narayan is the novelist I admire most in the English language." Greene is such a master storyteller that I figured things had to improve. And they did. The second story had a lovely twist ending, and I began to enjoy the leisurely development, the exposition of locale and social position of the characters, and the affectionate tone of the narrator, who seems to love all his characters indiscriminately.

The surprise ending, I grew to see, is characteristic of Narayan, at least in this collection. I could never tell exactly where the story was going to go next, but I was able to enjoy each twisting path. I am a big fan of Rudyard Kipling since my elementary school days, and was very interested in the way Narayan took characters and scenery which had been affectionately described by an sympathetic colonial, and made them uniquely and directly Indian.

These are small stories about individuals. There are no mass movements here, no political messages, no sectarian violence. Equally, there is no slapstick humor, no guffaws. It's a book for reading in a quiet corner and smiling ironically to yourself.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Try a Narayan Short Story for Yourself

By Douglas S. Wood

'Under the Banyan Tree', a collection of 28 short stories published late in R.J. Narayan's career in 1985, demonstrates the warmth, humor, and simplicity that made him so beloved. The tales are set in and around fictional Malgudi and include a number of stories featuring the Talkative Man.

Narayan's works are sometimes criticized by the literati - but see also a 2001 New York Review of Books essay titled 'The Great Narayan' by Pankaj Mishra. Pick up 'Under the Banyan Tree', read a short story, and make up your own mind. I think you'll be warmly rewarded.

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