

Short Stories

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chris crutcher is a literary icon in the field of young adult literature with his first book running loose published in 1983 crutcher established a reputation for giving young adults a voice in realistic fiction since then crutcher has written a number of books with spot on depictions of young adults growing through hard times including ironman whale talk staying fat for sarah byrnes and stotan in chris crutcher a stotan for young adults bryan gillis and pam b cole examine the life career and works of this young adult advocate this volume opens with a never before published comprehensive portrait of the author s life gleaned from numerous conversations with crutcher the authors explore crutcher s childhood his adolescent years his life as an adult and his career as a family counselor and examine how those experiences became fodder for his stories the authors also discuss crutcher s encounters with censorship and his philosophical stance gillis and cole also analyze crutcher s novels short stories and novellas examining his literary craft and such social themes as bigotry identity sexuality relationships and loss themes almost always positioned

within a sports story the most comprehensive study of crutcher s life and work to date this book benefits tremendously from the cooperation of crutcher himself generally reserved about private matters crutcher talks candidly about his life and how his experiences helped shape his character and his stories his cooperative spirit gives voice to a book that will appeal not only to teachers and librarians but to students who have been enthralled by the works of this generous writer

solitude is the state of being alone or isolated from others it is often a voluntary choice for meditation introspection reflection or simply enjoying one s own company solitude can be peaceful and conducive to deep thinking or creativity contrasting with loneliness which implies a negative feeling of being alone and disconnected this book investigates the types of solitude in twelve modern short stories written by authors of different nationalities races and genders it also explores how the setting boosts the state of solitude of each character there are different manifestations of solitude and the solitary character a person living among other people refusing to be part of them unwilling to be part of them or being refused and rejected to be part of them this character is a child a teenager a man or an abnormal freakish man or a woman of sorrow a recipient of much unbearable pain

time is the ultimate deceiver on a cold morning in 2219 cara montgomery and her husband jackson have a frightening encounter on the beach an encounter that leads to a war with a depraved and relentless alien race the shapeless changing their lives forever three hundred years earlier harriet turner travels to the future to learn the shocking secret behind victorian london s most notorious serial killer jack the ripper a mysterious barber fred goes with her but fred has a shocking secret of his own hunted by the ruthless miss morgan and plagued by visions of a snake eating its own tail harriet discovers that the all powerful million eyes isn t the only one with an agenda time itself has one too cover artwork by alison buck

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coal burns underground and destroys a small town a woman confronts police officers with her pet copperheads a young girl drinks drano a man is banned from his favorite bar within these eleven short stories flannery o connor award winner and poet gary fincke brings into focus the small struggles of ordinary people the characters within this collection from boys and girls to fathers mothers and the aging live in cities in towns and in rural areas yet no matter the surroundings all seem alone within a collective anxiety set against extraordinary events such as the three mile island accident the challenger disaster and the kennedy assassination these stories personalize history through a juxtaposition between large and small tragedies and the unflinching desire to find insight within and redemption from weakness and shortcoming

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