



ISBN: 978-1-80447-099-2

Paperback • 224pp • £7.99

BIC: FC, FYB, AGN 129 x 198 mm

26TH JUNE 2024

WORLD ENGLISH

A WHITE HERON AND OTHER STORIES

SARAH ORNE JEWETT

- One of the best-known works by an important American writer.
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‘Sylvia would have liked him vastly better without his gun; she could not understand why he killed the very birds he seemed to like so much.’

A tale for our times, ‘A White Heron’ follows Sylvia, a young woman who moves from the city to live with her grandmother in the Maine countryside. One day she is approached by a trophy hunter, who is keen to track down a rare and elusive bird so that he can shoot it and preserve it – but Sylvia finds herself enabling the bird’s escape.

Painting beautiful portraits of American countryside, and tapping into deep debates around humans and their relationship with nature, this extraordinary short-story collection was years ahead of its time, and is ripe for rediscovery.

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‘They are not stories at all, but life itself.’

WILLA CATHER

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Sarah Orne Jewett (1849–1909) was an American novelist and short-story writer whose ‘local colour’ works remain amongst the most important for detailing life in the American countryside. Best known today for her short stories, in particular ‘A White Heron’, a tale that considers the beauty of nature and man’s tendency to destroy it, Jewett’s avant-garde anti-hunting stance and feminist values have led to a renewed interest in her wider works.



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Registered company number: 12559643

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