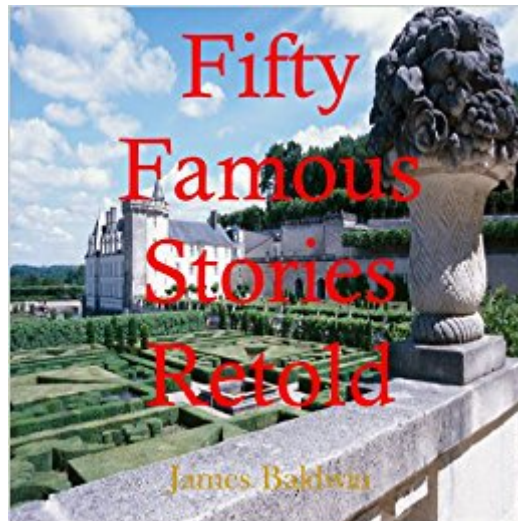




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# Fifty Famous Stories Retold



## Synopsis

A group of stories retold by James Baldwin. They include stories about Robin Hood, William Tell, Pocahontas and Julius Caesar.

## Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Epic Audio Books; Talking Book edition (2009)

Language: English

ASIN: B003VFWV5I

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 81 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #8,020,393 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in Books > Books on CD >

Authors, A-Z > ( B ) > Baldwin, James #193287 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Contemporary

## Customer Reviews

A group of stories retold by James Baldwin. They include stories about Robin Hood, William Tell, Pocahontas and Julius Caesar.

I opened this book to start reading with my child this morning and it's missing 13 pages. It's the Yesterday's Classics Version. I'm glad the first story we had scheduled to be read was in the missing section, so I didn't miss my window to return it.

I read this book as a child from a 1905 publishing that my father had read as a child. These stories were by far my favorites as a child. I recently purchased two copies so my granddaughters could enjoy.

If you're wanting to get into history and don't know where to begin, try James Baldwin. He hits lots of the highlights and shows you what you might've missed. These stories move along quickly and hit lots of different periods of human history. Recommended.

I am giving this particular edition 1 star, not James Baldwin's work! One of the stories (Sir Philip Sidney) is missing, and is printed as half of the following story. Rather confusing for us who teach at home and realize- the lesson is gone! I had to find the real thing online.

I am reading these stories aloud to my six year old son, and he is enjoying them. They are short and action-packed, perfect for keeping his attention. My older boys will often come over to listen in. I also highly recommend buying the version by Yesterday's Classics, as it has been retyped and uses a modern, easy to read font on a clean page, unlike the OCR'd versions.

In his preface to this volume Baldwin notes that there are time-honored stories "which have become so incorporated into the literature and thought..." of our society that they are indispensable to a proper education. I don't know if stories about King Canute retain their influence, but it is certainly true that many of the stories in this volume, which was first published over 115 years ago, remain part of our lore and our intellectual history, (Washington and his hatchet, Grace Darling, William Tell, and so on). For that reason alone it seems to me to be a good idea to have a copy of this in the family library. Baldwin took care to observe that this book does not include fairy tales, fables, or stories from the literature of ancient peoples. The point is to present the "half-legendary tales" which have as their subjects "certain romantic episodes in the lives of well-known heroes...". Apart from the fact that these stories are still educational, entertaining and instructive, they provide a fascinating view of what was taught in the middle primary grades in the 1900's. That alone makes them worthwhile to me as a reader, and leads me to want to keep them available for today's newest and youngest readers. So, while a lot of Kindle freebies are sort of hopelessly dated, this book has stayed fresh and relevant, which may be the nicest thing you can say about such a volume. Certainly worth a look.

Fifty Famous Stories is a GREAT book, BUT get a different edition of this book if you want a paper copy. I bought it for a gift and had to return it. This one has the illustrations, but no one took the time to format the book before printing, so a page of text is often split into two pages to fit a full page illustration in between. The captions for the illustrations are often at the top of the next page instead of under the picture. This book is available for free in the public domain. There is no excuse to charge \$11 for a free book that isn't even formatted correctly. That explains why this printing lacks any copyright or publisher info. This is the equivalent of printing an ebook on your home printer. Try the Yesterday's Classics edition instead.

I bought this to read to my still-unborn grandchild, but tried out a couple of stories on my 9 and 11 year old grandsons. They loved them. The 9 year old even woke up the next morning and told me how much he enjoyed having those stories read to them. They are short enough that I was able to

let each choose a story and then read them one I chose. I highly recommend this book to anyone who likes to read to children.

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