



Unnatural Creatures: Stories Selected by Neil Gaiman

By Neil Gaiman

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Unnatural Creatures is a collection of short stories about the fantastical things that exist only in our minds—collected and introduced by beloved *New York Times* bestselling author Neil Gaiman.

The sixteen stories gathered by Gaiman, winner of the Hugo and Nebula Awards, range from the whimsical to the terrifying. The magical creatures range from werewolves to sunbirds to beings never before classified. E. Nesbit, Diana Wynne Jones, Gahan Wilson, and other literary luminaries contribute to the anthology.

Sales of *Unnatural Creatures* benefit 826DC, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting students in their creative and expository writing, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write.

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Unnatural Creatures: Stories Selected by Neil Gaiman By Neil Gaiman Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—The 16 short stories in this anthology contain accounts of delightfully fantastical creatures, ranging from the familiar (werewolves, mermaids, griffins, and unicorns) to the chillingly mysterious (an ever-expanding, flesh-eating blob; a strange bird that spurs unpredictable changes to its surroundings; and even Death herself). Classic science fiction and fantasy authors Anthony Boucher, Frank R. Stockton, Peter S. Beagle, E. Nesbit, and Diana Wynne Jones are represented, as are contemporary authors such as Nnedi Okorafor, E. Lily Yu, and Gaiman himself. From the first page, Gaiman appeals to a sense of imagination, prefacing each story with a brief personal commentary, causing readers to stop and ponder questions they never knew they had. Who would a griffin eat? What does a phoenix taste like? What happens when you question an invisible dragon? Why are there always too many coat hangers? All of these questions, and more, are answered here. Some of the stories are silly, some heartbreaking, and some profound, but all are guaranteed to make readers' hair stand on end.—Liz Overberg, Darlington Middle School, Rome, GA
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From [Booklist](#)

From darkly menacing to bizarrely surreal, these 16 fantasy stories featuring mythical and imaginary creatures combine work from such luminaries as Saki, E. Nesbit, and Anthony Boucher, as well as more contemporary writers. Larry Niven's *The Flight of the Horse* is on the sillier side of the spectrum: a time traveler is sent to the past to retrieve a horse, which he has never seen except in picture books, and he mistakenly returns with a unicorn instead. In Nalo Hopkinson's *A Smile on the Face*, a self-conscious girl is bullied for her size and pressured into an unwanted sexual encounter, but she finds inner strength—and an inner fire-breathing monster—thanks to an accidentally swallowed cherry pit from the hamadryad in her front yard. Gaiman's contribution, *Sunbird*, recounts the adventures of the Epicurean Club members, who, grown bored after tasting every available thing on the planet, enjoy the best (and last) meal of their lives. In true Gaiman fashion, these stories are macabre, subversive, and just a little bit sinister. His fans will eat this up—ravenously. The book will benefit nonprofit 826DC, which fosters student writing skills. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** Gaiman's name should draw a wide readership. Grades 8-12. --Sarah Hunter

Review

"In true Gaiman fashion, these stories are macabre, subversive, and just a little bit sinister. His fans will eat this up—ravenously." (Booklist)

"Teens with a yen for the fantastic would be hard pressed to find a better place to start." (Publishers Weekly (starred review))

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Susan Metcalf:

Do you have favorite book? When you have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to learn everything in the world. Each reserve has different aim or perhaps goal; it means that

reserve has different type. Some people experience enjoy to spend their time for you to read a book. They are really reading whatever they take because their hobby is usually reading a book. Why not the person who don't like studying a book? Sometime, man or woman feel need book once they found difficult problem or exercise. Well, probably you will need this Unnatural Creatures: Stories Selected by Neil Gaiman.

Linda Hill:

As people who live in typically the modest era should be update about what going on or details even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era and that is always change and move forward. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by looking at books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know what one you should start with. This Unnatural Creatures: Stories Selected by Neil Gaiman is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

David Mandujano:

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