

Whirligigs



O. Henry

Start Classics

WHIRLIGIG

O"HENRY

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book description

Claypole is not a large man. He is a fat man. A fat man with thin limbs, like an egg with tentacles. And life is not going well. Hes alone, idle, and on the brink of a medical crisis when a childhood acquaintance makes him an offer he cant understand, cant talk about, but ultimately cant refuse. A week later, he finds himself in the wilds of Scotland, plunged into an eccentric community at war over a wind farm. Hes supposed to be a backer, but he has no idea what side hes on, even though it may bag him a lot of money. All he wants is to look like a hero in front of the woman with the bright blue eyes who brought him here. To do so he must run the gauntlet of a family with many dark secrets, some dangerous hippies and their hallucinogenic potions, and the wilderness itself with all its threats and dangers. Whirligig is a raucous, joyous, often poignant comedy about the redemptive power of the countryside. Written with peerless wit, its a timely fable that takes its place within the tradition of the Great English Comic Novel. Its The Wicker Man as told by P.G. Wodehouse.

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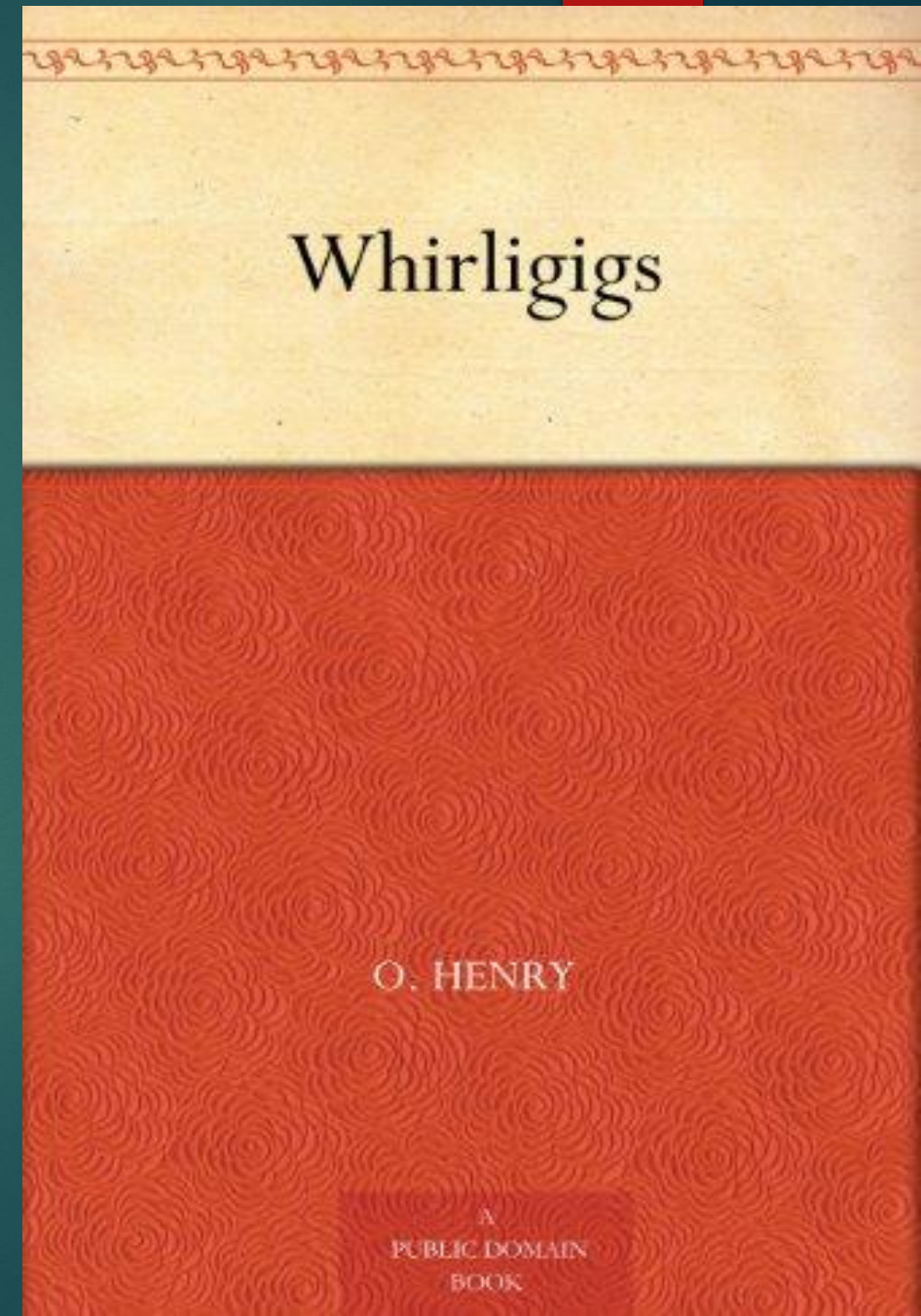
BY
O. HENRY



NEW YORK
DOUBLEDAY, PAGE & COMPANY
MCMX

main characters

- ▶ 1 Ransie
- ▶ 2 Ariela
- ▶ 3 Barbara Klein
- ▶ 4 Lawan Davis
- ▶ 5 Ranse



biography of the author

O. Henry is the pen name of American writer William Sydney Porter (1862-1910). Porter's 400 short stories are known for their wit, wordplay, characterization and the clever use of twist endings. He travelled to Austin in 1884, where he took a number of different jobs over the next several years, first as pharmacist then as a draftsman, bank teller and journalist. He also began writing as a sideline to employment. Porter's most prolific writing period started in 1902, when he moved to New York City to be near his publishers. He wrote 381 short stories while living there. He wrote a story a week for over a year for the New York World Sunday Magazine. His wit, characterization and plot twists were adored by his readers, but often panned by the critics. Yet, he went on to gain international recognition and is credited with defining the short story as a literary art form. His works include: Cabbages and Kings (1904), The Four Million (1906), Heart of the West (1907), The Trimmed Lamp and Other Stories of the Four Million (1907), The Voice of the City: Further Stories of the Four Million (1908), The Gentle Grafter (1908) and Roads of Destiny (1909).

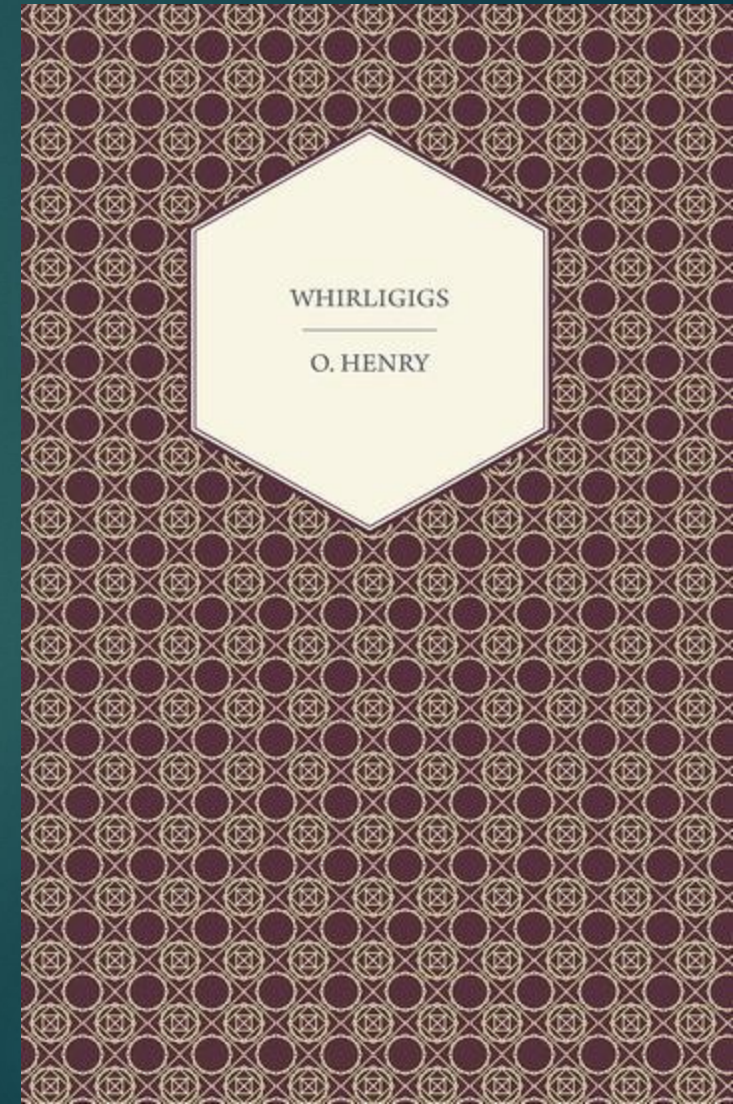
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my opinion of the book

▶ Settle in for a whimsical, thoroughly enjoyable whirlwind tour through the prodigious imagination of American short-story master O. Henry. This collection of classic tales is sure to please long-time fans and first-time readers alike. If you love classic O. Henry stories like "The Gift of the Magi" and have been curious about the rest of this beloved author's body of work, Whirligigs is a great place to start.



Thank you for listening.

