

short stories with similes

short stories with similes are a powerful literary tool that enrich narratives by creating vivid imagery and engaging readers' senses. Similes, comparisons using "like" or "as," bring scenes, characters, and emotions to life, making short stories more memorable and impactful. This article explores the role of similes in short stories, illustrating how they enhance storytelling by adding depth and color. It discusses various techniques for incorporating similes effectively, provides examples from well-known stories, and offers guidelines for writers to craft their own compelling simile-rich narratives. Readers will gain insight into why similes are essential in literary writing and how to recognize and use them skillfully in short fiction.

- The Importance of Similes in Short Stories
- How Similes Enhance Storytelling
- Examples of Short Stories with Similes
- Techniques for Writing Effective Similes
- Tips for Incorporating Similes in Your Own Stories

The Importance of Similes in Short Stories

Similes serve as a fundamental literary device in short stories, helping authors convey complex ideas and emotions concisely. Due to the limited length of short stories, every word must contribute to the narrative's impact. Similes provide a quick and imaginative way to describe characters, settings, and moods, enabling readers to visualize and emotionally connect with the story. By comparing unfamiliar concepts to familiar ones, similes make descriptions more relatable and accessible. This enhancement of imagery and emotional resonance is crucial for short stories, where brevity demands precision and evocative language.

The Role of Imagery

Imagery is a key element in storytelling, and similes significantly contribute to creating vivid sensory experiences. When a writer compares a character's expression to "a storm brewing on a summer afternoon," the reader immediately senses tension and unpredictability. This use of similes paints pictures in the mind, enriching the narrative's texture without lengthy exposition. Hence, similes act as imaginative bridges between the author's

vision and the reader's perception.

Emotional Engagement Through Comparison

Similes often evoke emotional responses by linking readers' experiences to the story's elements. For example, describing loneliness as "like a shadow stretching across an empty room" taps into universal feelings of isolation. These comparisons deepen the reader's empathy and investment in the characters' journeys, making the story more compelling and memorable.

How Similes Enhance Storytelling

Similes enhance storytelling by adding layers of meaning and enriching the narrative's style. Their use transforms straightforward descriptions into imaginative expressions that captivate readers. In short stories, where space is limited, similes efficiently convey mood, character traits, and thematic elements, often with poetic flair. This section examines several ways similes contribute to superior storytelling.

Clarifying Complex Ideas

Short stories sometimes explore abstract concepts or subtle emotions. Similes simplify these by relating them to tangible images. For instance, a character's anxiety might be described as "like a swarm of bees buzzing relentlessly in the mind." This comparison makes an internal state visible and understandable, enhancing readers' comprehension.

Creating Rhythm and Flow

Similes can influence the narrative's rhythm, adding musicality and flow to the prose. Writers strategically place similes to break monotony or emphasize certain moments. The repetition of similar structures ("as quiet as a whisper," "like leaves fluttering in the breeze") contributes to a lyrical quality, making the reading experience more pleasurable.

Building Atmosphere and Tone

The atmosphere of a story is crucial in setting reader expectations and mood. Similes help establish tone by associating scenes with familiar sensations. For example, describing a fog as "blanketing the town like a thick woolen scarf" evokes warmth and muffled silence, setting a contemplative or mysterious tone. Such sensory comparisons anchor the reader's emotions to the narrative environment.

Examples of Short Stories with Similes

Many acclaimed short stories utilize similes to strengthen their narrative impact. Examining these examples illustrates how similes function effectively in different genres and styles. The following list highlights notable uses of similes in classic and contemporary short fiction.

- **"The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson:** Jackson uses similes to contrast the normalcy of a village with the underlying horror of the story, such as describing the women's laughter "like a sudden wind blowing through the trees."
- **"A Good Man is Hard to Find" by Flannery O'Connor:** Similes describe characters vividly, for example, the grandmother's voice "like a rusty hinge," which hints at her old-fashioned and creaky demeanor.
- **"Cathedral" by Raymond Carver:** Carver employs similes to convey the narrator's limited perspective, such as comparing the blind man's hands "like birds fluttering" to show both fragility and life.
- **"The Yellow Wallpaper" by Charlotte Perkins Gilman:** The wallpaper's pattern is likened to "a broken neck and two bulbous eyes staring at you upside down," creating an eerie and disturbing simile that builds psychological tension.

Techniques for Writing Effective Similes

Crafting similes that enhance short stories requires deliberate technique and creativity. Effective similes are precise, relevant, and enhance the narrative rather than distract. This section outlines key strategies for writing similes that resonate with readers and enrich storytelling.

Be Specific and Relevant

Effective similes draw on specific and relatable imagery. Vague or overused comparisons, such as "as busy as a bee," can feel clichéd and lose impact. Writers should choose similes that fit the story's context and characters, ensuring the comparison adds unique insight or emotional depth.

Use Sensory Details

Incorporating sensory details in similes engages readers more fully. Comparing a sound, smell, or texture helps immerse the audience in the story's world. For example, describing a cold wind "like the breath of a

ghost” evokes both chill and eeriness, appealing to multiple senses.

Balance Similes with Other Literary Devices

While similes are powerful, overuse can overwhelm readers. Successful short stories balance similes with metaphors, personification, and straightforward description. This variety maintains reader interest and prevents the prose from becoming overly ornate.

Tips for Incorporating Similes in Your Own Stories

Writers seeking to enhance their short stories with similes can apply practical tips to maximize effectiveness. These guidelines help integrate similes naturally into narratives without disrupting flow or clarity.

1. **Identify Key Moments:** Use similes at significant plot points or emotional peaks to heighten impact.
2. **Revise for Clarity:** Ensure similes are clear and easily understood; avoid overly complex or obscure comparisons.
3. **Match Tone and Style:** Tailor similes to the story’s mood, whether humorous, somber, or suspenseful.
4. **Test Freshness:** Avoid clichés by brainstorming unique comparisons that reflect the story’s themes and characters.
5. **Read Aloud:** Hearing your similes can reveal awkward phrasing or rhythm issues that need adjustment.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a simile in short stories?

A simile is a figure of speech that compares two different things using the words 'like' or 'as' to create vivid imagery and help readers understand concepts more clearly.

Why are similes important in short stories?

Similes enhance descriptions and emotional impact in short stories, making

scenes more vivid and relatable by drawing imaginative comparisons that engage the reader's senses.

Can you give an example of a simile from a famous short story?

In Edgar Allan Poe's "The Tell-Tale Heart," the narrator describes the old man's eye as "vulture-like," comparing it to a vulture to emphasize its eerie and menacing nature.

How do similes improve character development in short stories?

Similes can reveal a character's personality or emotions by comparing their traits or actions to familiar images, helping readers to better visualize and understand the character's inner world.

Are similes suitable for all types of short stories?

Yes, similes can be used effectively in various genres of short stories—from fantasy and horror to romance and drama—to enrich storytelling and create stronger connections with readers.

How can writers create original similes for their short stories?

Writers can create original similes by observing the world around them, thinking creatively about unique comparisons, and ensuring the simile enhances the story's mood or theme without feeling forced or clichéd.

Additional Resources

1. Similes in Short Stories: A Literary Exploration

This book delves into the art of using similes in short stories, showcasing how these comparisons enrich narrative imagery and emotional depth. It includes a diverse collection of short stories from various authors, each annotated to highlight the use of vivid and creative similes. Readers will gain insight into how similes function to create more engaging and memorable storytelling.

2. The Spark of Similes: Short Stories that Shine

A compilation of short stories celebrated for their inventive use of similes, this book offers readers a vibrant literary experience. Each story is accompanied by commentary explaining the impact of similes on tone and mood. Perfect for writers and readers fascinated by figurative language and its power to illuminate ordinary scenes.

3. *Simile Magic: Crafting Short Stories with Figurative Flair*

Focused on the craft of writing, this book provides aspiring authors with examples of short stories that skillfully incorporate similes. It also includes writing prompts and exercises to help readers practice creating their own similes and enhancing their storytelling techniques. The blend of instruction and narrative makes it a valuable resource for creative writers.

4. *Echoes of Similes: A Collection of Short Stories*

Featuring stories from contemporary authors, this anthology highlights the subtle and striking use of similes to evoke emotion and imagery. The book explores how similes can resonate with readers and add layers of meaning to concise narratives. It's an inspiring read for those interested in modern literary styles and figurative language.

5. *Similes in the Wild: Short Stories Inspired by Nature*

This collection centers on short stories that use similes to bring the natural world to life. Vivid comparisons draw readers into settings filled with lush landscapes, animals, and the changing seasons. The book illustrates how similes deepen the sensory experience and connect readers to nature through storytelling.

6. *Bright Comparisons: Short Stories Rich in Similes*

A curated selection of short stories renowned for their bright, memorable similes that illuminate characters and settings. Each story demonstrates how well-crafted similes can add humor, poignancy, or drama. This book is ideal for readers who appreciate language that sparkles with creativity and insight.

7. *The Art of Simile in Short Fiction*

An analytical approach to understanding how similes function within short fiction, this book combines theory with examples from classic and contemporary stories. It discusses the psychological and aesthetic effects of similes and includes exercises for identifying and using them effectively. A perfect guide for literature students and enthusiasts.

8. *Similes & Stories: A Journey Through Figurative Language*

This book offers a journey through various short stories that utilize similes to enhance narrative impact. Each story is paired with a breakdown of the key similes and their effects on storytelling. It's a useful tool for readers and writers seeking to deepen their appreciation of figurative language.

9. *Simile Stories: Imagery and Imagination in Short Fiction*

Highlighting the imaginative potential of similes, this collection showcases stories where comparisons spark vivid mental images and emotional responses. The narratives range from whimsical to profound, demonstrating the versatility of similes in short fiction. Readers will find inspiration and new perspectives on the power of language.

Short Stories With Similes

Short Stories with Similes

Ebook Title: The Power of Simile: Crafting Vivid Short Stories

Outline:

Introduction: The magic of similes in storytelling. Why use similes? Their impact on reader engagement and comprehension.

Chapter 1: Understanding Similes: Definition, structure, and common pitfalls. Types of similes (simple, extended, epic).

Chapter 2: Crafting Effective Similes: Choosing the right comparison. Avoiding clichés. Using similes to evoke specific emotions and senses. The power of unexpected similes.

Chapter 3: Similes in Action: Examples and Analysis: Analyzing similes from published short stories. Breaking down their effectiveness.

Chapter 4: Writing Exercises: Practical exercises to help readers practice crafting their own similes.

Chapter 5: Similes and Different Genres: How similes vary in use across different genres (e.g., science fiction, romance, horror).

Chapter 6: Editing and Revising Similes: Identifying and improving weak or ineffective similes.

Conclusion: The lasting impact of well-crafted similes on storytelling. Encouraging readers to experiment and refine their use of similes.

The Power of Simile: Crafting Vivid Short Stories

Introduction: Unleashing the Magic of Similes

Similes. Those seemingly simple figures of speech – "as," "like," "than" – are the unsung heroes of compelling storytelling. They're the secret weapon that elevates ordinary prose to extraordinary heights, transforming bland descriptions into vivid tapestries of imagery and emotion. This ebook delves into the art of crafting effective similes within the concise and impactful framework of short stories. We'll explore why similes are so crucial, how to use them effectively, and how to avoid common pitfalls. Understanding and mastering the art of simile will significantly enhance your storytelling abilities and captivate your readers. This isn't just about grammar; it's about crafting an experience.

Chapter 1: Decoding Similes: Structure and Types

A simile, at its core, is a comparison between two dissimilar things using "like" or "as." For instance, "The moon was like a silver coin in the inky sky." This simple structure packs a punch, instantly creating a visual image. However, the effectiveness of a simile hinges on the choice of comparison. A poor choice can lead to a cliché ("busy as a bee"), while a clever choice can create a unique and memorable image ("his anger burned like a thousand dying stars").

This chapter will explore various types of similes:

Simple Similes: These are straightforward comparisons, like the moon example above. They are easily digestible and effective in conveying a basic image or emotion.

Extended Similes: These develop the comparison over several lines or sentences, creating a richer and more detailed picture. They allow for a more nuanced exploration of the comparison.

Epic Similes (Homeric Similes): These are lengthy, elaborate similes often found in epic poetry, but their principles can be adapted for short stories to create a dramatic and memorable effect. They often involve a detailed narrative within the comparison itself.

Chapter 2: Mastering the Art of Simile Creation

The key to crafting powerful similes lies in choosing comparisons that are both unexpected and insightful. Avoid the overused and predictable. Instead, strive for originality. Think outside the box. Consider the senses involved – sight, sound, smell, taste, touch. A simile that appeals to multiple senses will be far more impactful than one that relies solely on visual imagery.

For example, instead of "He was as angry as a hornet," consider "His rage crackled like dry leaves under a wildfire," which evokes both sound and sight, painting a far more powerful picture.

This chapter will guide you through:

Choosing the right comparison: This involves considering the subject and the desired effect. What feeling or image are you trying to create?

Avoiding clichés: Learn to recognize and avoid overused similes. Freshness is key.

Evoking specific emotions and senses: Similes can be powerful tools for conveying a wide range of emotions, from joy and sorrow to anger and fear.

The power of unexpected similes: Surprise your readers with unexpected and original comparisons.

Chapter 3: Similes in Action: Case Studies

This chapter analyzes similes from published short stories, demonstrating their effectiveness in different contexts. We'll dissect the choices made by authors, exploring why certain similes work exceptionally well while others fall flat. This practical analysis will provide valuable insights into the craft of using similes effectively within a narrative structure. We'll look at examples from various genres and styles to showcase the versatility of similes.

Chapter 4: Sharpening Your Skills: Writing Exercises

Theory is only half the battle. This chapter includes practical writing exercises designed to help you hone your simile-crafting skills. The exercises will guide you through different scenarios, encouraging you to experiment with various techniques and develop your own unique style. These exercises will involve transforming simple sentences into more evocative descriptions using similes, and creating original short stories built around specific similes.

Chapter 5: Similes Across Genres

Similes are not a one-size-fits-all tool. Their use varies across different genres. A simile that works

brilliantly in a romantic short story might feel out of place in a science fiction thriller. This chapter explores the stylistic nuances of similes in various genres, helping you tailor your approach to the specific context of your story. We'll examine how similes are used in different genres like romance, horror, science fiction, fantasy, and historical fiction, highlighting the unique characteristics and considerations for each.

Chapter 6: The Editing Process: Refining Your Similes

Even experienced writers need to edit and revise their similes. This chapter focuses on identifying and improving weak or ineffective similes. It provides strategies for evaluating your work, ensuring your similes enhance, rather than detract from, your storytelling. We'll address common issues like overused comparisons, awkward phrasing, and similes that don't quite fit the tone or style of the story.

Conclusion: The Enduring Power of Simile

Mastering the art of the simile isn't just about improving your writing; it's about transforming your storytelling. It's about creating a deeper connection with your readers, allowing them to experience your story more vividly and emotionally. By understanding the nuances of simile construction and applying the techniques outlined in this ebook, you'll unlock a powerful tool that will significantly enhance your writing and captivate your audience. Remember to practice, experiment, and most importantly, have fun with it!

FAQs:

1. What's the difference between a simile and a metaphor? A simile uses "like" or "as" to compare two things, while a metaphor states that one thing is another.
2. How can I avoid clichés in my similes? Think creatively, draw from unusual comparisons, and avoid common phrases like "as busy as a bee."
3. Are similes only for descriptive writing? No, similes can be used to convey emotions, actions, and even abstract ideas.
4. How many similes are too many in a short story? It depends on the story's style and length. Too many can feel forced; too few might lack vibrancy. Strive for balance.
5. Can I use similes in dialogue? Absolutely! Dialogue is a great place to use similes to reveal character and enhance emotion.
6. How can I make my similes more original? Consider sensory details, unexpected comparisons, and focus on specific details.
7. What if my simile doesn't quite work? Revise it! Experiment with different comparisons and word choices until you find one that fits perfectly.
8. Are there any resources beyond this ebook to help me improve my use of similes? Yes! Explore poetry, classic literature, and writing guides for inspiration.
9. How can I tell if a simile is effective? Ask yourself: Does it enhance the imagery? Does it add emotion? Does it fit the tone and style of the story?

Related Articles:

1. "The Art of Descriptive Writing in Short Stories": Explores techniques for creating vivid settings and characters using sensory details.
2. "Mastering Figurative Language in Fiction": A broader look at figurative language, including metaphors, personification, and hyperbole.
3. "Show, Don't Tell: A Writer's Guide": Focuses on using imagery and detail to convey information indirectly.
4. "Crafting Compelling Characters in Short Stories": Explores character development and how to make characters relatable and engaging.
5. "Plot Structure for Short Stories": Explores various plot structures suitable for short stories and how to build suspense.
6. "Dialogue Techniques for Short Stories": Explores using dialogue to reveal character, advance the plot, and create tension.
7. "Writing Effective Short Story Endings": Explores the craft of writing satisfying and memorable conclusions.
8. "Overcoming Writer's Block: Tips and Techniques": Provides strategies for overcoming creative challenges.
9. "The Importance of Editing and Revision in Short Story Writing": Emphasizes the critical role of editing in polishing a story.

short stories with similes: Crazy Like a Fox Loreen Leedy, 2009-09-15 Rufus the fox is up to something-- find out why he's acting so crazy in this clever simile story. All night, he's been sleeping like a log. When the sun rises, he feels as fresh as a daisy. In a story told entirely with similes, Rufus sneaks up and startles his friend Babette, and leads her on a wild chase through the woods. Perfect for teaching figurative language, this brightly-illustrated picture book includes the definition of a simile, as well as a brief introduction to idioms and cliches-- and examples on every page of different sayings and similes. Loreen Leedy's zany illustrations depict the figurative sayings in literal ways-- a wooden fox sleeping like a log, a yellow and black striped sheep who's as mad as a hornet-- to bring home the meanings of the expressions. Perfect for kids studying creative writing, or English language learners who may not be familiar with common but less literal sayings, Crazy Like a Fox will make readers happy as a clam-- and help them incorporate similes into their own writing.

short stories with similes: Niko Draws a Feeling Bob Raczka, 2017-04-01 Niko loves to draw his world: the ring-a-ling of the ice cream truck, the warmth of sun on his face. But no one appreciates his art. Until one day, Niko meets Iris . . . This imaginative and tender story explores the creative process, abstract art, friendship, and the universal desire to feel understood. A Junior Library Guild selection, Charlotte Zolotow Honor Book, Children's Book Committee at Bank Street College Best Children's Book of the Year, Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Books, Cooperative Children's Book Center Choice, Midwest Connections Pick, NCTE Notable Children's Book in the Language Arts, and New York Public Library Best Book for Kids

short stories with similes: Teaching Literary Elements With Short Stories Tara McCarthy, 2000-06 Ready-to-use, high interest stories with mini-lessons and activities that help students understand literary elements and use them effectively in their writing.

short stories with similes: The Most Dangerous Game Richard Connell, 2023-02-23 Sanger Rainsford is a big-game hunter, who finds himself washed up on an island owned by the eccentric General Zaroff. Zaroff, a big-game hunter himself, has heard of Rainsford's abilities with a gun and organises a hunt. However, they're not after animals - they're after people. When he protests, Rainsford the hunter becomes Rainsford the hunted. Sharing similarities with *The Hunger Games*, starring Jennifer Lawrence, this is the story that created the template for pitting man against man. Born in New York, Richard Connell (1893 - 1949) went on to become an acclaimed author,

screenwriter, and journalist. He is best remembered for the gripping novel *The Most Dangerous Game* and for receiving an Oscar nomination for the screenplay *Meet John Doe*.

short stories with similes: *Stubborn As a Mule and Other Silly Similes* Nancy Loewen, 2019 Are you silly as a goose? Do you laugh like a hyena? Like a monkey? Like a moose? In this introduction to grammar fundamentals, young learners discover the silly world of similes, a figure of speech that compares two things. With laugh-out-loud illustrations and clever, quirky text, this nonfiction picture books young grammarians and the children of language lovers.

short stories with similes: *The Stories of Similes in Greek and Roman Epic* Deborah Beck, 2023-07-20 Just as the story of an epic poem is woven from characters and plot, so too the individual similes within an epic create a unique simile world. Like any other story, it is peopled by individual characters, happenings, and experiences, such as the shepherd and his flocks, a storm at sea, or predators hunting prey. The simile world that complements the epic mythological story is re-imagined afresh in relation to the themes of each epic poem. As Deborah Beck argues in this stimulating book, over time a simile world takes shape across many poems composed over many centuries. This evolving landscape resembles the epic story world of battles, voyages, and heroes that comes into being through relationships among different epic poems. Epic narrative is woven from a warp of the mythological story world and a weft of the simile world. They are partners in creating the fabric of epic poetry.

short stories with similes: *Brown Girl Dreaming* Jacqueline Woodson, 2016-10-11 Jacqueline Woodson's National Book Award and Newbery Honor winner is a powerful memoir that tells the moving story of her childhood in mesmerizing verse. A President Obama O Book Club pick Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become. Includes 7 additional poems, including *Brown Girl Dreaming*. Praise for Jacqueline Woodson: Ms. Woodson writes with a sure understanding of the thoughts of young people, offering a poetic, eloquent narrative that is not simply a story . . . but a mature exploration of grown-up issues and self-discovery."—The New York Times Book Review

short stories with similes: *The Things They Carried* Tim O'Brien, 2009-10-13 A classic work of American literature that has not stopped changing minds and lives since it burst onto the literary scene, *The Things They Carried* is a ground-breaking meditation on war, memory, imagination, and the redemptive power of storytelling. *The Things They Carried* depicts the men of Alpha Company: Jimmy Cross, Henry Dobbins, Rat Kiley, Mitchell Sanders, Norman Bowker, Kiowa, and the character Tim O'Brien, who has survived his tour in Vietnam to become a father and writer at the age of forty-three. Taught everywhere—from high school classrooms to graduate seminars in creative writing—it has become required reading for any American and continues to challenge readers in their perceptions of fact and fiction, war and peace, courage and fear and longing. *The Things They Carried* won France's prestigious Prix du Meilleur Livre Etranger and the Chicago Tribune Heartland Prize; it was also a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award.

short stories with similes: *Simple Recipes* Madeleine Thien, 2009-10-31 With delicate language and wisdom, Madeleine Thien explores the longing of families pulled apart by conflicts between generations, cultures, and values. Each of these stories captures a deeply personal world in which characters struggle to reconcile family loyalty with individual desires. In *House*, a 10-year-old girl longs for the alcoholic mother who left the house one day never to return. In *Dispatch*, a woman tries to hold her marriage together even after finding proof that her husband is in love with someone else. In *A Map of the City*, a young woman's troubled relationship with her father overshadows the

course she takes in her adult life. Thien's fresh perspective and spare, haunting prose have already won her prizes and the praise of established masters. *Simple Recipes* is the beginning of a luminous writing career.

short stories with similes: *Lord of the Flies* William Golding, 2012-09-20 A plane crashes on a desert island and the only survivors, a group of schoolboys, assemble on the beach and wait to be rescued. By day they inhabit a land of bright fantastic birds and dark blue seas, but at night their dreams are haunted by the image of a terrifying beast. As the boys' delicate sense of order fades, so their childish dreams are transformed into something more primitive, and their behaviour starts to take on a murderous, savage significance. First published in 1954, *Lord of the Flies* is one of the most celebrated and widely read of modern classics. Now fully revised and updated, this educational edition includes chapter summaries, comprehension questions, discussion points, classroom activities, a biographical profile of Golding, historical context relevant to the novel and an essay on *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding entitled 'Fable'. Aimed at Key Stage 3 and 4 students, it also includes a section on literary theory for advanced or A-level students. The educational edition encourages original and independent thinking while guiding the student through the text - ideal for use in the classroom and at home.

short stories with similes: *The Circuit* Francisco Jiménez, 1997 A collection of stories about the life of a migrant family.

short stories with similes: *Small Spaces* Katherine Arden, 2019-07-09 New York Times bestselling adult author of *The Bear and the Nightingale* makes her middle grade debut with a creepy, spellbinding ghost story destined to become a classic. Now in paperback. After suffering a tragic loss, eleven-year-old Ollie who only finds solace in books discovers a chilling ghost story about a girl named Beth, the two brothers who loved her, and a peculiar deal made with the smiling man—a sinister specter who grants your most tightly held wish, but only for the ultimate price. Captivated by the tale, Ollie begins to wonder if the smiling man might be real when she stumbles upon the graves of the very people she's been reading about on a school trip to a nearby farm. Then, later, when her school bus breaks down on the ride home, the strange bus driver tells Ollie and her classmates: Best get moving. At nightfall they'll come for the rest of you. Nightfall is, indeed, fast descending when Ollie's previously broken digital wristwatch begins a startling countdown and delivers a terrifying message: RUN. Only Ollie and two of her classmates heed these warnings. As the trio head out into the woods—bordered by a field of scarecrows that seem to be watching them—the bus driver has just one final piece of advice for Ollie and her friends: Avoid large places. Keep to small. And with that, a deliciously creepy and hair-raising adventure begins.

short stories with similes: *Ghost* Jason Reynolds, 2016 Aspiring to be the fastest sprinter on his elite middle school's track team, gifted runner Ghost finds his goal challenged by a tragic past with a violent father.

short stories with similes: *A Long Walk to Water* Linda Sue Park, 2010 When the Sudanese civil war reaches his village in 1985, 11-year-old Salva becomes separated from his family and must walk with other Dinka tribe members through southern Sudan, Ethiopia and Kenya in search of safe haven. Based on the life of Salva Dut, who, after emigrating to America in 1996, began a project to dig water wells in Sudan. By a Newbery Medal-winning author.

short stories with similes: *Muddy as a Duck Puddle and Other American Similes* Laurie Lawlor, 2011-06 This collection of similes from A to Z is as zany as a chigger chased around a stump. It includes rib-tickling folk expressions from Americans of all walks of life and all parts of the country in a bodacious tribute to both our country's diversity and pioneer heritage. There is a funny simile and uproarious illustration for each letter of the alphabet. Readers who are as curious as cats will enjoy the fascinating author's note that explores the origins of the expressions. A bibliography is included.

short stories with similes: *The Artistry of the Homeric Simile* William C. Scott, 2012-01-15 An examination of the aesthetic qualities of the Homeric simile

short stories with similes: *The Girl I Used to Be* April Henry, 2016-05-03 Olivia's parents were

killed fourteen years ago. Now, new evidence reopens the case . . . and she finds herself involved--

short stories with similes: The One and Only Ivan Katherine Applegate, 2012-01-17 The #1 New York Times bestselling and Newbery Award-winning novel *The One and Only Ivan* is now a major motion picture streaming on Disney+ This unforgettable novel from renowned author Katherine Applegate celebrates the transformative power of unexpected friendship. Inspired by the true story of a captive gorilla known as Ivan, this illustrated book is told from the point of view of Ivan himself. Having spent twenty-seven years behind the glass walls of his enclosure in a shopping mall, Ivan has grown accustomed to humans watching him. He hardly ever thinks about his life in the jungle. Instead, Ivan occupies himself with television, his friends Stella and Bob, and painting. But when he meets Ruby, a baby elephant taken from the wild, he is forced to see their home, and his art, through new eyes. In the tradition of timeless stories like *Charlotte's Web* and *Stuart Little*, Katherine Applegate blends humor and poignancy to create an unforgettable story of friendship, art, and hope. *The One and Only Ivan* features first-person narrative; author's use of literary devices (personification, imagery); and story elements (plot, character development, perspective). This acclaimed middle grade novel is an excellent choice for tween readers in grades 5 to 8, for independent reading, homeschooling, and sharing in the classroom. Plus don't miss *The One and Only Bob*, Katherine Applegate's return to the world of Ivan, Bob, and Ruby!

short stories with similes: Simile and Identity in Ovid's Metamorphoses Marie Louise von Glinski, 2012-02-09 *Nulli sua forma manebat*. The world of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* is marked by constant flux in which nothing keeps its original form. This book argues that Ovid uses the epic simile to capture states of unresolved identity - in the transition between human, animal and divine identity, as well as in the poem's textual ambivalence between genres and the negotiation of fiction and reality. In conjuring up a likeness, the mental image of the simile enters a dialectic of appearances in a visually complex and treacherous universe. Original and subtle close readings of episodes in the poem, from Narcissus to Adonis, from Diana's blush to the freeform dreams in the House of Sleep, trace the simile's potential for exploiting indeterminacy and immateriality. In its protean permutations the simile touches on the most profound issues of the poem - the nature of humanity and divinity and the essence of poetic creation.

short stories with similes: Selected Short Stories William Faulkner, 2011-04-20 From the Modern Library's new set of beautifully repackaged hardcover classics by William Faulkner—also available are *Snopes*, *As I Lay Dying*, *The Sound and the Fury*, *Light in August*, and *Absalom, Absalom!* William Faulkner was a master of the short story. Most of the pieces in this collection are drawn from the greatest period in his writing life, the fifteen or so years beginning in 1929, when he published *The Sound and the Fury*. They explore many of the themes found in the novels and feature characters of small-town Mississippi life that are uniquely Faulkner's. In "A Rose for Emily," the first of his stories to appear in a national magazine, a straightforward, neighborly narrator relates a tale of love, betrayal, and murder. The vicious family of the *Snopes* trilogy turns up in "Barn Burning," about a son's response to the activities of his arsonist father. And Jason and Caddy Compson, two other inhabitants of Faulkner's mythical Yoknapatawpha County, are witnesses to the terrorizing of a pregnant black laundress in "That Evening Sun." These and the other stories gathered here attest to the fact that Faulkner is, as Ralph Ellison so aptly noted, "the greatest artist the South has produced." Including these stories: "Barn Burning" "Two Soldiers" "A Rose for Emily" "Dry September" "That Evening Sun" "Red Leaves" "Lo!" "Turnabout" "Honor" "There Was a Queen" "Mountain Victory" "Beyond" "Race at Morning"

short stories with similes: The Landlady (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 *The Landlady* is a brilliant gem of a short story from Roald Dahl, the master of the sting in the tail. In *The Landlady*, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a sinister story about the darker side of human nature. Here, a young man in need of room meets a most accommodating landlady . . . *The Landlady* is taken from the short story collection *Kiss Kiss*, which includes ten other devious and shocking stories, featuring the wife who pawns the mink coat from her lover with unexpected results; the priceless piece of furniture that is the subject of a deceitful bargain; a wronged woman

taking revenge on her dead husband, and others. 'Unnerving bedtime stories, subtle, proficient, hair-raising and done to a turn.' (San Francisco Chronicle) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Tamsin Greig. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Matilda*, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's *Twisted Tales* by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

short stories with similes: *The Invisible Boy* Trudy Ludwig, 2013-10-08 A gentle story that teaches how small acts of kindness can help children feel included and allow them to flourish, from esteemed author and speaker Trudy Ludwig and acclaimed illustrator Patrice Barton. A simple act of kindness can transform an invisible boy into a friend... Meet Brian, the invisible boy. Nobody in class ever seems to notice him or think to include him in their group, game, or birthday party . . . until, that is, a new kid comes to class. When Justin, the new boy, arrives, Brian is the first to make him feel welcome. And when Brian and Justin team up to work on a class project together, Brian finds a way to shine. Any parent, teacher, or counselor looking for material that sensitively addresses the needs of quieter children will find *The Invisible Boy* a valuable and important resource. Includes a discussion guide and resources for further reading.

short stories with similes: *Things Fall Apart* Chinua Achebe, 1994-09-01 "A true classic of world literature . . . A masterpiece that has inspired generations of writers in Nigeria, across Africa, and around the world." —Barack Obama "African literature is incomplete and unthinkable without the works of Chinua Achebe." —Toni Morrison Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's *The Great American Read* *Things Fall Apart* is the first of three novels in Chinua Achebe's critically acclaimed African Trilogy. It is a classic narrative about Africa's cataclysmic encounter with Europe as it establishes a colonial presence on the continent. Told through the fictional experiences of Okonkwo, a wealthy and fearless Igbo warrior of Umuofia in the late 1800s, *Things Fall Apart* explores one man's futile resistance to the devaluing of his Igbo traditions by British political and religious forces and his despair as his community capitulates to the powerful new order. With more than 20 million copies sold and translated into fifty-seven languages, *Things Fall Apart* provides one of the most illuminating and permanent monuments to African experience. Achebe does not only capture life in a pre-colonial African village, he conveys the tragedy of the loss of that world while broadening our understanding of our contemporary realities.

short stories with similes: *Encounter* Jane Yolen, 1996 A Taino Indian boy on the island of San Salvador recounts the landing of Columbus and his men in 1492.

short stories with similes: *The Magic of Fiction* Beth Hill, 2016-03 Writing a novel can seem daunting, but it doesn't have to be. No matter where you are with your writing project--beginning the first draft, rewriting the fifth draft, or editing the final draft--help is available. *The Magic of Fiction* is a comprehensive guide for crafting fiction. It's the perfect resource for writers planning to self-publish, authors looking for an edge for manuscript submissions, and editors looking for a handbook on craft. Students and educators will also benefit, with details about the crafts of writing and editing available in a single book. Whether you intend to self-publish or submit your manuscript to agents or publishers, use *The Magic of Fiction* to master the ins and outs of writing and revision, create stronger early drafts, and edit your own stories. This guide addresses all aspects of editing and writing, from the mechanics to story issues to style concerns. In it you'll find--~ A comprehensive editing checklist~ Fixes for common writing mistakes~ Specifics for punctuation in dialogue~ Tips for putting setting to work for your fiction~ Suggestions for editing for the reader~ Help for writing to genre conventions~ Tips for word choices~ A guide for editing approaches and much more. Every fiction writer should be equipped to not only write well, but to rewrite and edit. There are books designed to help you write a novel, books to help you revise, and books to help you with the nitty-gritty of punctuation and grammar. *The Magic of Fiction* brings all those elements together in a single easy-to-digest resource for the writer looking for an edge in today's literary marketplace. The format of *The Magic of Fiction* helps you focus on what you need when you need it.

Chapters provide detailed discussions of topics and end with quick lists to help you get straight to work on your own stories. Written by freelance fiction editor Beth Hill, *The Magic of Fiction* will help you produce high-quality fiction that will earn attention for all the right reasons.

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short stories with similes: *Puro Amor* Sandra Cisneros, 2018-10-09 Sandra Cisneros has a fondness for animals and this little gem of a story makes that abundantly clear. “La casa azul,” the cobalt blue residence of Mister and Missus Rivera, overflows with hairless dogs, monkeys, a fawn, a “passionate” Guacamaya macaw, tarantulas, an iguana, and rescues that resemble “ancient Olmec pottery.” Missus loves the rescues most “because their eyes were filled with grief.” She takes lavish care of her husband too, a famous artist, though her neighbors insist he has eyes for other women: “He’s spoiled.” “He’s a fat toad.” She cannot reject him. “...because love is like that. No matter how much it bites, we enjoy and admire the scars.” Thus, the generous creatures pawing her belly, sleeping on her pillow, and “kneeling outside her door like the adoring Magi before the just-born Christ.” This beautiful chapbook is bi-lingual and contains several illustrations—line drawings by Cisneros herself.

short stories with similes: *Of Mice and Men* John Steinbeck, 2018-11 *Of Mice and Men* es una novela escrita por el autor John Steinbeck. Publicado en 1937, cuenta la historia de George Milton y Lennie Small, dos trabajadores desplazados del rancho migratorio, que se mudan de un lugar a otro en California en busca de nuevas oportunidades de trabajo durante la Gran Depresión en los Estados Unidos.

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short stories with similes: *Skin Like Milk, Hair of Silk* Brian P. Cleary, 2017-08-01 Audisee® eBooks with Audio combine professional narration and text highlighting for an engaging read aloud experience! Are you as clever as a fox? Or perhaps you're as sharp as any spike? If so, this book will be a piece of cake! Clever rhymes from Brian P. Cleary and humorous illustrations from Brian Gable present similes and metaphors. When it comes to grammar, this team is not as slow as thick molasses. Oh no, they're as bright as polished pennies! Each simile and metaphor is printed in color for easy identification in this gem of a book. Read it aloud and share in the delight of the sense—and nonsense—of words.

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short stories with similes: *Apples to Oregon* Deborah Hopkinson, 2013-04-16 The slightly true narrative of how a brave pioneer father brought apples, pears, plums, grapes, and cherries (and children) across the plains. Apples, ho! When Papa decides to pull up roots and move from Iowa to Oregon, he can't bear to leave his precious apple trees behind. Or his peaches, plums, grapes,

cherries, and pears. Oh, and he takes his family along too. But the trail is cruel. First there's a river to cross that's wider than Texas, then there are hailstones as big as plums, and then there's even a drought, sure to crisp the cherries. Luckily Delicious (the nonedible apple of Daddy's eye) won't let anything stop her father's darling saps from tasting the sweet Oregon soil. A hilarious tall tale from the team that brought you Fannie in the Kitchen that's loosely based on the life of a real fruiting pioneer.

short stories with similes: *Thank You, M'am* Langston Hughes, 2014-08 When a young boy named Roger tries to steal the purse of a woman named Luella, he is just looking for money to buy stylish new shoes. After she grabs him by the collar and drags him back to her home, he's sure that he is in deep trouble. Instead, Roger is soon left speechless by her kindness and generosity.

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short stories with similes: *Cannibalism in the Cars* Mark Twain, 2000 Mark Twain is the rambunctious father of all cynics. His wry observations and biting jibes made him the first modern humorist. His sardonic sketches on everything from politicians, preachers, journalists, barbers, nagging wives, devious children, and gullible low-lives are as hilarious and true today as they were when Twain hammered them out to make a name for himself on the frontier newspapers in the 1870s. Though humor saturates all his best-loved work, it is in the freewheeling exuberance of these early sketches and yarns that his love of pranks, hoaxes, yarns, slapstick, and parodies is shown to best effect. Throughout these tales, the violence, cruelty, and plum stupidity of human nature is woven into comic gold as he makes us roar with laughter at our own idiotic self-deception and vain conceit.

short stories with similes: *Politics and the English Language* George Orwell, 2021-01-01 George Orwell set out 'to make political writing into an art', and to a wide extent this aim shaped the future of English literature – his descriptions of authoritarian regimes helped to form a new vocabulary that is fundamental to understanding totalitarianism. While 1984 and Animal Farm are amongst the most popular classic novels in the English language, this new series of Orwell's essays seeks to bring a wider selection of his writing on politics and literature to a new readership. In *Politics and the English Language*, the second in the Orwell's Essays series, Orwell takes aim at the language used in politics, which, he says, 'is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind'. In an age where the language used in politics is constantly under the microscope, Orwell's *Politics and the English Language* is just as relevant today, and gives the reader a vital understanding of the tactics at play. 'A writer who can – and must – be rediscovered with every age.' — Irish Times

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short stories with similes: *Like a House on Fire* Cate Kennedy, 2012-09-26 WINNER OF THE 2013 STEELE RUDD AWARD, QUEENSLAND LITERARY AWARDS SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2013 STELLA PRIZE SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2013 KIBBLE AWARD From prize-winning short-story writer Cate Kennedy comes a new collection to rival her highly acclaimed *Dark Roots*. In *Like a House on Fire*, Kennedy once again takes ordinary lives and dissects their ironies, injustices and pleasures with her humane eye and wry sense of humour. In 'Laminex and Mirrors', a young woman working as a cleaner in a hospital helps an elderly patient defy doctor's orders. In 'Cross-Country', a jilted lover manages to misinterpret her ex's new life. And in 'Ashes', a son accompanies his mother on a journey to scatter his father's remains, while lifelong resentments simmer in the background. Cate Kennedy's poignant short stories find the beauty and tragedy in illness and mortality, life and love. PRAISE FOR CATE KENNEDY 'This is a heartfelt and moving collection of short stories that cuts right to the emotional centre of everyday life.' Bookseller and Publisher 'Cate Kennedy is a singular artist who looks to the ordinary in a small rural community and is particularly astute on exploring the fallout left by the aftermath of the personal disasters that change everything.' The Irish Times

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