



The Sea Raiders

H.G. Wells

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The Sea Raiders is a short story by H. G. Wells.

The Sea Raiders Details

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From Reader Review The Sea Raiders for online ebook

Peter says

There is not much I can say about this, other than what we have are three fantastic little stories from the mercurial mind of Mr Wells, who never fails to thrill a dulled mind.

Highly recommended

Callum McLaughlin says

This great addition to the Little Black Classics series definitely continued my thoroughly enjoyable exploration of Wells' work. Since there are only three short stories in it, I'll talk a little about each one:

The Sea Raiders is a brief sci-fi, horror tale about a coastal town being attacked by horrible octopus-esque creatures that emerge from the depths of the sea. As with the 4 novels by Wells I've read thus far, it was both exciting and thought-provoking, being a still remarkably timely reminder that humans know so little about what inhabits the planet's oceans, and that in reality, we are at the mercy of nature. [4/5]

The Land Ironclads is a war story that focusses on the notion of man vs machine, in an eerily accurate prediction of the direction modern warfare would take. Story-wise, giant armoured 'monsters' with heavy firing capabilities that are able to traverse the battlefield with ease tip the balance in favour of the enemy. In all honesty, it wasn't my cup of tea as much as the other Wells I've read, but I bumped it up an extra star for once again proving how far ahead of his time the author was, given that the story was first published 13 years before the emergence of tanks. [3/5]

The Magic Shop is less sci-fi and more fantasy, I'd say. It follows a man and his young son as they enter the eponymous magic shop. They are greeted by an enigmatic shopkeeper, who insists the mind-boggling tricks and enchanting objects he shows them are all very much real. The story has a real sense of whimsy, being fun at first, but with a creeping sense of unease soon emerging. [4/5]

All-in-all, I have to say that the three stories actually felt like odd choices for a single collection, given that they all fall under different genres. They do, however, once again prove what a great writer Wells was; what an innovative and imaginative mind he had, and that there were more strings to his bow than just straight-up sci-fi.

Bettie? says

[Bettie's Books (hide spoiler)]

Ryan Clayton says

Squid monsters, then shooting a tank for bare time, then a dead magic shop.

Treakie P. says

I had trouble rating this short story. The 'police news' reporting style particular to some old horror yarns may not appeal to all, so its a 3 - but based on my enjoyment it's a solid 4. Efficient scene setting too, pursued over slippery seaweed strewn boulders under dark cliffs - the sound, the wince of too close behind for comfort. The rarely considered fear of death from wildlife we in the UK do not experience suddenly apparent.

Bart Kleijngeld says

The Sea Raiders: 4/5

The most typical Wellsian story of the three, which serves well to get people new to his work acquainted with his style. Biological mystery experienced through the anxious first person perspective of a regular person who was fortunate enough to have an interesting point of view. Interesting, scientifically formal and fascinating as usual!

The Land Ironclads: 3/5

An interesting story of social class and progressive warfare which, sadly, I found hard to get through because much of the technical jargon. This made me miss out on some of the imagery and technical descriptions, but the philosophical theme was clear and nice.

The Magic Shop: 4/5

A very unusual theme for Wells to write in, in my opinion, but it turned out to be a surprisingly fun story! Spooky, creative and steering away from cheap story elements rendering Wells' version of this children's story template more succesful than I expected.

A fun and diverse set of shorts overall, although they are not quite in the same league as the longer novels. It's a bit unfair to compare though, of course.

Hestia Istiviani says

I read in English but this review is written in Bahasa Indonesia

Melihat koleksi Penguin Classic di Kinokuniya Pondok Indah Mall membuatku galau. Antara beli atau tinggal saja. Apalagi harganya hanya Rp22.000. Sebuah godaan yang manis, bukan?

Kali ini adalah H.G Wells. yang dilabeli sebagai bapak *science fiction*. Kita pasti familiar dengan tulisannya yang berjudul War of the World ataupun The Invisible Man. Namun, dalam edisi Penguin Classic yang imut ini, hanya terdiri dari 3 cerita pendek milik H.G Wells.

Dibuka dengan cerita tentang The Sea Raiders, cerita petualangan singkat bertemu dengan makhluk-makhluk air yang belum pernah diketahui. Apabila sudah mengenal H.G Wells, pasti tahu kalau tulisannya selalu bisa membawa pembaca seakan melihat sebuah peristiwa menarik. H.G Wells jarang menggunakan dialog sebagai cara bercerita. Ia kuat dalam narasi, detil, dan hal-hal imajinatif yang membuat pembaca bisa saja

memiliki pikiran kalau tulisan H.G Wells dalam The Sea Raiders memang benar terjadi.

Setelah The Sea Raiders ada The Land Ironclads dengan latar belakang peperangan. Salah satu tokoh utamanya adalah seorang koresponden perang. Mengisahkan bagaimana perang berlangsung, siapa yang menembak dan siapa yang tertembak. Siapa yang kalah dan siapa yang dia anggap menang. Ketika membaca cerita ini, aku rasa pembaca akan teringat film-film perang dunia kedua seperti Dunkirk. Bagiku pribadi, The Land Ironclads lebih menarik ketimbang dua cerita lainnya.

Buku kecil ini ditutup dengan cerita The Magic Shop. Dengan dua tokoh utama yang masuk ke dalam toko seperti toko yang ada di dunia sihir ciptaan J.K Rowling. Gip, si tokoh utama mencari sebuah benda yang tidak disangka oleh kawannya. The Magic Shop sekaligus mengingatkanku pada salah satu cerita ringan milik Neil Gaiman.

Membaca The Sea Raiders bisa dikatakan sebagai cara paling mudah untuk mengenal karya H.G Wells sebelum mencoba membaca karyanya yang lebih tebal. Meskipun tipis, namun H.G Wells selalu membawakan ceritanya dengan imajinatif dan menyenangkan.

Jacqueline says

I feel like this is an unfair rating considering it is a collection of short stories and it just so happens that I only ended up really enjoying the last one, "The Magic Shop". I've read some of H.G. Wells' previous work, which was what encouraged me to try my hand at this book, but I just didn't like them. However, I did really like the concepts from each story: a giant squid creature, a machine-like bug used for warfare, and a magic shop that only sells genuine magic tricks, but the storyline was lacking for me in the first two stories. I haven't read any other of Wells' short stories so I'm not sure if it's a stylistic technique that's going over my head, but I just felt like there wasn't much substance there and it failed to keep me engaged and interested in the narrative. But with this being said, I am in no way discouraged from reading more of Wells' short stories or novels and really look forward to continuing my literary journey with "the father of science fiction".

Crini says

The Sea Raiders 3/5
The Land Ironclads 2/5
The Magic Shop 5/5

Anna says

The Sea Raiders ??
The Land Ironclad ??
The Magic Shop ????

Samm Serrinnitty says

Love H.G. Wells.

Love K. Anderson Yancy and his SonicMovies.

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Miss Bookiverse says

This little collection contains 3 stories. I really enjoyed *The Sea Raiders* because tentacled creatures from the depth of the ocean are creepy as hell. *The Land Ironclads* mostly bored me because it was very long and I had trouble following all the war descriptions. Also, I could've done without the racist comparison. The last one, *The Magic Shop*, was my favourite but I wish it would've ended on a more sinister note.

Krittika Mittal says

I really don't have the words to describe how much I enjoyed this Little Black Classic, particularly "The Sea Raiders". Worth your money <3

JK says

I was excited for this one after reading another collection of story stories by Wells - *A Slip Under the Microscope*. This one disappointed me for a number of reasons.

The first story, *The Sea Raiders*, was an uncomfortable tale of deep sea monsters attacking an English coastal town and gobbling up some of its inhabitants. This should have been terrifying for me, a desperate individual fearful of anything dwelling in water, even goldfish. Despite a few truly disgusting and unsettling passages, the deeply factual narrative seemed to eradicate all tension and suspense from the prose.

I read around half of the second story, *The Land Ironclads*, and gave up. I had no idea what was going on and was horribly disengaged. Something about big scary machines.

And miraculously, gloriously, *The Magic Shop* saved this entire book. A man and his son stumble upon a shop of magic tricks in London and wander inside. As you can imagine, wonderful, awe-inspiring things are shown to them. Beautiful displays of magic the likes of which would enthral any character. The deeper into the shop the two travel, the faster things become more frightening and macabre. This was tension; this was engagement. I adored *The Magic Shop* and its ambiguous ending, allowing our thoughts to continue to collide for hours after turning the last page.

There is still no denying I was in the presence of the father of science fiction here. Nevertheless, I would absolutely recommend *A Slip Under the Microscope* over this one, unless you're prepared to seek out this book only to skip to the shortest and best story of them all.

Helena Hyndrikx says

You can read my review here: <http://embracingmybooks.blogspot.be/2...>
