



British Flash: A revealing collection of short LGBT fiction

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Enjoy this entertaining collection of flash fiction stories, and their short and sweet expression of what it means to be queer in Britain, past and present. All these stories reflect the iconic sights and national character of the British Isles: a taste of our idiosyncrasies and eccentricities, but also an unashamed representation of the love, loyalty and laughter of our people.

Follow the British way of life from historic villages to modern cities, from the countryside to the sea, through history and with a fantasy twist, in gardens, shops, campus and the familiar, much-loved local pub.

The stories cover universal themes of romance, desire, remembrance and reconciliation. The authors range from multi-published to up-and-coming, and they all share a passion for their characters, whether through great drama, erotic excitement, humour—or a combination of all three!

Contents: The worst pub in London / JL Merrow — Our place / Clare London — We'll always have Brighton / Zahra Owens — Commission and omission / Charlie Cochrane — Paint / Stevie Carroll — Ben's new colleague / Serena Yates — Giving it up / Josephine Myles — Thoughts in spring / Mara Ismine — Mouth Almighty / Victoria Blisse — Reunion / Lisa Worrall — While the boys are away / Lucy Felthouse — Nessie / Caroline Stephens — Slap and Motley / Sandra Lindsey — Like a girl / JL Merrow — Last client / Jay Rookwood — Sunshine Superman / Elin Gregory — Escape to the country / Stevie Woods — Prince Charming's Buttons / Stevie Carroll — Yesterday upon the stairs / Erastes — Benefits of peace / Alex Beecroft — They who come after the stories end / Sophia Deri-Bowen

A revealing collection of short LGBT fiction, available free of charge from Smashwords; edited by: Josephine Myles, Alex Beecroft, Charlie Cochrane, Clare London and JL Merrow. This anthology is a souvenir of the 2011 UK Meet, an occasion for GLBTQ supporters to get together in a relaxed setting to celebrate and chat about the fiction community they love.

British Flash: A revealing collection of short LGBT fiction Details

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From Reader Review British Flash: A revealing collection of short LGBT fiction for online ebook

Nikki says

A collection of short stories, all centred round the theme of being British and gay, available for free here. It's quite a diverse collection, with quite a few different genres. Some of the stories are joyous, celebratory of lives lived together; others are sadder and tinged with regret. At least one deals with polyamory, and gender issues, and one of them is fantasy, including a were-rook.

All in all, there's probably something to please everyone, and it's a bit like a taster package -- lets you sample the talent on offer.

It does trouble me that the majority of the stories are m/m, and the majority of the authors female. It's a focus familiar from fandom, of course, but I wish m/m writing wasn't such a female-dominated genre -- the possibility of fetishisation and drowning out people who should feel most welcome to write m/m fiction makes me uncomfortable sometimes.

Sheri says

Hot and cold. Cluster of quickies. Toe dipping.

A collection of short stories, and by short I mean a handful of pages, by various authors.

Some m/m.

Some f/f/.

Some m/m/f.

I found a few hilarious and clever, I found a few confusing or plain weird, and a few I would have adored a novella or even a decent novel. A great way to taste a dozen authors at once.

All and all it was fun and a decent way to spend a pinch of your time. Some barely 2 stars, yet a couple were almost solid 4 stars. Will settle on

3.5 quirky-UK-lovin' stars

Lady*M says

British Flash, as the name suggests, reads like hors d'oeuvres of fiction - the offerings are yummy, but they leave you wanting more. I know it made my wish list longer, since I added a couple of books written by these authors to it. The anthology is diverse and everyone should find something for themselves, which is the best recommendation for it.

Lisa Arbitrary - AttentionIsArbitrary M/M Blog says

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A collection of lgbt romance flash stories (micro shorts). Highly Recommended!

This was great fun and also deeply moving in places. There wasn't a single story that I didn't care for and some of the writing was exceptional. What a delightful way to get to read many authors I've been meaning to try.

Not to be missed!

Free to d/l at Rainbow eBooks:

<http://tinyurl.com/b56b96n>

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Take a look at my Male/Male Romance Book Blog:

<http://www.attentionisarbitrary.blogspot.com>

Tam says

This is a small collection of flash fiction (2-3 pages each) with a distinctly British flavour. I won't go into each one, but it's free so you have no excuse not to pick it up yourself. Some are quirky and amusing, some are memories of love lost, some tackle more serious themes. There are historicals, contemporaries and even a very appropriate paranormal with a perfect ending to the whole anthology. There are also a couple of f/f and m/m/f so if you wanted to try one of those but didn't want to pay for it, here's your chance to see if you like it in a couple of pages. All excellent authors with different visions of Britain.

This anthology is a souvenir of the 2011 UK Meet, an occasion for GLBTQ supporters to get together in a relaxed setting to celebrate and chat about the fiction community they love. I'm looking forward to the Tea and Crumpet anthology which will be on sale soon with more comprehensive stories with a popular British flavour.

Holly Full Moon Bites Book Reviews says

I enjoyed some of the stories much more than others but all together I liked it.

Edina Rose says

Some good, some less good. Prensence of mm, ff, menage etc.

Deeze says

A couple of sweet little gems that I would love to read more on are hidden among these little snippets.

Giving it Up by Josephine Myles was fun and sweet.

Thoughts in Spring by Mara Ismine was perhaps my favourite. Shifter with a difference.

Reunion by Lisa Worrall Predictable but still one of my favourite scenarios.

Kassa says

British Flash is a collection of flash fiction stories – just a few pages each – that center on being gay and British. There are 21 stories with 16 m/m, 3 f/f, 1 m/m/f, and one gender bending story. So there truly is a wide range of stories for everyone but the collection will still appeal most to m/m fans. This is an especially good collection if you're looking to taste various authors you haven't tried before. I found those authors I usually quite like to shine very well here while a few surprised me and I'll definitely be looking at their backlists.

Of the 21 stories, several easily stood out while the others are enjoyable. There are no real missteps or bad stories in the collection and each is enjoyable in its own way. Some aren't to my taste but reader desires do vary so be sure to check it out on your own first. Plus it's free, so there's no real reason not to get this delightful and fun collection.

Those stories that stood out for me are "Commission and Omission" for the depth of emotion Charlie Cochrane can pull out of a reader in just a few pages. It's amazing and shows why she's such a good historical author. The story is bittersweet and sad but it packs an emotional punch. On the flip side is Mara Ismine's utterly adorable wererook story "Thoughts in Spring" which easily stands out as my favorite in a group of well written, entertaining stories. This is one story that starts very cute and ends just as strongly.

Others that I'd easily recommend are "Nessie" by Caroline Stephens about the Loch Ness monster legend and "Last Client" by Jay Rookwood, a moving story about a young man that's matured and understands need, death, and love. Also not to be missed are the final three stories of the collection, ending very strongly with "Yesterday Upon the Stair" by Erastes, "Benefits of Peace" by Alex Beecroft, and "They Who Came After the Stories End" by Sophia Deri-Bowen. The last three are historical while the former two are contemporary but they all combine to offer touching and affecting snippets of love and affection.

While those are arguably my favorites the collection remains strong with entertaining offerings with great humor by the delightful JL Merrow and Josephine Myles. There are also a number of new authors that show very well with quick glimpses into romance. The majority of the collection is mild as far as erotica but the non-m/m stories are mostly explicit for those that want some sex with their love. The uniquely British settings and accents create a cohesive form for the stories and one of the more enjoyable elements.

Overall this is an impressive collection and an incredibly easy one to recommend. Especially as it's free,

there is no reason why you shouldn't have gotten this already. You won't regret it.

Serena Yates says

This is an great collection of short-short stories, all centered around being British. Reading it will give you an impression of the writing styles of quite a few British GLBTQ writers - and it's free! Even though one of the stories is mine (and I'm not rating that), I still think this anthology as a whole deserves five stars.

Jenre says

Really enjoyed this diverse collection of flash fiction stories. Great range of different plots, characters, situations and narrative tone. Some made me cry, some made me laugh out loud but all were well written and worth reading.

Chris says

Delightful collection of very short stories in a wide assortment of genres, united by the common theme of being British and gay (be it male or female). I did skip some of the stories that weren't to my taste, but I really enjoyed the ones I read and wished many of them were longer - particularly the one about the rook shifter. :)

Sandra says

FREE at Smashwords!

Mara Ismine says

I do have a story in this anthology, but I am rating the others not mine!

This is a great collection and covers a wide range of GLBT genres in very short bites of around a thousand words. There is something here for everyone, and naturally it is unlikely that all the stories will appeal to everyone.

This is a free download so there isn't the 'out of pocket' feeling over those that aren't to your taste. Give it a try for that fantastic cover if nothing else! :)

Kay Berrisford says

A fabulous selection, and a great introduction to a group of great writers. It made me want to read more of all

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of their work - lots to add to the 'to read' list then!!!
