



Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption: A Story from Different Seasons

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A man convicted of murder lives in a prison brutally ruled by a sadistic warden and secretly run by a con who knows all the ropes and pulls all the strings.

Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption: A Story from Different Seasons Details

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From Reader Review Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption: A Story from Different Seasons for online ebook

Saman Javed ? says

"Remember Red, hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things, and no good thing ever dies."

How is this everyone's favourite (movie)? I, however, haven't watched the movie and having read the book I don't think I ever will. I found it rather stupid. Twenty years at the prison and no one looked behind the poster of Rita Hayworth put up by Andy Dufresne in his cell. How is that humanly possible?

**"I hope I can make it across the border.
I hope to see my friend and shake his hand.
I hope the Pacific is as blue as it has been in my dreams.
I hope."**

Kelly (and the Book Boar) says

Find all of my reviews at: <http://52bookminimum.blogspot.com/>

"I hope . . ."

The moral of the story? You have to crawl through a lot of shit in life before you reach Zihuatanejo.

Uncle Stevie will always be known as the Master of Horror, but it's my belief that his not-so-scary stuff is where he truly shines. Hands down my favorite story ever, that just so happened to be converted into one of my favorite films as well. If you've not yet experienced it, you're missing out on what my husband and I have dubbed "getting Shawshanked." It's one of those films that you can't help but pause on when scrolling through the channels on the boob tube "just for a second." That second turns into watching whatever remains of the film, and quite possibly crying a time or two. The book spares the reader the heartbreak which is Brooks, while the film offers the best miscasting of all-time with this "red-haired Irishman"

Another fabulous narration by Frank Muller which could only have been topped if it were Morgan Freeman doing the reading . . .

Eliasdgian says

Η μια αφ'σα διαδεχ'ταν την ?λλη στο κελ? του ?ντυ Νταφρ?σν στις πολιτειακ?ς φυλακ?ς Shawshank και τα χρ?νια το ?διο. Το 1949 ?ταν η Rita Hayworth, το 1955 την αντικατ?στησε η Marilyn Monroe, το 1960 η Jane Mansfield, το 1966 η Raquel Welch. Τελευτα?α αφ'σα που κρεμ?στηκε στον το?χο του κελιο? 14 της πτ?ρυγας 5 ?ταν αυτ? της Linda Ronstadt, τραγουδ?στριας της κ?ντρου. Τι στ' αλ?θεια σ?μαιναν οι αφ'σες αυτ?ς για τον ?ντυ Νταφρ?σν;

«...το ?διο πρ?γμα που σημα?νουν για τους περισσ?τερους κατ?δικους... ελευθερ?α. Κοιτ?ς αυτ?ς τις ?μορφες γυνα?κες και νοι?θεις ?τι θα μπορο?σες σχεδ?ν να σταθε?ς δ?πλα τους. Να ε?σαι ελε?θερος... Δεν ?νωσες ποτ? ?τσι, Ρεντ; ?τι θα μπορο?σες σχεδ?ν να περ?σεις μ?σα τους;... ?σως κ?ποια μ?ρα καταλ?βεις τι θ?λω να πω».

Θα μπορο?σα να αραδι?σω ?να σωρ? πρ?γματα για την πλοκ? αυτ?ς της νουβ?λας, την ?γρια καθημεριν?τητα της φυλακ?ς, τους κτην?δεις ανθρωποφ?λακες, το μυστικ? που ?κρυβαν στα 'οπ?σθι?' τους οι επιτο?χιες ιλουστρασι?ν θε?ς του ?ντυ και πως πετραδ?κι – πετραδ?κι ?νοιξε τον δικ? του δρ?μο προς την ελευθερ?α. Αλλ?, ειλικριν?, αρκε? να θυμηθε? κανε?ς (? να ξαναδε?) τη σπουδ?α ταιν?α του Frank Darabont (The Shawshank Redeption, 1994).

Τρεις επιμ?ρους διαπιστ?σεις:

Ο Βασιλι?ς του τρ?μου, του σασπ?νς και της ανατριχ?λας ε?ναι πρ?τα απ' ?λα ο κατεξοχ?ν Βασιλι?ς της συγκ?νησης.

«Μερικ? πουλι? δεν προορ?ζονται για το κλουβ?, αυτ? ε?ναι ?λο. Τα φτερ? τους ε?ναι πολ? ?μορφα, τα τραγο?δια τους πολ? γλυκ? και ?γρια. ?τσι, τ' αφ?νεις να φ?γουν ?, ?ταν ανο?γεις το κλουβ? για να τα τα?σεις, κατορθ?νουν να ξεφ?γουν».

Το π?θος για τη λευτερι? ε?ναι δυνατ?τερο απ' ?λα τα κελι?.

Τ?σα αστ?ρια, ?σα εκε?να που αντ?κρυσε ο ?ντυ Νταφρ?σν στον ουραν? της πολιτε?ας του Μα?ην, ε?κοσι επτ? ολ?κληρα χρ?νια μετ?, ελε?θερος...

Jason Koivu says

Maybe it's not a perfect, 5-star book in everyone else's opinion, but by god that was a satisfying read! You can't read/talk about this book without referencing its movie counterpart, because after all, Shawshank Redemption is one of the most popular and well-liked movies of all time. Another reason is that the book and movie are almost exactly alike. Sure, there are a few bits in the book that the movie leaves out, and a modicum of poetic justice is doled out in the movie that doesn't happen in the book. Otherwise though, they're one and the same, and I love them both!

Mort says

This is going to be a different kind of review.

While we all know that the book is better than the movie - no, this is not a debatable statement...while I

strongly feel that everybody is entitled to their opinion, you are wrong if you don't agree and it's time somebody is brutally honest with you - we tend to forget that adapting a book into a screenplay is a writing art of its own.

The writer of the screenplay will always be at a disadvantage when adapting a book, especially when it is a popular story already. Here are some of the disadvantages:

* Time - In the movie industry, one page roughly translates to one minute on screen. This means that most producers of movies, unless it is a well established writer to begin with, will not even consider a script of more than 120 pages, and they prefer 90 - 100 pages. To condense any book down that much usually means some things has to be sacrificed, already taking away some of the magic of the story.

* Control - Once a screenplay is sold to a movie studio, in most cases, all control of the story and the written word is given up. The director can chop and change anything to make the vision he/she has of the movie into a reality. Sometimes it is practical reasons - the budget doesn't allow it, the correct location couldn't be found, the weather is not working along, etc. - and sometimes it's just a silly expression of art, but the story can be...ahem, excuse the crudeness... "whored down" for whatever reason. And, to top it all off, the powers that be can decide that the ending needs to be more "viewer friendly" and insist on a change - *Great respect to Brad Pitt who threatened to withdraw from the movie SE7EN if they changed the ending, and therefor ensuring one of the best movies ever was released!* .

* Ego - Ah, yes, the thing that makes Hollywood go round...I think a lot of people will be shocked if they found out how many times lines had to be changed to make it "funnier" or to make the best-paid actor look better on screen. How horrific...

Right, so the reason I chose this book to write the review on is because I have great respect for the man who adapted this brilliant Stephen King novella for the screen - Frank Darabont.

This is, in my opinion, one of the best adaptations out there. Darabont was also the director of the movie, which helped with the control. And throw Morgan Freeman in the cast, you know it has to be, at the very least, a good movie.

This was also the first "dollar-deal" - and I haven't researched this, only read about it many years ago, so correct me if I'm wrong. Stephen King made a deal with some aspiring screenplay writers that he would sell the rights to some of his stories to be adapted into screenplays for a dollar. Don't misunderstand, it's a dollar and they had the right to adapt the screenplays, not the rights to the entire story. I'm pretty sure he made a decent amount of money from the movies.

Anyway, Darabont adopted this story into THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION and it impressed King enough to allow him to try and sell it. And the rest is history - this is a brilliant story (thank you Mr. King) told brilliantly on screen (thank you Mr. Darabont).

Darabont would make two further "dollar-deals" with King, maybe you've heard of them:

THE MIST will be the lesser known of the two. I absolutely LLLLOOOOOVVVVVEEEEDDDD the end of that movie.

THE GREEN MILE...need I say more.

Darabont will also be the one who will bring THE WALKING DEAD to the small screen - and I'm going to leave it at that because they fired him during the second season and everything went to shit from there.

What's the best adaptation you've seen?

imane says

and vernacular were perfection and the story was nothing short of brilliant: a story about friendship, hope and perseverance that will have you smiling through tears at the end. 5 stars.

Sanjay Gautam says

Prison ain't no fairy tales.

Almost everything that could be possibly said about it has been said. What makes this book different is the message it conveys - one of eternal hope. I was and am profoundly moved by this simple and eloquent depiction of hope, friendship, and redemption.

The story begins with the trial of a young banker, Andy Dufresne, victimized by circumstantial evidence, resulting in a conviction for the murder of his wife and her lover. After a quick conviction, Andy finds himself serving a life sentence at Shawshank prison, with no hope of parole.

Stephen King is one of the most enchanting storytellers of our time, and perhaps, the only one alive. His prose is equally enchanting, wonderful, and mesmerizing. It was a sheer delight to read him. And, by the way, it was my first Stephen King novel. All in all this is a great story vividly told that will leave you with a true sense of redemption in your soul. It is a riveting tale about friendship and the strength of character, about going up against what is wrong and unfair and coming out on top through pure true grit and a little luck, that will leave you in utter amazement!

It is such a moving tale that you just can't help but love it.

Highest Recommendations!

kostas vamvoukakis says

140 σελ?δες που ?χουν τα π?ντα...αριστο?ρημα...ε?ναι μοναδικ?ς...η ταιν?α επ?σης εξαιρετικ?

Nelly says

Πολ? ωρα?α ιστορ?α, γρ?γορη, τα ?χει ?λα!!

April says

I am willing to bet the majority of people reading this review have already seen the film version of The Shawshank Redemption. If you have not seen the movie, stop reading my review and go watch the film. It is amazing. I have recently discovered the 'free' audio-books on the library. (Thank you tax dollars). The Shawshank Redemption by Stephen King is a relatively short book. It is also a short audio book, only 3 cassettes (my POS car has a tape-deck). Frank Muller narrates Stephen King's tale of prison life. Here's the thing, if you must audio a cassette, don't get an old cassette from the library, buy a new one. With me, it just

skipped and pretty much stopped playing, so I had to plead with the powers that be to let me finish the story of Red and Andy Dufresne.

Bitching and moaning aside, I thought Frank Muller's voice was perfect for the story. He sounds like a grizzled felon with a heart of gold. As audio-book connoisseurs know, the voice really adds or detracts from a book.

I felt the characters were fascinating. I genuinely liked Andy Dufresne, disliked the corrupt guards known as screws, and Red - the man who can get you anything in prison. Andy embodies hope within the most confining circumstances, jailed for murder of his wife and her lover -- he really has little hope of parole. There's no way he'd ever get out, as the DA used Andy's case as leverage into a higher position. You have the guards who represent the institution, who do their best to exploit Andy's tax-preparing expertise, and try to squelch Andy's hope. You have Red who's been in jail for so long that it feels safe to him, he has a position of prominence within the prison as the man who can get anything. Red makes for an intriguing study of the psychological effect of institutionalization.

I loved King's writing style, he can really make me guffaw, then feel broken hearted, then fit to burst with joy all on one page. I know some people hate King and his super-long books, but I am an unabashed King fan. I think there is a reason he is the king of horror, and I think his efforts to reach into other genres are fantastic (i.e. The Green Mile -- wasn't horror to me), so maybe I do have some bias. I love that King makes me contemplate the freedom of being able to see the night-sky unimpeded by bars.

However, I will admit, I felt the movie was definitely better. There is a reason it is the number one user voted film on IMDB.com.

Nayra.Hassan says

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Councillor says

Usually, I'm struggling with trying to review my favorite books, because apart from expressions like 'awesome', 'mind-blowing' or 'must-read', not too much can be said about stories like these. Perhaps this is one of the reasons why I tend to enjoy writing snarky reviews of books I disliked way more than trying to compose a decent review on a story I loved and want everyone else to read as well.

"Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption" is one of them. I have to admit, I am a huge fan of prison stories and the way they are able to explore what imprisonment and isolation from society can do to a human's mind. Stephen King managed to explore this in such a perfect way, allowing hope and despair to flow into his words simultaneously. I've read many other reviews emphasizing it, and I can only sign what they are writing: this is not only a story about life in prison (which, by the way, is depicted in a very realistic way - not that I would be able to judge how life in prison really feels like, but at least King managed to convince me this is how it *would* feel like to be imprisoned for more than thirty years), but also a story about hope. And it is perfectly done. Not many stories before have been able to nearly reduce me to tears at the ending, but "Shawshank Redemption" is one of them.

It's no long story and, thus, will not take much time to read, so I can highly recommend giving it a try. Now, watching the movie version with Morgan Freeman and Tim Robbins will gain a high place on my to-do-list (right beneath reading more Stephen King novels), as nearly everybody seems to have watched this movie - and loved it - except for me.

Mark says

One of the best set of novella length stories ever put together. Period. For anyone out there who accuses King of not being able to write well, this set should end that argument.

Shawshank: "Rita Hayworth and the Shawshank Redemption" is a masterpiece. A streamlined cast of characters and clever telling of the story using the narrator as a main character, only to shift into first person to finish the story with expectant yet unresolved hope.

Apt Pupil: Scary. Really spooky stuff. Not so much for the blood and gore, although I had an itchy feeling know how much thought the author put into how to properly knife a hobo to death. No, the creepiest idea is that a person could come so far off the tracks and still be able to function undetected in society. Very believably done.

The Body: Almost sweet in its recollection of waning childhood. A story of friendships doomed to end, innocence dead but not yet buried, and a quest to see something awful leads to understanding. Written by another man at another time, this story might be considered a classic. I hope someday it's recognized as such.

Breathing Method: The weakest sotry of the bunch, and tip of the hat to people who love King for his ability to shock and get all the "gooshy" stuff just right. Simple put, the story itself isn't up to par with the other three. Still a must read for King fans, but the odd man out in this set.

?Karen says

This is one of my favorite movies and I watch it anytime it's rerun on tv. I've vowed to read more Stephen King because if you skip those of the horror genre, his other books are such wonderful, human stories. Having recently been in on some discussions of another prison book, The Enchanted, I couldn't help but compare the two books as I read along. I love both books, with their similarities and dissimilarities; but Shawshank offers such hope and redemption (I mean it is right there in the title), that I think that gives it an edge with me. Also the characters of Red and Andy are so great.

The narrator on the audio was not Morgan Freeman--darn--but was very good. I am always recommending the movie and now I'll start recommending the audio book just as heartily. 5+

Jasmine says

This was my first ever experience of a Stephen King work, and honestly it was a masterpiece. Such a great introduction to his work! It's usually not my genre, but the writing style and the pacing just made this worthwhile to read, and I found myself actually enjoying it!

4 stars!

Nataliya says

"Remember that hope is a good thing, Red, maybe the best of things, and no good thing ever dies."

Rita Hayworth and The Shawshank Redemption is subtitled 'Hope Springs Eternal' - and that perfectly sums up the soul of his book.

It's hope that keeps you going - even after everything horrible that you can ever imagine has already happened to you, even after life has knocked you down over and over again, even after there seems to be nothing left. **Hope is the last thing to die, they say.** Andy Dufresne has taken that saying to heart, apparently.

The Shawshank Redemption is a prime example of why Stephen King will always remain among my favorite

authors. Branded a horror writer, a representative of a genre that is so easy and tempting to altogether judge and dismiss by book snobs lovers¹ (and I have been among them on more than one occasion, I must confess) results in way too frequent overlooking of his captivating storytelling skills and excellent character development that is the driving force behind his stories. His best books - and this is one of them, undeniably - are based on "what if?" approach, and then watching his characters try to find their way out of the "what if?" situation, shaping themselves in the process of writing into fully fleshed figures which are so much more than just the vehicles for necessities of plot development.

¹ From Neil Gaiman's interview with King:

"I was down here in the supermarket, and this old woman comes around the corner, this old woman – obviously one of the kind of women who says whatever is on her brain. She said, 'I know who you are, you are the horror writer. I don't read anything that you do, but I respect your right to do it. I just like things more genuine, like that Shawshank Redemption.' And I said, 'I wrote that'. And she said, 'No you didn't'. And she walked off and went on her way."

The Shawshank Redemption is the story narrated by Red, a prisoner at the fictional Shawshank prison in Maine, immortalized by Morgan Freeman (what a fitting last name!) in a well-known Frank Darabont screen adaptation of this book. Red tells us the story of his fellow prisoner Andy Dufresne, falsely accused of a murder he did not commit and sentenced to a life behind bars as a result. Andy, a small calm level-headed former banker, who would seem to be destined for the role of perpetual victim in the place where brawn seems to be worth more than brains, where he has met violence and humiliation and senseless brutality from both guards and prisoners. **It was a place destined to break Andy's spirit. It's supposed to do that to everyone.** That's the point.

And yet Andy Dufresne calmly refuses to be broken. Andy so fiercely clings to his humanity, to his hope that he becomes a legend. His demeanor - that of a free man even caged seemingly forever - is what gives hope to others, especially Red, his friend and narrator.

"So yeah - if you asked me to give you a flat-out answer to the question of whether I'm trying to tell you about a man or a legend that got made up around the man, like a pearl around a little piece of grit - I'd have to say that the answer lies somewhere in between. All I know for sure is that Andy Dufresne wasn't much like me or anyone else I ever knew since I came inside. He brought in five hundred dollars jammed up his back porch, but somehow that graymeat son a bitch managed to bring in something else as well. A sense of his own worth, maybe, or a feeling that he would be the winner in the end... or maybe it was only a sense of freedom, even inside these goddamned gray walls. It was a kind of light he carried around with him."

Andy Dufresne meticulously and patiently clings to a bit of hope, so irrational and fickle that anyone would have given up. And it's this hope, so inherent to his nature, that allows him to retain his humanity and quiet but undeniable dignity in a place where neither is supposed to exist. Violence, corruption, power, greed, cruelty - Andy goes through it all with his unexpected backbone of steel, allowing all of it to only barely tarnish his amazing resilient spirit, winning his little victories against the system along the way, in his own way brightening the existence of those for whom there'd appear to be little left, patiently fighting his fight to keep little glimpses of humanity in the place where they are rarely seen.

"Some birds are not meant to be caged, that's all. Their feathers are too bright, their songs too sweet and wild. So you let them go, or when you open the cage to feed them they somehow fly out past you. And the part of you that knows it was wrong to imprison them in the first place rejoices, but still, the place where you live is that much more drab and empty for their departure."

I first read this book as a fourteen-year-old teenage cynical know-it-all - and when I got to the end, I cried. Because it hit me then how, despite my teenage sense of invulnerability, the world can be cruel to you for no reason, and sometimes hope is all you have left. Now I'm twice that age, having seen a bit of the life's cruelty that King so frequently alludes to, and I no longer cry at the ending of this book; instead, I marvel with a feeling of sadness and quiet fascination at how aptly he captured the need to keep going despite all odds, even when it appears there is nothing left to live and hope for. **Because hope dies last, and sometimes you just need to see it through to the end. And as long as you haven't lost yourself, your inner little sense of worth, there remains something to live and fight for.**

"I find I am excited, so excited I can hardly hold the pencil in my trembling hand. I think it is the excitement that only a free man can feel, a free man starting a long journey whose conclusion is uncertain.

I hope Andy is down there.

I hope I can make it across the border.

I hope to see my friend and shake his hand.

I hope the Pacific is as blue as it has been in my dreams.

I hope."
