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TEN ENGLISH LOVE STORIES

A NEW COLLECTION CHOSEN BY HERBERT VAN THAL

Stories by these Authors:

John Galsworthy

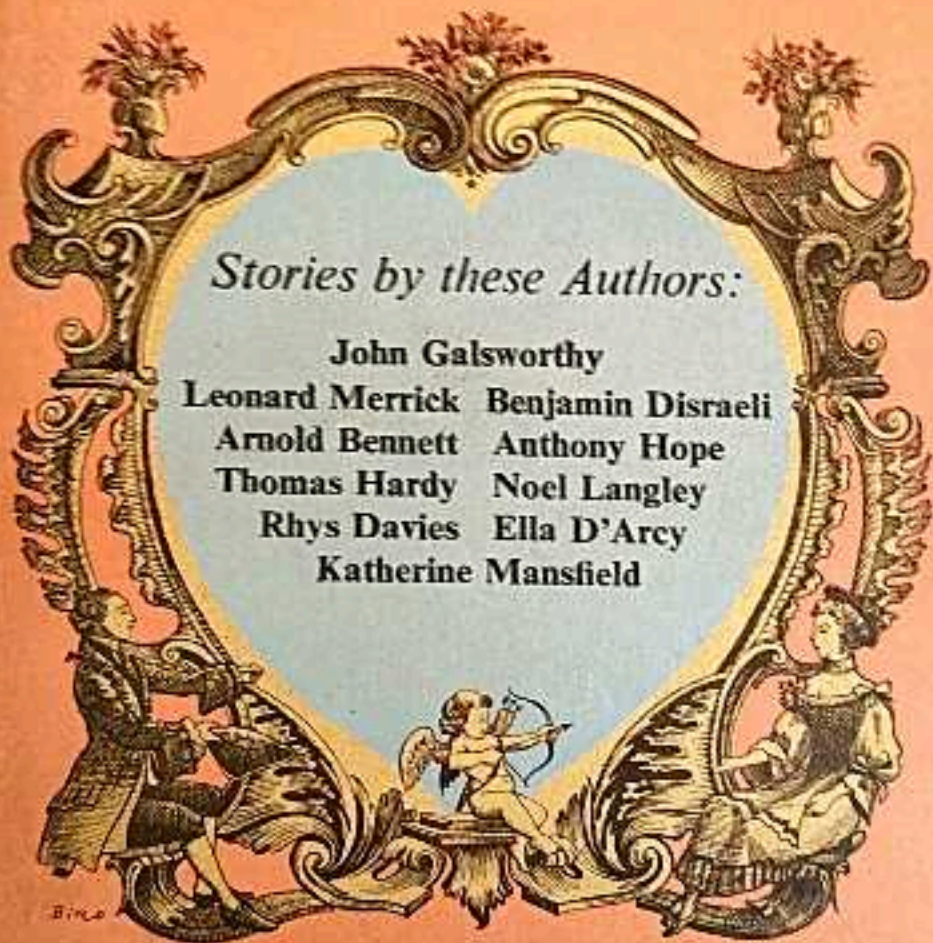
Leonard Merrick **Benjamin Disraeli**

Arnold Bennett **Anthony Hope**

Thomas Hardy **Noel Langley**

Rhys Davies **Ella D'Arcy**

Katherine Mansfield



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About this book



TEN ENGLISH LOVE STORIES is an entirely new volume specially compiled for PAN Books. It includes some of the finest short love stories written in English during the last hundred years. Here are John Galsworthy's famous and lovely tale "The Apple Tree"; Katherine Mansfield's exquisite "A Dill Pickle"; Rhys Davies's moving "The Nature of Man". Thomas Hardy is represented by "An Imaginative Woman", a story which turns, to use his own words, "upon a trick of Nature, so to speak, a physical possibility that may attach to a wife of vivid imaginings, as is well known to medical practitioners and other observers of such manifestations". In a lighter vein are Arnold Bennett's "A Very Romantic Affair", Leonard Merrick's "The Man who Understood Women", and Noel Langley's "The Folder". Ella D'Arcy's "The Pleasure Pilgrim" strikes an unusually dramatic note, Anthony Hope's "The Love of the Prince of Glottenburg" is a popular tale of the sort he wrote so well, and Benjamin Disraeli's "The Carrier Pigeon" exemplifies the kind of mock-medieval romance which was fashionable in the 1830s. Biographical notes on the authors are given at the end of the book.

In his interesting foreword, the editor draws attention to the difficulty he has had in finding English love stories of high quality—a surprising fact in face of the vast number of love stories published in popular magazines. He notes also that in most of these tales true love does not run smoothly. Why, he wonders, does a sense of sadness (and sometimes of tragedy) brood over so many love stories written by outstanding English authors? And, lastly, why has the field been left almost entirely to male writers? The great English women novelists of the Victorian age and of to-day, with very few exceptions, have not attempted the short love story; only two of the ten tales in the present collection are by women.

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