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Old James (A Quiet Night's Rest Book 2)



Synopsis

A hurricane approaches. Set in Florida during the early 1930s, a young man at the crossroads of his life - cursed with insomnia - waits for the storm to arrive. Old James keeps him company in hopes of bringing cheer, doing his best to save the boy, yet only one will make it through the night.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An interesting conversation between two people during the hour before an approaching storm. The last page brings a surprise and leads to a restful night's sleep for Junior even though the storm is raging - mystical! I loved the thoughtful conversation and the calming wisdom of Old James.

Old James is the calm and comfort before a storm. He is the familiar pillow one embraces while fearful. Old James is alive in all of us, though not by beating heart and blood, rather by our own remembered history. Enjoyable read, highly recommend.

Another great story filled with all that is great and seldom expressed in today's ventures through life. The escapism David provides is nothing short of, Brilliant!!!!

Besotted with the memory of 'Old James,' somewhat a reminder of 'The Old man and the Sea', written in the same vein, it is a short story which alludes to the reader a theme of a retrospective journey. While Hemingway's old man made a decisive departure from a stalemated situation, Tanager's old James was raised from the ashes in an intangible tango towards a sense of an ending. In the soliloquies presented in the form of a dialogue between Junior and the old man - the proverbial Hamlet's ghost, junior gleans wisdom. Converging nevertheless on the idea of a struggle as a way to fulfillment is of the essence in both the 'old man' and 'old James'. The brilliant rhetoric engaged in the description of the storm is but a metaphorical pronouncement of physical strife, both short and sweet, as individuals teeter on the brink of life's crossroads between temporal and a metaphysical existence.

Damn elephants. Having previously read works of David Tanager, I found myself in familiar grounds upon tackling his latest short story - Old James. Otherwise concise to a point and drawing reader into a narrative from the start, Old James started in somewhat of a different style, as if author himself experimented a bit with introduction, suspiciously employing descriptiveness with ulterior motive other than a simple written embroidery. The story itself being short, after painting a harsh picture of where the plot is taking place, conversation between the two men develops, one assuming the role of experience, in the face of youth, and there the author comes into his forte, writing and presenting light dialogue which betrays seriousness in the shape of humorous bitterness. Author's preference for putting characters in roles that of a senior and junior augments his ability to provide face-off between opposing themes, often developing insight that a reader feels his own rather than an immediate result of the words read. Subtlety in such approach is evident. One cannot but regret size of the material which, after its ending twist, leaves us wondering whether author has some bigger goal in sight with his short stories. Pleasant reading.

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