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Jungle Tales Of Tarzan



Synopsis

In this collection of 12 short stories, Burroughs returns to Tarzan's early years providing new depth and detail to the Lord of the Jungle, during his time among the great apes. Having learned to read from his father's books, Tarzan seeks to apply his knowledge to the world around him and to learn more about life, death, dreams, God, love, and friendship. Tarzan challenges his best friend Taug, in a fight to the death, but then risks his life to save him; he has nightmares after eating rancid elephant meat only to awake and be faced with a live, man-eating gorilla; twice he sports a lion's skin to play a practical joke, but he doesn't always have the last laugh! The Jungles Tales include: 1)Tarzan's First Love, 2)The Capture of Tarzan, 3)The Fight for the Balu, 4)The God of Tarzan, 5)Tarzan and the Black Boy, 6)The Witch-Doctor Seeks Vengeance, 7)The End of Bukawai, 8)The Lion, 9)The Nightmare, 10)The Battle for Teeka, 11)A Jungle Joke, and 12)Tarzan Rescues the Moon Tarzan #6

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Customer Reviews

I read all 24 of the Tarzan books when I was a kid, and it's great fun to revisit them on my Kindle. 'Jungle Tales of Tarzan' is a collection of short stories dealing with Tarzan as a youth, before he met Jane and became civilized. The stories clearly come from an era with different mindsets, but they're still quite enjoyable, dealing with Tarzan's first love (a beautiful she-ape, of course), Tarzan's perception of God, Tarzan "adopting" a son, and other fun escapades from the ever-fertile imagination of Burroughs.

This is one of the series of the Tarzan books written by this prolific author. The book is written in an easily readable style, and makes enjoyable pleasant, light reading. The author is writing at the beginning of the 20th century, when much of the African continent was unknown. It is interesting to follow the workings of his mind, as he creates a series of interesting and unique civilizations for Tarzan and the reader to explore. As part of the format, one knows that our hero will find himself in mortal peril, but will predictably always escape, allowing us to look forward to the next book in the series.

WHEN I WAS IN JR HIGH SCHOOL STARTED READING THE BURROUGHS BOOKS BUT SOME OF THEM WERE CENSORED BY THE SCHOOL LIBRARIES BECAUSE THEY WERE QUESTIONABLE MORALS. I PURCHASED MY OWN COPIES IN PAPERBACK TO READ AN UNCENSORED COPY. I THEN REREAD THEM WHEN I FINISHED MY LUNCH AND WAITED FOR MY NEXT CLASS TO START. LIKE THE TITLE AN OLD FRIEND. WHEN HOMELESS HAD TO SELL ALL THE BOOKS SO NOW I AM TRYING TO REBUILD MY LIBRARY AGAIN.

On the one hand, the stories are fun and Burroughs was very imaginative. On the other hand, I have rarely picked up a more politically incorrect book in a long time. Tarzan is a young Adonis, The male apes are all low-browed and brutal. Women are delicate and need saving. Black natives are inferior to whites. Tarzan is the result of centuries of upper class "good breeding." BUT!!!! the stories were interesting and if I read "over" the incorrect facts - which I did - they were still a good read.

Jungle Tales of Tarzan probably isn't politically correct by today's standards but if you enjoy adventure you owe it to yourself to read Tarzan in its original form rather than watching the Hollywood interpretation. This Tarzan doesn't have a cute Chimp sidekick. This Tarzan is the alpha male of a tribe of huge apes and is feared and/or respected by both the animals and humans who call the jungle home. It is the story of a man who has reverted physically to a primitive form. But that primitive man sometimes clashes with a more civilized conscience.

While not as gripping as the main novels I found the diverse stories to be enjoyable. Here we see a younger Tarzan and the events which would shape him into the man we meet in the main novels. Worth the read.

The back story of Tarzan in the jungle to fill in a believable evolution of his character after the whirlwind "Tarzan of the Apes" introduced the character. See my "Son of Tarzan" review for more general comments.

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