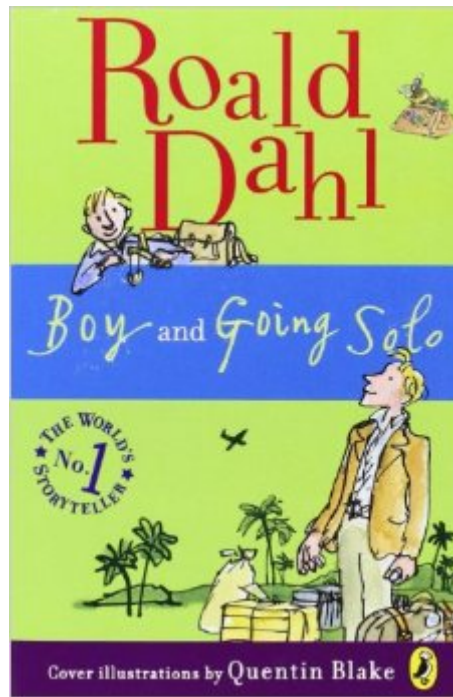


The book was found

Boy And Going Solo



Synopsis

Roald Dahl's personal stories together in one edition! Where did Roald Dahl get all of his wonderful ideas for stories? From his own life, of course! *Boy* includes tales of sweetshops and chocolate, mean old ladies, and the Great Mouse Plot. And then *Going Solo* tells of how, when he grew up, Roald Dahl left England for Africa and later went flying with the Royal Air Force.

Book Information

Paperback: 400 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 1 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (22 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #60,788 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

This was the first Roald Dahl book I read. My now-husband gave me *Boy* for my 22nd birthday because it was one of his favorite books as a child. I loved it and read it and *Going Solo* as quickly as I could. I recommend it to anyone of any age and will definitely read it to my children. Dahl had an eventful childhood which he narrates with the compassionate and mischievous tone of his other books. *Boy* is perfect for parents and children alike because Dahl remembers how life feels from the child's point of view whilst, a parent himself, appreciating the difficulties of parenthood and adulthood. Few books better help children and their parents to see eye-to-eye. Also admirable are the strength and acceptance that allows him to overcome childhood hardships without a trace of bitterness or melodrama. More than anything, it is a beautiful, interesting and down-right amusing look at a world not so far away in distance or time.

I've always been a big Roald Dahl fan, both of his books and the books that have been turned into

movies. I loved "James and the Giant Peach," "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," and "Matilda" just to name a few. I had been meaning to read "Boy" and "Going Solo," Dahl's two memoirs, and started them the other day. I was unbelievably surprised to find out that Roald Dahl's birthday was September 13th (and he would have been 96 years old)! I mean, what kind of coincidence is that? Anyway, I decided to talk about both books in one post because they are very much related. "Boy" is the story of Dahl's childhood, and follows his life up to age 20. "Boy" is filled with humorous stories that have inspired many of his books. For instance, we learn that Dahl attended boarding schools under mean headmasters, and an even nastier matron, who bears a striking resemblance to the Trunchbull from "Matilda." Dahl spent his early elementary days, aged 7-9, obsessed with a neighborhood candy shop and the Gobstoppers inside it (inspiration for Willy Wonka?), and even had his hand (ah, I made a pun that will only be recognizable if you read the book!) in a prank on the candy shopkeeper that he calls the Great Mouse Plot of 1924. Dahl was also lucky enough to go to a boarding school that Cadbury would send samples to in order to find out what kind of chocolates young boys enjoyed! "Boy" is a fabulous read, with many stories that can easily be linked to some of his most popular novels. I highly recommend reading "Boy" if you want a humorous look at the youth of one of the most famous and well-loved children's authors. "Going Solo," on the other hand, would be better for those people who wanted to know more about Dahl's military life, which contained fewer references and story lines related to the books we grew up with. "Going Solo" was about Roald Dahl's experiences in the military, with exploits about flying planes and secret missions. While I liked the book, I did get bored with the military aspect towards the end. If you like Roald Dahl and enjoy reading about the military, you might enjoy "Going Solo." Otherwise, stick with "Boy," which is a read that I think many more people would enjoy. What is your all time favorite Roald Dahl story? Thanks for reading, Rebecca from LoveAtFirstBook blog

I'm of a generation somewhat younger (by about 30 years) than Roald Dahl, but memories of a British childhood still rang true for me. He evidently led quite a charmed life after leaving school, and saw a lot of the world. Stories from his early career in the far-flung British Empire are often hilarious, especially that of the fake dandruff, and the woman who told him, quite matter-of-fact, that he would go mad, just like her and everybody else who shipped out. His wartime experience as a flyer makes you wonder how the British even survived World War II. All in all, a very readable book.

No wonder Dahl wrote such wonderfully awful characters as Ms. Trunchbull (sp?)--he had real-life inspiration! I read his account of getting his tonsils out to my 6th grade students each year to sell

them on this book: with no anesthetic, his doctor said, "Open your mouth," and when Dahl did, he darted in with a scalpel and snick-snick, Dahl spit out two globs of flesh and a lot of blood. Well-ah, a tonsillectomy! And the scene of his sister taking the family for a drive in their first car! Oh my god! She didn't know how to turn it or stop it, but she let the little kids persuade her to go faster and faster! Bones are broken! It's nuts! And his teachers. Wow. Corporal punishment with a cane. I like to read the description of being whipped with a cane to my 6th graders when they complain about how strict we are on them so they can realize how good they actually have it. They're so aghast that they argue over who gets to read the whole book. Music to my ears.

Great book about Dahl's life, gives the reader a slice of growing up in Great Britain in the early part of the 20th century and the air war in the Mediterranean in WW2 from an individual's perspective. A great read aloud to the family (with minimal filtering).

This is a wonderful combination of Roald Dahl's childhood and schooling, followed by stories from his life in east Africa and experiences as a pilot in the war. It is written in the same eloquent style as his children's books with seemingly amazing stories about home surgery, the village sweet shop and trips to Norway. You can see the beginnings of a number of his books in his experiences. I can thoroughly recommend as a great read.

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