

shooting of an elephant analysis

Shooting an Elephant Analysis: Unpacking Orwell's Masterpiece of Colonial Critique

Introduction:

George Orwell's "Shooting an Elephant" is more than just a captivating short story; it's a potent allegorical exploration of imperialism, power dynamics, and the corrosive effects of societal pressure. This in-depth analysis delves into the narrative's complexities, exploring its symbolism, themes, and enduring relevance in the modern world. We'll dissect Orwell's masterful use of language, examine the psychological impact of colonial rule on both the colonized and the colonizer, and ultimately unravel the story's enduring message about conformity, hypocrisy, and the human condition. Prepare for a journey into the heart of one of the most insightful and impactful short stories ever written.

I. The Setting and the Power Dynamic: A Foundation of Control

Orwell masterfully establishes the oppressive atmosphere of British colonial Burma. The story's setting itself acts as a character, highlighting the stark power imbalance between the imperial power and the Burmese population. The narrator, a young police officer, is acutely aware of his position of authority, even as he acknowledges its inherent injustice. The constant undercurrent of resentment from the Burmese people underlines the precariousness of the colonizer's control, setting the stage for the central event of the story. The description of the Burmese people isn't simply observational; it's laced with an underlying sense of guilt and unease, foreshadowing the narrator's internal conflict.

II. The Elephant's Symbolic Significance: Brutality and the Absurdity of Power

The elephant itself transcends its literal representation. It symbolizes the inherent brutality and absurdity of colonial power. The elephant's rampage becomes a metaphor for the disruptive and unpredictable nature of imperialism itself. The narrator's initial reluctance to shoot the animal highlights the irrationality of the situation—he knows killing the elephant is unnecessary, yet he feels compelled to act due to the pressure of maintaining his authority and avoiding the scorn of the Burmese crowd. This highlights the insidious influence of societal expectation and the erosion of personal morality in the face of systemic power. The elephant's eventual demise serves as a potent symbol of the destructive force of colonial rule, showcasing how it leads to needless suffering and violence.

III. The Narrator's Internal Conflict: A Struggle with Morality and Identity

The story's strength lies in the narrator's internal conflict. He is caught between his own sense of morality and the overwhelming pressure to conform to the expectations placed

upon him as a representative of imperial power. He is profoundly uncomfortable with his role, recognizing the inherent injustice of the colonial system. His internal struggle is palpable, reflecting the psychological toll that maintaining a position of power within an oppressive system can take. This internal conflict creates a profound sense of empathy for the narrator, even as his actions are undeniably problematic. The tension between his personal beliefs and his public actions creates a morally ambiguous character that forces readers to confront uncomfortable truths.

IV. The Impact of Colonial Rule: Exploring the Psychological Scars

Orwell doesn't just portray the physical brutality of colonial rule; he explores its devastating psychological impact on both the colonizer and the colonized. The Burmese people are portrayed with quiet dignity, their resentment palpable even in their silence. The narrator's own psychological turmoil reveals the internal struggles and self-doubt experienced by those complicit in the perpetuation of an unjust system. He is ultimately left with a profound sense of guilt and disillusionment, a testament to the corrosive nature of colonial power and its lasting psychological effects.

V. The Theme of Conformity and Hypocrisy: A Universal Message

"Shooting an Elephant" transcends its historical context to address universal themes of conformity and hypocrisy. The narrator's actions are driven not by genuine conviction but by a desperate need to conform to the expectations of the Burmese crowd and his fellow colonial officers. He is acutely aware of the hypocrisy of his situation, caught between his own moral compass and the overwhelming pressure to uphold the façade of colonial authority. This underscores the dangers of unquestioning obedience and the insidious nature of groupthink, making the story's message powerfully relevant to modern society.

VI. Orwell's Masterful Use of Language: Precision and Impact

Orwell's prose is remarkably precise and impactful. His descriptive language vividly portrays the setting, the atmosphere, and the internal struggles of the narrator. He uses simple yet powerful words to convey complex emotions and experiences, creating a sense of immediacy and authenticity. The story's brevity further underscores the power of his words, allowing the reader to fully absorb the weight of the narrative's implications.

VII. Conclusion: A Lasting Legacy of Reflection

"Shooting an Elephant" continues to resonate with readers today because it speaks to fundamental human experiences: the conflict between personal morality and societal pressure, the corrupting influence of power, and the lasting consequences of oppression. It serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of critical thinking, independent action, and the courage to challenge unjust systems. The story's enduring legacy lies in its ability to provoke introspection and inspire dialogue about the complexities of power, morality, and the human condition.

Detailed Outline:

Title: A Deep Dive into Orwell's "Shooting an Elephant": Symbolism, Power, and Colonial Guilt

Introduction: Briefly introduce George Orwell and "Shooting an Elephant," highlighting its enduring significance and the themes explored in the analysis.

Chapter 1: The Colonial Setting and Power Dynamics: Analyze the setting's impact on the narrative, highlighting the power imbalance between the British and the Burmese.

Chapter 2: The Elephant as Symbol: Deconstruct the elephant's symbolic representation within the context of colonial power and its implications.

Chapter 3: The Narrator's Internal Conflict: Explore the narrator's internal struggles, revealing his moral ambiguity and the weight of his position.

Chapter 4: Psychological Impact of Colonialism: Analyze the psychological effects of colonial rule on both the colonizer and the colonized.

Chapter 5: Conformity and Hypocrisy: Examine the themes of conformity and hypocrisy, connecting them to the narrator's actions and the broader implications.

Chapter 6: Orwell's Linguistic Mastery: Assess Orwell's use of language, focusing on its precision, impact, and contribution to the narrative's effectiveness.

Conclusion: Summarize the key findings and restate the lasting significance of "Shooting an Elephant" in the contemporary world.

Article Explaining Each Point of the Outline (This section is already largely incorporated within the main article above)

9 Unique FAQs:

1. What is the central theme of "Shooting an Elephant"? The central theme is the destructive nature of imperialism and the corrupting influence of power, explored through the narrator's internal conflict and the symbolic representation of the elephant.
1. What does the elephant symbolize in the story? The elephant symbolizes the absurdity and brutality of colonial power, as well as the unpredictable and destructive forces inherent within imperial systems.

1. How does Orwell use setting to enhance the narrative? The oppressive colonial setting of Burma itself acts as a character, emphasizing the power imbalance and foreshadowing the narrator's internal conflict.
1. What is the significance of the narrator's internal conflict? The narrator's internal conflict highlights the moral dilemma faced by individuals within oppressive systems, forcing readers to confront uncomfortable truths about conformity and hypocrisy.
1. What is the impact of colonial rule as depicted in the story? Orwell demonstrates the devastating psychological and physical impact of colonial rule on both the colonizer and the colonized, highlighting the lingering effects of oppression.
1. How does Orwell's writing style contribute to the story's impact? Orwell's precise and impactful language, combined with the story's brevity, maximizes the emotional effect and leaves a lasting impression on the reader.
1. What is the significance of the title "Shooting an Elephant"? The title itself is ironic, highlighting the unnecessary and ultimately self-destructive nature of the act, reflecting the futility of colonial rule.
1. How is "Shooting an Elephant" relevant to contemporary issues? The themes of conformity, hypocrisy, and the abuse of power remain highly relevant in today's world, making the story's message enduring and thought-provoking.
1. What is the overall message of "Shooting an Elephant"? The story serves as a powerful critique of imperialism, challenging readers to question authority, conformism, and the insidious nature of systemic oppression.

9 Related Articles:

1. Orwell's Political Writings: An Overview: An exploration of Orwell's broader political

writings and their influence on political thought.

2. Post-Colonial Literature: Key Themes and Authors: An examination of post-colonial literature and its central themes.
3. The Psychology of Colonialism: A Historical Perspective: An analysis of the psychological impact of colonialism on both colonizers and colonized populations.
4. Symbolism in Literature: Techniques and Interpretations: A discussion of the use of symbolism in literature and its effectiveness.
5. George Orwell's Life and Influences: A biographical look at Orwell's life and the events that shaped his writing.
6. The Ethics of Imperialism: A Philosophical Inquiry: A philosophical exploration of the ethical dilemmas presented by imperialism.
7. Comparative Analysis of Orwell's "Shooting an Elephant" and "Animal Farm": A comparative analysis of Orwell's two famous works, exploring their shared themes and differing approaches.
8. The Power of Narrative: How Stories Shape Our Understanding: A discussion of the power of storytelling and its role in shaping our understanding of the world.
9. Modern Applications of Orwell's "Shooting an Elephant": An analysis of how the themes of "Shooting an Elephant" are relevant to contemporary political and social issues.

shooting of an elephant analysis: Burmese Days George Orwell, 2022-09-28 Burmese Days is George Orwell's first novel, originally published in 1934. Set in British Burma during the waning days of the British empire, when Burma was ruled from Delhi as part of British India, the novel serves as a portrait of the dark side of the British Raj. At the center of the novel is John Flory, trapped within a bigger system that is undermining the better side of human nature. The novel deals with indigenous corruption and imperial bigotry in a society where natives peoples were viewed as interesting, but ultimately inferior. Includes a bibliography and brief bio of the author.

shooting of an elephant analysis: *Shooting an Elephant of George Orwell - Short Story Or Essay on the Essence of Colonialism?* Swantje We, 2011-04 Seminar paper from the year 2010 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1,5, University of Vechta (Institut für Geistes- und Kulturwissenschaften), language: English, abstract: This paper deals with Orwell's text 'Shooting an Elephant'. I use the term text deliberately since my topic says George Orwell: 'Shooting an Elephant' - Short Story or Essay on the Essence of Colonialism. The question of genre has been debated for decades and there have been several quarrels about allocating it to a certain genre. Most experts, however, call the text an essay but there are also those who insist on the text belonging to the group of the short stories. In my paper I will work out features of both genres and at the end of my study I will sum up the findings and draw a conclusion. First, I will give a short definition of the terms 'Short Story' and 'Essay'. This is to show the characteristics of the two genres that I will pick up again in the course of this paper. After a brief summary I will start the

analysis of the text working out topics like parallels to Orwell's life, the meaning of the elephant or the construction of the text. In the final part I will sum up my results and draw a conclusion.

shooting of an elephant analysis: A Hanging George Orwell, 2023-09-17 George Orwell set out 'to make political writing into an art', and to a wide extent this aim shaped the future of English literature. While 1984 and Animal Farm are amongst the most popular classic novels of all time, this new series of his essays seeks to bring his writing on politics and literature to a new readership. A Hanging, the ninth in the Orwell's Essays series, tells the story of the execution of an unnamed convict in Burma. With the veracity of the story unknown, but thought to be loosely based on Orwell's own experiences in Burma, the haunting tale leaves the reader contemplating the heavy topic of colonialism, and the right of one to take the life of another.

shooting of an elephant analysis: *Shooting an Elephant* George Orwell, 2022-02-14 George Orwell set out 'to make political writing into an art', and to a wide extent this aim shaped the future of English literature - his descriptions of authoritarian regimes helped to form a new vocabulary that is fundamental to understanding totalitarianism. While 1984 and Animal Farm are amongst the most popular classic novels in the English language, this new series of Orwell's essays seeks to bring a wider selection of his writing on politics and literature to a new readership. Shooting an Elephant, the fifth in the Orwell's Essays series, tells the story of a police officer in Burma who is called upon to shoot an aggressive elephant. Thought to be loosely based on Orwell's own experiences in Burma, the tightly written essay weaves together fact and fiction indistinguishably, and leaves the reader contemplating the heavy topic of colonialism, with the words 'when the white man turns tyrant it is his own freedom that he destroys' echoing from the page. 'A remarkable piece.' (Jeremy Paxman) 'A writer who can - and must - be rediscovered with every age.' (Irish Times)

shooting of an elephant analysis: *The Elephant* Slawomir Mrozek, 2010-05-06 The Elephant (1957) is Slawomir Mrozek's award-winning collection of hilarious and unnerving short stories, satirising life in Poland under a totalitarian regime. The family of a wealthy lawyer keep a 'tamed progressive' as a pet; a zoo saves money for the workers by fashioning their elephant from rubber; a swan is dismissed from the municipal park for public drunkenness; and under the Writers' Association, literary critics are banished to the salt mines. In these tales of bureaucrats, officials and artists, Mrozek conjures perfectly a life of imagined crimes and absurd authority.

shooting of an elephant analysis: Deacon King Kong (Oprah's Book Club) James McBride, 2020-03-03 Winner of the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award for Fiction Winner of the Gotham Book Prize One of Barack Obama's Favorite Books of the Year Oprah's Book Club Pick Named one of the Top Ten Books of the Year by the New York Times, Entertainment Weekly and TIME Magazine A Washington Post Notable Novel From the author of The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store, the National Book Award-winning The Good Lord Bird, and the bestselling modern classic The Color of Water, comes one of the most celebrated novels of the year. In September 1969, a fumbling, cranky old church deacon known as Sportcoat shuffles into the courtyard of the Cause Houses housing project in south Brooklyn, pulls a .38 from his pocket, and, in front of everybody, shoots the project's drug dealer at point-blank range. The reasons for this desperate burst of violence and the consequences that spring from it lie at the heart of Deacon King Kong, James McBride's funny, moving novel and his first since his National Book Award-winning The Good Lord Bird. In Deacon King Kong, McBride brings to vivid life the people affected by the shooting: the victim, the African-American and Latinx residents who witnessed it, the white neighbors, the local cops assigned to investigate, the members of the Five Ends Baptist Church where Sportcoat was deacon, the neighborhood's Italian mobsters, and Sportcoat himself. As the story deepens, it becomes clear that the lives of the characters—caught in the tumultuous swirl of 1960s New York—overlap in unexpected ways. When the truth does emerge, McBride shows us that not all secrets are meant to be hidden, that the best way to grow is to face change without fear, and that the seeds of love lie in hope and compassion. Bringing to these pages both his masterly storytelling skills and his abiding faith in humanity, James McBride has written a novel every bit as involving as The Good Lord Bird and as emotionally honest as The Color of Water. Told with insight and wit, Deacon King Kong demonstrates that love and faith

live in all of us.

shooting of an elephant analysis: The Pedestrian Ray Bradbury, 1951

shooting of an elephant analysis: *The Road to Wigan Pier* George Orwell, 2024-04-26 George Orwell provides a vivid and unflinching portrayal of working-class life in Northern England during the 1930s. Through his own experiences and meticulous investigative reporting, Orwell exposes the harsh living conditions, poverty, and social injustices faced by coal miners and other industrial workers in the region. He documents their struggles with unemployment, poor housing, and inadequate healthcare, as well as the pervasive sense of hopelessness and despair that permeates their lives. In the second half of the *The Road to Wigan Pier* Orwell delves into the complexities of political ideology, as he grapples with the shortcomings of both socialism and capitalism in addressing the needs of the working class. GEORGE ORWELL was born in India in 1903 and passed away in London in 1950. As a journalist, critic, and author, he was a sharp commentator on his era and its political conditions and consequences.

shooting of an elephant analysis: Long Shot Craig Hodges, Rory Fanning, 2017-01-09 In this memoir, the Chicago Bulls basketball star details his life on the court as an athlete and off the court as an activist. As a member of the 1992 world-champion Chicago Bulls, a dashiki-clad Hodges delivered a handwritten letter to President George H. W. Bush demanding that he do more to address racism and economic inequality. Hodges was also a vocal union activist, initiated a boycott against Nike, and spoke out forcefully against police brutality in the wake of the Rodney King beating. But his outspokenness cost him dearly. In the prime of his career, after ten NBA seasons, Hodges was blackballed from the NBA for using his platform as a professional athlete to stand up for justice. In this powerful, passionate, and captivating memoir, Hodges shares the stories—including encounters with Nelson Mandela, Coretta Scott King, Jim Brown, R. Kelly, Michael Jordan, and others—from his lifelong fight for equality for Black Americans. Praise for *Long Shot* “A skillfully told, affecting memoir of sports and social activism.” —Kirkus Reviews “Hodges has told his compelling life story with fiery passion, looping around a cast of characters stretching from Jordan, Magic Johnson and Phil Jackson back to Muhammad Ali, Arthur Ashe and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, before returning to the present.” —Guardian “Craig Hodges is someone I looked up to as a child & now as an adult . . . I read *Long Shot* in like two hours, I couldn’t stop turning pages. There are so many hooks in it.” —Jesse Williams, actor, producer, director, activist “A beautifully written, brutally honest book. If you loved the Michael Jordan-era Chicago Bulls, if you love black history, or if you are fascinated by the politics of sports, I highly recommend this book. Simply put: Craig Hodges’ life is incredible and *Long Shot* is invaluable.” —AETHLON: The Journal of Sport Literature

shooting of an elephant analysis: Elephant Run Roland Smith, 2009-12 When 14-year-old Nick is sent to his father in Burma to escape the 1941 bombings in London, he finds himself in even more danger as Japanese soldiers arrive and take control of the plantation house.

shooting of an elephant analysis: Film Language Christian Metz, 1991 A pioneer in the field, Christian Metz applies insights of structural linguistics to the language of film. The semiology of film . . . can be held to date from the publication in 1964 of the famous essay by Christian Metz, 'Le cinéma: langue ou langage?'—Geoffrey Nowell-Smith, *Times Literary Supplement* Modern film theory begins with Metz.—Constance Penley, coeditor of *Camera Obscura* Any consideration of semiology in relation to the particular field signifying practice of film passes inevitably through a reference to the work of Christian Metz. . . . The first book to be written in this field, [Film Language] is important not merely because of this primacy but also because of the issues it raises . . . issues that have become crucial to the contemporary argument.—Stephen Heath, *Screen*

shooting of an elephant analysis: The Elephant Whisperer ANTHONY. LAWRENCE, Graham Spence, 2017-07-13 When South African conservationist Lawrence Anthony was asked to accept a herd of 'rogue' elephants on his Thula Thula game reserve in Zululand, his common sense told him to refuse. But he was the herd's last chance of survival - dangerous and unpredictable, they would be killed if Anthony wouldn't take them in. As Anthony risked his life to create a bond with the troubled elephants and persuade them to stay on his reserve, he came to realize what a special

family they were, from the wise matriarch Nana, who guided the herd, to her warrior sister Frankie, always ready to see off any threat, and their children who fought so hard to survive. With unforgettable characters and exotic wildlife, this is an enthralling book that will appeal to animal lovers and adventurous souls everywhere.

shooting of an elephant analysis: The Tusk That Did the Damage Tania James, 2015-02-25 When a young elephant is brutally orphaned by poachers, it is only a matter of time before he begins terrorising the countryside, earning his malevolent name from the humans he kills and then tenderly buries with leaves. Manu, the studious son of a rice farmer, loses his cousin to the Gravedigger and is drawn into the alluring world of ivory hunting. Emma is working on a documentary set in a Kerala wildlife park with her best friend. Her work leads her to witness the porous boundary between conservation and corruption and she finds herself caught up in her own betrayal. As the novel hurtles toward its tragic climax, these three storylines fuse into a wrenching meditation on love and revenge, fact and myth, duty and sacrifice. In a feat of audacious imagination and arrestingly beautiful prose, *The Tusk That Did the Damage* tells an original and heart-breaking story about how we treat nature, and each other.

shooting of an elephant analysis: The Giver Lois Lowry, 2014 *The Giver*, the 1994 Newbery Medal winner, has become one of the most influential novels of our time. The haunting story centers on twelve-year-old Jonas, who lives in a seemingly ideal, if colorless, world of conformity and contentment. Not until he is given his life assignment as the Receiver of Memory does he begin to understand the dark, complex secrets behind his fragile community. This movie tie-in edition features cover art from the movie and exclusive Q&A with members of the cast, including Taylor Swift, Brenton Thwaites and Cameron Monaghan.

shooting of an elephant analysis: The Things They Carried Tim O'Brien, 2009-10-13 A classic work of American literature that has not stopped changing minds and lives since it burst onto the literary scene, *The Things They Carried* is a ground-breaking meditation on war, memory, imagination, and the redemptive power of storytelling. *The Things They Carried* depicts the men of Alpha Company: Jimmy Cross, Henry Dobbins, Rat Kiley, Mitchell Sanders, Norman Bowker, Kiowa, and the character Tim O'Brien, who has survived his tour in Vietnam to become a father and writer at the age of forty-three. Taught everywhere—from high school classrooms to graduate seminars in creative writing—it has become required reading for any American and continues to challenge readers in their perceptions of fact and fiction, war and peace, courage and fear and longing. *The Things They Carried* won France's prestigious Prix du Meilleur Livre Etranger and the Chicago Tribune Heartland Prize; it was also a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award.

shooting of an elephant analysis: Elephant's Graveyard George Brant, 2010 *Elephant's Graveyard* is the unfortunately true story of Mary, an elephant who went berserk during a parade through the middle of a small town in Tennessee in 1916. The townspeople demanded justice for her actions, which led to a very unfortunate set of circumstances. The play combines historical fact and legend, exploring the deep-seated American craving for spectacle, violence and revenge.--George Brant's interview answer to Adam Szymkowicz in I Interview Playwrights Part 48: George Brant by Adam Szymkowicz.

shooting of an elephant analysis: In Defence of English Cooking George Orwell, 2005 In May 2005 Penguin will publish 70 unique titles to celebrate the company's 70th birthday. The titles in the Pocket Penguins series are emblematic of the renowned breadth of quality of the Penguin list and will hark back to Penguin founder Allen Lane's vision of good books for all'. political thinkers of the twentieth century, he is also the author of the bestselling Penguin title of all time: *Animal Farm* first published in Penguin in 1951. These heartfelt essays demonstrate Orwell's wide-ranging appeal, and range from political manifesto to affectionate consideration of what being English truly means.

shooting of an elephant analysis: The Valley of the Spiders (Cryptofiction Classics - Weird Tales of Strange Creatures) H. G. Wells, 2015-02-17 This early work by H. G. Wells was originally published in 1903 and we are now republishing it with a brand new introductory

biography as part of our Cryptofiction Classics series. 'The Valley of the Spiders' is a short story about a group of men who encounter an unstoppable swarm of arachnids. Herbert George Wells was born in Bromley, England in 1866. He apprenticed as a draper before becoming a pupil-teacher at Midhurst Grammar School in West Sussex. Some years later, Wells won a scholarship to the School of Science in London, where he developed a strong interest in biology and evolution, founding and editing the Science Schools Journal. However, he left before graduating to return to teaching, and began to focus increasingly on writing. It was in 1895 that Wells seriously established himself as a writer, with the publication of the now iconic novel, *The Time Machine*. Wells followed *The Time Machine* with the equally well-received *War of the Worlds* (1898), which proved highly popular in the USA. The Cryptofiction Classics series contains a collection of wonderful stories from some of the greatest authors in the genre, including Ambrose Bierce, Arthur Conan Doyle, Robert Louis Stevenson, and Jack London. From its roots in cryptozoology, this genre features bizarre, fantastical, and often terrifying tales of mythical and legendary creatures. Whether it be giant spiders, werewolves, lake monsters, or dinosaurs, the Cryptofiction Classics series offers a fantastic introduction to the world of weird creatures in fiction.

shooting of an elephant analysis: Why I Write George Orwell, 2021-01-01 George Orwell set out 'to make political writing into an art', and to a wide extent this aim shaped the future of English literature - his descriptions of authoritarian regimes helped to form a new vocabulary that is fundamental to understanding totalitarianism. While 1984 and *Animal Farm* are amongst the most popular classic novels in the English language, this new series of Orwell's essays seeks to bring a wider selection of his writing on politics and literature to a new readership. In *Why I Write*, the first in the Orwell's Essays series, Orwell describes his journey to becoming a writer, and his movement from writing poems to short stories to the essays, fiction and non-fiction we remember him for. He also discusses what he sees as the 'four great motives for writing' - 'sheer egoism', 'aesthetic enthusiasm', 'historical impulse' and 'political purpose' - and considers the importance of keeping these in balance. *Why I Write* is a unique opportunity to look into Orwell's mind, and it grants the reader an entirely different vantage point from which to consider the rest of the great writer's oeuvre. 'A writer who can - and must - be rediscovered with every age.' — Irish Times

shooting of an elephant analysis: Marionettes, Inc Ray Bradbury, 2009 In five stories (one of them original to this collection, plus a rare, previously unpublished screen treatment) Bradbury explores the concept of Robotics and examines its impact on the day-to-day lives of ordinary people.

shooting of an elephant analysis: Only the Animals Ceridwen Dovey, 2015-02-05 Perhaps only the animals can tell us what it is to be human. The souls of ten animals caught up in human conflicts over the last century tell their astonishing stories of life and death. In a trench on the Western Front a cat recalls her owner Colette's theatrical antics in Paris. In Nazi Germany a dog seeks enlightenment. A Russian tortoise once owned by the Tolstoys drifts in space during the Cold War. In the siege of Sarajevo a bear starving to death tells a fairytale. And a dolphin sent to Iraq by the US Navy writes a letter to Sylvia Plath. Exquisitely written, playful and poignant, *Only the Animals* is a remarkable literary achievement by this bright young writer. An animal's-eye view of humans at our brutal, violent worst and our creative, imaginative best, it asks us to find our way back to empathy not only for animals, but for other people, and to believe again in the redemptive power of reading and writing fiction.

shooting of an elephant analysis: Books v. Cigarettes George Orwell, 2014-10-30 Beginning with a dilemma about whether he spends more money on reading or smoking, George Orwell's entertaining and uncompromising essays go on to explore everything from the perils of second-hand bookshops to the dubious profession of being a critic, from freedom of the press to what patriotism really means. Throughout history, some books have changed the world. They have transformed the way we see ourselves - and each other. They have inspired debate, dissent, war and revolution. They have enlightened, outraged, provoked and comforted. They have enriched lives - and destroyed them. Now Penguin brings you the works of the great thinkers, pioneers, radicals and visionaries whose ideas shook civilization and helped make us who we are.

shooting of an elephant analysis: Zero Hour Ray Bradbury, 2021-08-05 In this short story first published by Ray Bradbury in the 1951 Illustrated Man collection, the game of Invasion has been sweeping the country. Children all across the nation pretend to have been enlisted by alien invaders, their job to overthrow their parents, and help their newfound friends take over the Earth. To Mrs. Morris, it's harmless fun - but to her daughter Mink, it's far from just a game.

shooting of an elephant analysis: The Most Dangerous Game Richard Connell, 2023-02-23 Sanger Rainsford is a big-game hunter, who finds himself washed up on an island owned by the eccentric General Zaroff. Zaroff, a big-game hunter himself, has heard of Rainsford's abilities with a gun and organises a hunt. However, they're not after animals - they're after people. When he protests, Rainsford the hunter becomes Rainsford the hunted. Sharing similarities with The Hunger Games, starring Jennifer Lawrence, this is the story that created the template for pitting man against man. Born in New York, Richard Connell (1893 - 1949) went on to become an acclaimed author, screenwriter, and journalist. He is best remembered for the gripping novel The Most Dangerous Game and for receiving an Oscar nomination for the screenplay Meet John Doe.

shooting of an elephant analysis: The Good Braider Terry Farish, 2014-08 Follows Viola as she survives brutality in war-torn Sudan, makes a perilous journey, lives as a refugee in Egypt, and finally reaches Portland, Maine, where her quest for freedom and security is hampered by memories of past horrors and the traditions

shooting of an elephant analysis: Tiger! Tiger! (The First Jungle Book) Rudyard Kipling, 2021-01-08 Tiger! Tiger! - Shere Khan hunt Mowgli. Mowgli returns to the human village and is adopted by Messua and her husband, who believe him to be their long-lost son. Mowgli leads the village boys who herd the village's buffaloes. Shere Khan comes to hunt Mowgli, but he is warned by Gray Brother wolf, and with Akela they find Shere Khan asleep, and stampede the buffaloes to trample Shere Khan to death. Mowgli leaves the village, and goes back to hunt with the wolves until he becomes a man. The Jungle Book (1894) is a collection of stories by English author Rudyard Kipling. The stories were first published in magazines in 1893-94. The original publications contain illustrations, some by Rudyard's father, John Lockwood Kipling. Kipling was born in India and spent the first six years of his childhood there. After about ten years in England, he went back to India and worked there for about six-and-a-half years. These stories were written when Kipling lived in Vermont. Famous stories of The Jungle Book Rudyard Kipling: Mowgli's Brothers, Kaa's Hunting, Tiger! Tiger!, The White Seal, Rikki-Tikki-Tavi, Toomai of the Elephants, Her Majesty's Servants.

shooting of an elephant analysis: The Elephant Vanishes Haruki Murakami, 2010-08-11 In the tales that make up The Elephant Vanishes, the imaginative genius that has made Haruki Murakami an international superstar is on full display. In these stories, a man sees his favorite elephant vanish into thin air; a newlywed couple suffers attacks of hunger that drive them to hold up a McDonald's in the middle of the night; and a young woman discovers that she has become irresistible to a little green monster who burrows up through her backyard. By turns haunting and hilarious, in The Elephant Vanishes Murakami crosses the border between separate realities—and comes back bearing remarkable treasures. Includes the story Barn Burning, which is the basis for the major motion picture Burning.

shooting of an elephant analysis: Big Game Stuart Gibbs, 2015-10-13 Teddy Fitzroy returns as FunJungle's resident zoo sleuth when a rhinoceros is at risk in Big Game, a follow-up to Belly Up and Poached—which Kirkus Reviews called a "thrill-ride of a mystery." When someone takes aim at Rhonda Rhino, FunJungle's pregnant (and endangered) Asian greater one-horned rhinoceros, the zoo steps up security measures in order to protect this rare animal and her baby. But the extra security isn't enough—someone is still getting too close for comfort. Teddy and company start to suspect that whoever is after Rhonda is really after her horn, which is worth a lot of money on the black market. For the first time ever, the head of the zoo enlists Teddy for help—for once, he doesn't have to sneak around in order to investigate—and the results are even more wacky, and even more dangerous, than ever before.

shooting of an elephant analysis: Strategy Safari Henry Mintzberg, Bruce W. Ahlstrand,

Bruce Ahlstrand, Joseph Lampel, 2005-06-06 This indispensable guide for the creative manager takes readers on a powerful, comprehensive, and illuminating tour through the fields of strategic management. The result is a brilliant, penetrating primer on business strategy that is, at the same time, immensely readable and fun.

shooting of an elephant analysis: *Such, Such Were the Joys* George Orwell, 2014-01-02 In this bitingly honest autobiographical essay, Orwell recounts his days as a pupil at St Cyprian's preparatory school in Eastbourne, Sussex. He reflects on a 'world of force and fraud and secrecy,' where the actual 'pattern of school life' was played out as a continuous triumph of the strong over the weak. Reflecting on the hypocrisy of Edwardian society, Orwell condemns the education he received as 'a preparation for a sort of confidence trick,' designed mercenarily to prepare pupils for exams without concern for real knowledge or understanding. This is Orwell as political dissident and supreme chronicler of class conflict.

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