



Flings: Stories

By Justin Taylor

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Flings: Stories By Justin Taylor

The acclaimed author of *Everything Here Is the Best Thing Ever* and *The Gospel of Anarchy* makes his hardcover debut with a piercing collection of short fiction that illuminates our struggle to find love, comfort, and identity.

In a new suite of powerful and incisive stories, Justin Taylor captures the lives of men and women unmoored from their pasts and uncertain of their futures.

A man writes his girlfriend a Dear John letter, gets in his car, and just drives. A widowed insomniac is roused from malaise when an alligator appears in her backyard. A group of college friends try to stay close after graduation, but are drawn away from—and back toward—each other by the choices they make. A boy's friendship with a pair of identical twins undergoes a strange and tragic evolution over the course of adolescence. A promising academic and her fiancée attempt to finish their dissertations, but struggle with writer's block, a nasty secret, and their own expert knowledge of Freud.

From an East Village rooftop to a cabin in Tennessee, from the Florida suburbs to Hong Kong, Taylor covers a vast emotional and geographic landscape while ushering us into an abiding intimacy with his characters, *Flings* is a commanding work of fiction that captures the contemporary search for identity, connection, and a place to call home.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

An Amazon Best Book of the Month, August 2014: Imagine the subtle domesticity of Raymond Carver's fiction crossed with the thematic ennui of Richard Linklater's film *Slacker* and you have something that resembles Justin Taylor's newest story collection, *Flings*. Readers familiar with Taylor's terrific debut, *Everything Here Is the Best Thing Ever*, will find a similar focus on the uncertain lives of twenty- and thirty-somethings. These characters are not necessarily selfish (though some are); they're lost. But *Flings* is less about finding the way out--whether that's literal or figurative--and more about the intimate discovery that these lives are meandering in unknown directions. While *Flings* confronts ambiguous situations and characters with unclear motives, Taylor himself writes with resolve and confidence. It's his strongest work to date--delicately observed and slyly funny. --*Kevin Nguyen*

Review

"At the root of Taylor's fiction is one the great ineffable questions, so simple as to come off almost silly when stated plainly—why are the current state of things one way rather than another? Unanswerable, of course, but this collection cements Taylor's status as a young writer to follow." (*Daily Beast*)

"Infused with pop-culture and literary references alike, Taylor's profoundly understated and often funny stories establish him as an unequivocal voice for the Internet age." (*Booklist*)

"Taylor's insightful stories illuminate the many ways we fall in love--and out of it--and how romances shape our identity both while they last and long after they conclude." (*Shelf Awareness*)

"Justin Taylor somehow makes available to us just how strange we are, here in late-capitalist early 21st-century America. Taylor's stories chart a path through the truth, and the result is that *Flings* is urgent, necessary, funny, and amazing. A writer we need to read." (Alexander Chee, author of *Edinburgh*)

"In this luminous collection of short stories, Taylor takes on the theme of constancy of self amid the ephemeral relationships that make up our lives. These stories, by turns witty and piercing, form an uncommon portrait of the human heart." (*Publishers Weekly* starred review)

"I tore through this book with white knuckles and a sense of relief, grateful to finally learn more about the human condition from an author willing to give it to me straight. Taylor is a brilliant writer who can tell it like it is without sacrificing style, humor, or surprise." (Alissa Nutting, author of *Tampa*)

"It's an insane idea, but Taylor pulls it off. . . . [A] beautiful meeting of Don DeLillo, Philip Roth and Aaron Cometbus." (Charles Bock, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Beautiful Children*)

From the Back Cover

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Linda Matthews:

The book *Flings: Stories* give you a sense of feeling enjoy for your spare time. You may use to make your capable far more increase. Book can to get your best friend when you getting pressure or having big problem along with your subject. If you can make looking at a book *Flings: Stories* being your habit, you can get far more advantages, like add your capable, increase your knowledge about a number of or all subjects. You may know everything if you like wide open and read a book *Flings: Stories*. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science reserve or encyclopedia or others. So , how do you think about this guide?

Elaine Rochelle:

Reading a guide tends to be new life style with this era globalization. With reading you can get a lot of information that can give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world could share their idea. Textbooks can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their very own reader with their story as well as their experience. Not only the story that share in the books. But also they write about advantage about something that you need instance. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your kids, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors nowadays always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write to the book. One of them is this *Flings: Stories*.

Victor Hubbard:

The publication with title *Flings: Stories* possesses a lot of information that you can study it. You can get a lot of benefit after read this book. That book exist new understanding the information that exist in this guide represented the condition of the world now. That is important to yo7u to understand how the improvement of the world. This book will bring you with new era of the internationalization. You can read the e-book on your smart phone, so you can read the item anywhere you want.

Elizabeth Sherer:

A lot of people always spent all their free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Do you know? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a guide. The book Flings: Stories it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book provides high quality.

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