



## Jump and Other Stories

By Nadine Gordimer



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Fifteen thematically and geographically wide-ranging stories from the Nobel Prize Winner, with settings ranging from suburban London to Mozambique.

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## Jump and Other Stories By Nadine Gordimer Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Written with consummate artistry, this South African writer's latest collection of short fiction illuminates her concerns about the human consequences of political repression. Gordimer ( *A Sport of Nature* ; *Something Out There* ; *The Essential Gesture* ) is a member of the African National Congress, vice-president of PEN International and an executive member of the Congress of South African Writers, and actively opposes censorship in South Africa. All of these involvements color her fiction, yet these stories are far from mere politically correct mouthpieces. In 16 tales, most with a South African setting, Gordimer explores the ironies and values of human relations and expectations with a deft and frequently poignant touch. In "Safe Houses" a revolutionary finds sanctuary and a surprising connection in the home of a suburban socialite. "The Moment Before the Gun Went Off" gives us an astonishing revelation of the ironic truth behind the accidental death of a black farmhand in the truck of a white farmer. An innocent love plays a role in revolutionary destruction and mayhem in "Some Are Born to Sweet Delight." Gordimer has rarely been more profound or more quietly brilliant than in these exquisitely subtle stories, whose power is equal to a thousand manifestos. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

Innocents who end up in bed with terrorists; children and adults entangled in the barbed wire of political events they can't control or understand. In her latest collection of stories, Gordimer revisits old but rich territory--South Africa--and other locations where the balance of order has gone awry. Gordimer's ability to transcend racial and gender barriers comes forth both in the collection as a whole and within individual stories that are told from multiple perspectives, such as "What Were You Dreaming?" This volume of fiction burns with the brilliance readers might expect to find only in an anthology. The sophisticated surprise endings found \* in "Some Are Born to Sweet Delight" and "The Moment the Gun Went Off" \* strike at the gut as effectively as the simple parable "Once Upon a Time," which tells of a family caged in by its fear. Highly recommended. Previewed in Prepub Alert, LJ 5/1/91.

- Rita Ciresi, *Pennsylvania State Univ., University Park*

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From Kirkus Reviews

As usual, a sharp-eyed record of human flaws from Gordimer (*My Son's Story*, 1990, etc.) in this, her latest collection of short fiction. Gordimer, whose eye for detail and nose for current pathologies is as keen and cold as a clinician's, is, here, less thematically coherent and less politically certain. The stories, with few exceptions, are mostly about the interregnum that is now South Africa. Some--like "The Moment Before the Gun Went Off," in which a white farmer accidentally kills his beloved but unacknowledged black son, and "What Were You Dreaming?," in which white liberals encounter a derelict black alcoholic--are reworkings of by-now too-familiar themes. In the title story, a young Portuguese man sits in a hotel room in Mozambique remembering. Born in Mozambique, he had joined the counterrevolution but was sickened by the sight of black refugees--the victims of his side's policies--yet cannot forget the terrible things he has seen: "...the orphaned children running in packs round the rubbish dumps, the men without ears and the women with a stump where there was an arm." In "Comrades," a liberal white woman brings some young blacks to her house for a meal but realizes as she talks to them that nothing else but hunger is real. Perhaps the most horrifying story is "Once Upon a Time," which begins as a children's story but soon becomes a disturbing morality tale about the inevitability of horrific death for a white South African family trying to shut out the terrifying world with more and more walls and gadgets. Once again, vintage Gordimer--as always intelligent, if a little too cool-eyed and restrained in the telling. -- *Copyright ©1991, Kirkus*

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## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **William Riser:**

The experience that you get from Jump and Other Stories is a more deep you digging the information that hide into the words the more you get thinking about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to be aware of but Jump and Other Stories giving you buzz feeling of reading. The article author conveys their point in specific way that can be understood through anyone who read it because the author of this publication is well-known enough. This specific book also makes your vocabulary increase well. That makes it easy to understand then can go along with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We highly recommend you for having this Jump and Other Stories instantly.

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