

## Blue Umbrella By Ruskin Bond Story

'I had placed one [owl] on a branch of the mango tree, and was stooping to pick up the other, when I received quite a heavy blow on the back of my head. A second or two later, the mother owl swooped down at Grandfather, but he was agile enough to duck out of its way.' This is a collection of Ruskin Bond's 'small town' stories. Meet Ranji's wonderful bat which is his lucky charm, along with wacky parrots, ostriches, owls and a number of idiosyncratic characters in other stories. Hold your breath as Romi cycles through a raging forest fire and follow the Boy Scouts on delightful adventures. Lose yourself in timeless romantic classics 'The Eyes Have It' and 'Time Stops at Shamli' and savour the bittersweetness of 'The Blue Umbrella'. Owls in the Family will take you on a journey through childhood and youth-through romance and thrill, leaving you enchanted with Bond's beautiful world.

Binya, a young girl living in rural India, trades her leopard-claw necklace for a dainty blue umbrella, but the local tea shop proprietor wants the umbrella for his own.

An enchanting collection of stories from the heartland of India Ruskin Bond's simple characters, living amidst the lush forests of the Himalayan foothills, are remarkable for their quiet heroism, courage and grace, and age-old values of honesty and fidelity. Residents of nondescript villages and towns, they lead lives that are touched by natural beauty as well as suffering—the loss of a loved parent, unfulfilled dreams, natural calamities, ghostly visitations, a respected teacher turned crooked, strangers who make a nuisance of themselves—which only reinforces their abiding faith in God, family and neighbour. Told in Bond's distinctive style, these stories are a magnificent evocation of an India that may be fast disappearing.

Since his childhood; Arun has secretly been in love with Susanna; his dangerously alluring neighbour; who becomes his friend despite the wide difference in their ages. But Susanna has a weakness for falling in love with the wrong men. Over the years; Arun watches as Susanna becomes notorious as the merry widow who flits from one marriage to another; leaving behind a trail of dead husbands. It is only a matter of time before he too begins to wonder if there is any truth to the slanderous gossip surrounding the woman he is in love with. In this gripping new novella of love and death; Bond revisits his previously published short story of the same name; included here in an appendix. This edition also features the screenplay Saat Khon Maaf; based on this novella and written by award-winning film-maker Vishal Bhardwaj and Matthew Robbins.

Rusty the Boy from the Hills

The Tunnel

Grandma's Bag of Stories

Letters to My Ex

The Whistling Schoolboy and Other Stories of School Life

*His father's over expectations only ruined his self-confidence further with each failure. A ray of hope walked into his life as his wife, a charismatic personality spreading joy wherever she went. Everything is going per plan, but darkness comes knocking soon. He finds out that she does not have much time to live and takes it upon himself to fight all odds - even his family, if need be - to help her fight her medical condition. His father sees his own redemption in helping them; he knows his son will be a winner only if he will fight for her, with her. Will a defeated son prove himself to be a good husband? Will the father-son duo together be able to change the course of fate? Her Last Wish is an inspiring story of love, relationships and sacrifice, which proves once again how a good wife makes the best husband.*

*In the five years of his life that this book traces, Rusty's story is taken forward to his adolescent years. His world is turned topsy-turvy as many upheavals besiege him. After his father and grandmother pass away in quick succession, the twelve-year-old is left in the care of a guardian, Mr Harrison, in Dehra. But after a mysterious incident involving his stepfather and the gardener, he is sent away to boarding school. Restlessness compels him to run away from school, with an ambition to travel the world. But the plan fails, and he is soon back in Dehra, with his strict guardian. Rusty is now seventeen. He rebels and leaves home again, this time for good. Adventurous and thought-provoking, Rusty Runs Away is a book that children and young adults everywhere will enjoy.*

*The Blue Umbrella*

*Great Stories for Children is a collection of some of Ruskin Bond's most delightful children's stories. It stars Toto, the monkey, who takes a fancy to the narrator's aunt, much to her dismay, a python besotted by his own appearance, a mischievous ghost who enjoys stirring up the house when things get dull, three young children stranded in a storm on the Haunted Hilland Ruskin Bond himself, who happens to make the acquaintance of a ghost at a resort late one night.*

*Her Last Wish*

*Blue Umbrella*

*Thoughts on Writing*

*The Magic of the Lost Temple*

*Lone Fox Dancing*

**Ruskin Bond wrote his first short story, 'Untouchable', at the age of sixteen, and has written memorable fiction ever since. He is famous not only for his love of the hills, but for imbuing the countryside with life and vibrancy through moving descriptions. The simple people who inhabit his stories evoke sympathy and laughter in equal measure. This wonderful collection of seventy stories, including classics like 'A Face in Dark', 'The Kitemaker', 'The Tunnel', 'The Room of Many Colours', 'Dust on the Mountain' and 'Times Stops at Shamli', is a must-have for any bookshelf.**

**When ten-year-old Binya becomes the proud owner of the most beautiful blue umbrella in the world, her happiness knows no bounds. The umbrella becomes her constant companion and protector. But there are others, in the village, who would also like the umbrella for their own and will go to great lengths to get it. Sita lives with her grandparents on a tiny island in the middle of a river. One day, when her grandparents are away the river begins to rise. The friendly stretch of water becomes an angry, rushing flood and Sita watches as her beloved home is washed away. Will she be able to save herself? The Blue Umbrella and The Angry River, two wonderful stories from one of India's most loved storytellers, Ruskin Bond.**

**Childhood. A time of endless adventures and daring discoveries. A time when the worlds all its Attendant**

**fantasies, some good, some not so much--open up in front of the curious little eyes of impressionable minds. A time of both wonderment and bewilderment, and topsy-turvy tales. In this book, Ruskin Bond compiles just some such stories that he loved from his childhood. Join the mad Hatter in his crazy tea party and then rush off with Sindbad the sailor on another of his escapades. Meander with Mowgli and his furry friends in the jungles or be party to the legend of the Pied Piper of Hamelin. A world of wonder awaits.**

**City girl Noonni is surprised at the pace of life in her grandparents' village in Karnataka. But she quickly gets used to the gentle routine there and involves herself in a flurry of activities, including papad making, organizing picnics and learning to ride a cycle, with her new-found friends. Things get exciting when Noonni stumbles upon an ancient fabled stepwell right in the middle of a forest. Join the intrepid Noonni on an adventure of a lifetime in this much-awaited book by Sudha Murty that is heart-warming, charming and absolutely unputdownable.**

**Rain in the Mountains**

**Binya's Blue Umbrella**

**Signed As Rusty**

**Susanna's Seven Husbands**

In Ruskin Bond's stories, ghosts, jinns, witches and the occasional monster are as real as the people he writes about. This collection brings together all of his tales of the paranormal, opening with the unforgettable, "A Face in the Dark", and ending with the shockingly macabre, "Night of the Millennium". Featuring thrilling situations and strange beings, A Face in the Dark and Other Hauntings is the perfect collection to have by your bedside when the moon is up.

Over sixty years, for numerous readers--of all ages; in big cities, small towns and little hamlets--Ruskin Bond has been the best kind of companion. He has entertained, charmed and occasionally spooked us with his books and stories, and opened our eyes to the beauty of the everyday and the natural world. He has made us smile when our spirits are low, and steadied us when we've stumbled. Now, in this brilliantly readable autobiography--his book of books--one of India's greatest writers shows us the roots of everything he has written. He begins with a dream and a gentle haunting, before taking us to an idyllic childhood in Jamnagar by the Arabian Sea--where he composed his first poem--and New Delhi in the early 1940s--where he found material for his first short story. It was a brief period of happiness that ended with his parents' separation and the untimely death of his beloved father. A search for companionship and security, undercut by a fierce independence and a tendency for risk-taking, would inform every choice he made for the rest of his life. With effortless intimacy and candour, Bond recalls his boarding school days in Shimla and winter holidays in Dehradun, when he tried to come to terms with a sense of abandonment, made friends, discovered great books and found his true calling. Determined to be a writer, he spent four difficult years in England, from 1951 to 1955, and he writes poignantly of his loneliness there, even as he kept his promise to himself and produced a book--the classic novel of adolescence, The Room on the Roof. It was born of his longing for 'the atmosphere that was India'--the home he would return to even before the novel was published, taking a gamble that would prove to be the best decision he made. In the final, glorious section of the autobiography, he writes about losing his restlessness and settling down in the hills of Mussoorie, surrounded by generous trees, mist and sunshine, birdsong, elusive big cats, new friends and eccentrics--and a family that grew around him and made him its own. Full of anecdote, warmth and gentle wit; often deeply moving and always with a magnificent sense of time and place--and containing over fifty photographs, some of them never seen before--Lone Fox Dancing is a book of understated, enduring magic, like Ruskin Bond himself.

A gun-toting, violin-playing headmaster A homicidal barber A hungry leopard and about a hundred frogs on the loose Boys with a talent for pranks and jokes Mr Oliver, a history teacher, arrives in Simla with a trainload of hungry boys to start a new term at the prep school. As he records the antics of the amazing characters there, and all that they get up to, we quickly realize that there is never a dull moment. A fire, a missing Headmaster and runaway students make sure that not a day goes by when Mr Oliver has nothing to report in his diary. He writes about the eccentric teachers, the girls' school next door and the lovely Anjali Ramola, whom he secretly admires. Laugh-out-loud funny, with a core of old-world charm that is trademark Bond, Mr Oliver's Diary has stories and characters that have never appeared anywhere before. With his runaway wig, pet shrew and endearing dry wit, Mr Oliver is sure to become as well-loved as those other vintage Ruskin Bond characters, Uncle Ken and Rusty.

In exchange for her lucky leopard's claw pendant, Binya acquires a beautiful blue umbrella that makes her the envy of everyone in her village, especially Ram Bharosa, the shop-keeper. Ruskin Bond's short and humorous novella, set in the picturesque hills of Garhwal, perfectly captures life in a village, where both heroism and redemption can be found.

The Spooky Art

Lucknow Diaries

The Great Train Journey

The Fictional World of Ruskin Bond

Classic Tales for Children

**The steam engine shot out of the tunnel, snorting and puffing like a green, black and gold dragon, a beautiful monster out of Ranji's dreams . . . Fascinated by the midday train, Ranji would find himself waiting near the tunnel to catch a glimpse of the engine come roaring out of it. But the tunnel has more surprises for him. From a jungle full of lush green trees comes a timeless tale of unexpected friendship, curiosity, duty and wildlife. Peppered with delightful illustrations, Ruskin Bond brings to his readers another heart-warming story packaged as a charming chapter book--a perfect introduction for beginners to the world of India's favourite writer!**

**A collection of Ruskin Bond's six novels evoking nostalgia for time gone by This collection of six novels sparkles with the quiet charm and humanity that are the hallmarks of Ruskin Bond's writing. Evoking nostalgia for a time gone by, these poignant chronicles of life in India's hills and small towns describe the hopes and passions that capture young minds and hearts, highlighting the uneasy reconciliation of dreams and destiny. The six novels included in the collection are: The Room on the Roof, Vagrants in the Valley, Delhi Is Not Far, A Flight of Pigeons, The Sensualist, A Handful of Nuts.**

**Unforgettable Stories For Children From The Masterly Pen Of R.K. Narayan After The Stupendous Success Of Malgudi Schooldays, R.K. Narayan S Chronicle Of The Escapades Of Swami And His Friends, Comes Malgudi Adventures, Which Contains More Delightful Stories Of Children S Adventures In The Magical South Indian Small Town Of Malgudi. There Are The Memorable Stories Of Babu, Who, In Trying To Set Up The Lights For His Sisters Navaratri Display, Manages To Plunge The Entire Household Into Darkness; Of A Snake Charmer Boy Who Grows Up With A Monkey Named Rama As His Companion; And Of Raju, Who Decides To Become A Guide When A Train Station Is Built At Malgudi. Also Included Are The Fascinating Stories Of Balu, Who Dumps His Father S Accounts Ledger In The Gutter; Of A Little Boy Who Finds Himself Lost On The Streets Of Malgudi Late One Night; Of Chandran, Who Falls Head Over Heels In Love On The Banks Of The Sarayu One Evening; And Of The Hilarious Sequence Of Events That Unfolds When Raja The Tiger Decides To Seek Refuge In The Local School.**

**Read about the many legends surrounding the Yamuna and Ganga, as well as little-known rivers like the Suswa; about Bisnu, a child of nature, who is forced to move to the town of Musoorie after a bad spell of draught; and about a sprightly young girl called Bina, who along with her friends, goes on many an adventure in the hills, which turn out to be lessons in bravery and friendship.**

**Of Love and Longing**

**THE ROOM ON THE ROOF**

**BOYHOOD DREAMS AND OTHER TALES**

**Owls in the Family**

**Notes from the Himalayas**

A CLASSIC COMING-OF-AGE STORY WHICH HAS HELD GENERATIONS OF READERS SPELLBOUND Rusty, a sixteen-year-old Anglo-Indian boy, is orphaned, and has to live with his English guardian in the claustrophobic European part in Dehra Dun. Unhappy with the strict ways of his guardian, Rusty runs away from home to live with his Indian friends. Plunging for the first time into the dream-bright world of the bazaar, Hindu festivals and other aspects of Indian life, Rusty is enchanted . . . and is lost forever to the prim proprieties of the European community. This special edition marks the 60th anniversary of this award-winning book, written when the author was just seventeen. Poignant, heart-warming and an absolute classic, this book is forever a joy to read.

Rain in the Mountains brings together some of Ruskin Bond ' s most beautiful works from his years spent in the foothills of the Himalayas in the town of Mussoorie. Through vivid images and lucid writing, Bond evokes the everyday sights and sounds, and captures the essence of mountain life. The musings on his natural habitat, in both prose and poetry, offer a view of that simple and affable world. Some of his writings featured in the book are ' Once Upon a Mountain Time ' , ' Sounds I Like to Hear ' , ' How Far Is the River ' and ' After the Monsoon ' . Rain in the Mountains will transport the reader into the quiet world of the mountains, lit with an eternal charm.

Who can resist a good story, especially when it ' s being told by Grandma? From her bag emerges tales of kings and cheats, monkeys and mice, bears and gods. Here comes the bear who ate some really bad dessert and got very angry; a lazy man who would not put out a fire till it reached his beard; a princess who got turned into an onion; a queen who discovered silk, and many more weird and wonderful people and animals. Grandma tells the stories over long summer days and nights, as seven children enjoy life in her little town. The stories entertain, educate and provide hours of enjoyment to them. So come, why don ' t you too join in the fun.

Rusty is a quiet, imaginative and sensitive boy who lives with his grandparents in pre-Independence Dehra Dun. Though he is not the adventurous himself, the strangest and most extraordinary things keep happening around him. The house in Dehra is full of strange creatures. Rusty has to deal with everything from his grandfather ' s pet python to the ever-inventive Uncle Ken. Visiting his father in wartime Java, Rusty narrowly escapes enemy bombardment, and survives a plane crash in the Arabian Sea. Back in India, he spends his time encountering a ghost in the garden and recreating his grandmother ' s youthful days from an old photograph. Then, something totally unexpected happens and Rusty is forced to leave Dehra, his future uncertain ... This volume of Rusty stories, the first in a series, traces Rusty ' s development from early childhood to his early teens and is a riveting read for younger and older children alike.

Angry River

Living Spirituality

Classic Ruskin Bond

The Cherry Tree

How to Be a Writer

***The subject of spirituality has become an elusive one. And with so many paths, ideologies, beliefs, masters, and gurus, where each is convinced of their superiority, it has become impossible to know what amounts to true spirituality. Living Spirituality has been written to remove this veil of confusion and distortion that shrouds spirituality and put the control back into your hands. The author offers a deeply insightful and rational understanding of the subject that aims to clarify and illuminate the truly spiritual life. Not only that, but the book also addresses various queries and tribulations that one is bound to confront when on a spiritual journey. This includes: • Do we need a master or guru to be on the path of spirituality? • How can we bridge the gap between spirituality in words and spirituality in one's actions? • What makes spirituality different from philosophy and religion? • What is the difference between spirituality and escapism? . . . and many more The central theme of the book is to make spirituality accessible. Living Spirituality is a thought-provoking book that will confront our preconceived ideas, capture our souls, and direct our lives towards the true essence of spirituality.***

***As soon as Binya saw the beautiful blue silk umbrella, she wanted it. She wanted it so badly that she was willing to give her lucky leopard's claw pendant in exchange. No-one in the village had such a fine umbrella, and everywhere Binya went the umbrella went too. Gradually it faded to a pale blue, and was patched in several places, but there was still many who envied Binya her treasured possession. And the most envious of them all was old Ram Bharosa, the shopkeeper, who decided that by some means he must own the blue umbrella.***

***Dreams-what are they made of? One spoon of hope, a scoop of passion and a drizzle of fantasy! It is the quickest escape route to our happy place-where the fountain of joy is never-ending. Ask just about anyone, and see them telling you their***

*deepest desires with misty eyes and soft smiles... Just like Kamal, a lanky young boy, selling knick-knacks on the streets of Shahganj for a living. Resilient as a tree, he smiles through his misfortunes and has big dreams of going to bigger cities. Or Suraj, who's bored of town life but fascinated by the forest, its inhabitants and the night mail, and comes back again and again to listen to the tales woven by the forest watchman. Or like the pair of quirky oddballs at a boarding school in Shimla who become best of friends, and dream of escaping the violence of the Partition through a secret tunnel... Bringing together the finest writings of Ruskin Bond, Boyhood Dreams and Other Tales will enchant those who dream with their eyes open!*

*"Writing is spooky," according to Norman Mailer. "There is no routine of an office to keep you going, only the blank page each morning, and you never know where your words are coming from, those divine words." In The Spooky Art, Mailer discusses with signature candor the rewards and trials of the writing life, and recommends the tools to navigate it. Addressing the reader in a conversational tone, he draws on the best of more than fifty years of his own criticism, advice, and detailed observations about the writer's craft. Praise for The Spooky Art "The Spooky Art shows Mailer's brave willingness to take on demanding forms and daunting issues. . . . He has been a thoughtful and stylish witness to the best and worst of the American century."—The Boston Globe "At his best—as artists should be judged—Mailer is indispensable, an American treasure. There is enough of his best in this book for it to be welcomed with gratitude."—The Washington Post "[The Spooky Art] should nourish and inform—as well as entertain—almost any serious reader of the novel."—Baltimore Sun "The richest book ever written about the writer's subconscious."—The Philadelphia Inquirer "Striking . . . entrancingly frank."—Entertainment Weekly Praise for Norman Mailer "[Norman Mailer] loomed over American letters longer and larger than any other writer of his generation."—The New York Times "A writer of the greatest and most reckless talent."—The New Yorker "A devastatingly alive and original creative mind."—Life "Mailer is fierce, courageous, and reckless and nearly everything he writes has sections of headlong brilliance."—The New York Review of Books "The largest mind and imagination [in modern] American literature . . . Unlike just about every American writer since Henry James, Mailer has managed to grow and become richer in wisdom with each new book."—Chicago Tribune "Mailer is a master of his craft. His language carries you through the story like a leaf on a stream."—The Cincinnati Post*

*Rusty Runs Away*

*A Face in the Dark and Other Hauntings*

*The Night Train at Deoli*

*Great Stories for Children*

*Rusty Comes Home*

Mani's Granny is seventy and can barely see through her old, scratched glasses. With only a hundred and fifty rupees in their pocket and a thirst for adventure, Mani and Granny set off to buy a new pair. On the way, they get drenched in rain, run into mules and encounter a terrible landslide. Will Granny ever be able to reach the town and get herself a new pair of glasses? This beautifully illustrated edition brings alive the magical charm of one of Ruskin Bond's most unforgettable tales.

Rusty Comes Home chronicles Rusty's exploits after his return from London, as he explores Delhi, Dehra and the small, dusty town of Shahganj before settling down in Mussoorie, making his living as a writer, revelling in his beloved hills. This collection contains some captivating stories about Rusty's friends and fleeting acquaintances, about human nature and the supernatural. He meets a motley bunch of people including Suresh, a disabled child with whom Rusty strikes up a close bond, Uncle Bill, who makes it his habit to poison people with arsenic, and the incredible Jimmy, a jinn who can extend his arms at will to infinite lengths. Full of charming and idiosyncratic characters, these stories of love, loss and adventure will appeal to readers of all ages.

Rakesh plants a cherry seedling in his garden and watches it grow. As seasons go by, the small tree survives heavy monsoon showers, a hungry goat that eats most of the leaves and a grass cutter who splits it into two with one sweep. At last, on his ninth birthday, Rakesh is rewarded with a miraculous sight—the first pink blossoms of his precious cherry tree! This beautifully illustrated edition brings alive the magical charm of one of Ruskin Bond's most unforgettable tales.

'It feels like I'm on autopilot; I have no control over anything. The pain of losing you is so crippling that I can barely hold pieces of myself together. The slightest nudge could break me. But somehow, my possessed brain knows what I need. It's telling me to stick to my choice, to stay away from you, to open a Word document and bleed on paper, try to throw up all my jumbled thoughts in form of words, collect all disconnected facts, try to make sense of it all.' From the bestselling author of Like a Love Song and Every Time It Rains, a story of heartbreak and things left unsaid...

Complete and Unabridged

Getting Granny's Glasses

The Blue Umbrella

Collected Short Stories

Malgudi Adventures

**Ruskin Bond, b. 1934, Indo-English litterateur.**

**Writing for me is the simplest and greatest pleasure in the world. How to be a Writer is peppered with nuggets of practical advice for every person who is aspiring to write and be published, all told in Ruskin Bond's characteristic understated, tongue-in-cheek, humorous style. So, what is it that a person requires the most to become a writer? A love of books, of language, of life, an observant eye and a good memory along with enthusiasm, optimism and persistence. This book is an exclusive glimpse into the writing credo of Ruskin Bond, an author who has had an incredibly successful writing career spanning over seventy years.**

**Ruskin Bond has been writing stories for children for over six decades now, delighting and enchanting each new generation of readers with his heart-warming tales of friendship, love and coming-of-age. Curated in this essential collection are some of his best-loved stories, designed to introduce the young reader to Ruskin's cast of beloved characters - from the irrepressible Rusty, with his constant thirst for adventure, to his Grandfather, with his overflowing kindness towards all creatures great and small, from the resolute Bina, who braves a leopard to walk to school, to Suraj and Sunder Singh, who become unlikely friends. Including classic tales such as 'The Girl on the Train',**

**'Coming Home to Dehra', 'The Room of Many Colours' and 'The Blue Umbrella', in turns funny, touching, whimsical and nostalgic, this collection is a must-read for children and adults alike.**

**Collected Stories of the Supernatural**

**Tales of Long Ago**

**STORIES FROM MY CHILDHOOD**

**Mr Oliver's Diary**

**The Essential Collection for Young Readers**