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The Happy Prince and Other Tales

Oscar Wilde · *1888 · original English text*

HIGH above the city, on a tall column, stood the statue of the Happy Prince. He was gilded all over with thin leaves of fine gold. The hosted volume is complete in five tales, from the Happy Prince to the Remarkable Rocket.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

What is a happy prince worth, once he can see the city from a tall column, and what do five short tales make of beauty, pity, and a heart that can be given away?

"HIGH above the city, on a tall column, stood the statue of the Happy Prince."

The Happy Prince, the opening

The hosted text is The Happy Prince and Other Tales (1888; this text from the 1910 seventh impression, PG #902), complete in all five tales: The Happy Prince, The Nightingale and the Rose, The Selfish Giant, The Devoted Friend, and The Remarkable Rocket. The site header itself says the coverage is complete. The opening is exact, including "HIGH above the city." A complete short collection, excellent for a wide band, of pity, sacrifice, and satire; the Selfish Giant is openly Christian in its close. Quote this typography.

KEY CHARACTERS

the Happy Prince
The gilded statue high above the city, who learns to see and to give.

the Swallow
The bird of the first tale, who stays and carries the gifts.

the Selfish Giant
The garden's owner in the third tale, whose close is Christian as Wilde wrote it.

the tellers of the last satires
The Devoted Friend and the Remarkable Rocket, who complete the five.

HIGH ABOVE THE CITY

> *"HIGH above the city, on a tall column, stood the statue of the Happy Prince."*
>
> The Happy Prince

Grades 3–8
Read the full text free at classicslaunch.org.

01

High Above the City

THE HAPPY PRINCE, THE OPENING

HIGH above the city, on a tall column, stood the statue of the Happy Prince, gilded all over with thin leaves of fine gold, with sapphires for eyes and a ruby on his sword-hilt. The first tale begins as a public beauty.

- The first sentence is exact in both witnesses, including 'HIGH above the city.'
- The first tale is one of five, not the whole book.
- Cite this typography.

> *"HIGH above the city, on a tall column, stood the statue of the Happy Prince."*
>
> The Happy Prince

02

A Swallow, and a Given Heart

THE HAPPY PRINCE, CONTINUED

A swallow and a statue learn to see the city's poor, and to give what the gold and the jewels had only shown. The first tale's pity is the collection's first law.

- Teach the giving as Wilde writes it, not as a mere sentiment.
- A wide band can read this with help.
- The statue and the bird are the first tale's pair.

03

Nightingale, Giant, Friend, Rocket

THE OTHER FOUR TALES

The Nightingale and the Rose, the Selfish Giant, the Devoted Friend, and the Remarkable Rocket complete the five. Love, a garden, a false friendship, and a vain firework are four more laws.

- Keep the five distinct.
- The Selfish Giant is openly Christian in its close; teach it as written.
- The Devoted Friend and the Rocket are satires as well as tales.

04

Five Tales, Complete

THE HOSTED FILE

PG #902 and the site EPUB are this complete five-tale book (1910 impression of the 1888 collection). The site header states the coverage is complete. Quote stretches that appear in both.

- Five tales, complete.
- Excellent for a wide band.
- The opening typography is 'HIGH above the city.'

Pity | A Public Beauty | A Gift Given Away | Five Tales | A Garden and a Close

What to watch for as you read

GRADES 3–8

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2. A complete short collection, excellent for a wide band. The Selfish Giant is openly Christian in its close; teach it as written. Quote this typography.
3. Quote stretches that appear in both the Gutenberg text and the site EPUB.

Quotations are verbatim from the original English text, Project Gutenberg #902, the public-domain text hosted at classicslaunch.org/works/the-happy-prince-and-other-tales/. Citations give book and chapter (or canto and line) so every line can be checked.