



The Thanksgiving Visitor

Truman Capote

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

The Thanksgiving Visitor

Truman Capote

The Thanksgiving Visitor Truman Capote

Another masterpiece by the great American writer, Truman Capote, is brought to an audience of all ages. Buddy and his closest friend, his eccentric elderly cousin, Miss Sook--the memorable characters from Capote's A Christmas Memory--love preparing their old country house for Thanksgiving. But this year, there's trouble in the air. Full color illustrations.

The Thanksgiving Visitor Details

Date : Published September 17th 1996 by Knopf Books for Young Readers (first published 1967)

ISBN : 9780679838982

Author : Truman Capote

Format : Hardcover 37 pages

Genre : Fiction, Classics, Short Stories, Holiday, Literature, American, Southern, Christmas, Adult, Childrens, Juvenile

 [Download The Thanksgiving Visitor ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Thanksgiving Visitor ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Thanksgiving Visitor Truman Capote

From Reader Review The Thanksgiving Visitor for online ebook

Chadijah Mastura says

wow, this is a fast-reading book, yet could claw you down. well, i start to enjoy and understand capote, and i admire the character of Miss Sook, his cousin, an old-woman who was so pure and naive, isolated and awkward to other human, and yet so open and touched by the humanity itself in her own sweet way. you'd learn how violence, humiliation and embarrassment could effect the goodness in you, yet if dealt in a clear and pure-hearted way, they could shape you up to be a better human with far-fetched understanding, too.

Clif Hostetler says

This is a heart warming lesson on the virtues of loving your enemy and being kind to those who persecute you. It's an autobiographical story from the author's childhood which I presume is mostly true, subject to the usual limitations of any memoir. It is a long short story--or is it a short long story? I read it in one hour.

Laura says

Review to follow by my 10 year old.

Henry Martin says

When I found this in the "children" section at a local library, I was not expecting much more than a read-aloud Thanksgiving story. What I got instead was a fine piece of literature.

Right off the start there is action. The story itself is rather simple (on the surface), but has some rather interesting aspects to it. Set against the background of the Great Depression, we get:

- A dark theme
- A vicious bully
- A dysfunctional family
- A simpleton
- Realism
- Thoughts of running away
- Thoughts of suicide
- Confrontation without resolution (in the optimal terms)
- An ending that is not happy or sad, but brings a closure

I'd say we have enough for a pretty darn good story. Where Capote shines though, and this is what makes this little book stand out, is his prose. Well-crafted sentences, punctuation, his choice of words...Capote was a great writer.

While some of the themes made it unsuitable for my intended audience, I resumed reading later and enjoyed the book all by myself.

Connie says

Truman Capote (Buddy) lived with a group of older cousins when he was seven years old. He was especially close to Miss Sook, a simple, innocent elderly cousin who radiated kindness and empathized with the less fortunate. When Miss Sook invites Buddy's impoverished schoolyard tormenter to Thanksgiving dinner, her act of compassion has an impact on both boys. Miss Sook was far from simple when it came to understanding the emotional needs of children.

This was a Moderator's Choice for the "On the Southern Literary Trail" group.

Cynthia Egbert says

Truman Capote can WRITE! I love this story and the reminders it offers of what it really means to be a good person and how we need to work to walk that mile in another person's shoes. This should be a Thanksgiving classic for most families. It is shelved with the children's books but should be read as a family as the language is rich and it warrants discussion. A few nice quotes:

"No. I never have hated. We're allotted just so much time on earth, and I wouldn't want the Lord to see me wasting mine in any such manner."

"The next morning I had a bad cold, which was pleasant; it meant no school. It also meant I could have a fire in my room and cream of tomato soup and hours alone with Mr. Micawber and David Copperfield: the happier to stayabeds."

"'Chrysanthemums', my friend commented as we moved through our garden stalking flower-show blossoms with decapitating shears, 'are like lions. Kingly characters. I always expect them to spring. To turn on me with a growl and a roar.' It was the kind of remark that caused people to wonder about Miss Sook, though, I understand that only in retrospect, for I always knew just what she meant, and in this instance, the whole idea of it, the notion of lugging all those growling gorgeous roaring links into the house and caging them in tacky vases (our final decorative act on Thanksgiving Eve) made us so giggly and giddy and stupid we were soon out of breath."

piperitapitta says

Un'altra Dolly

Breve e delicato racconto in cui un'altra eterea e impalpabile Dolly impartisce ad un altro tenero e insicuro Collin la prima vera lezione della sua vita; mentre a noi Truman Capote insegna che si può essere un poeta anche scrivendo in prosa.

«Solo una cosa vorrei dirti Buddy. Due torti non fanno una ragione, mai. Lui ha fatto male a prendere il cammeo. Ma perché l'ha preso noi non lo sappiamo. Forse non gli è mai passato per la testa di tenercelo. Qualunque cosa lo abbia spinto a farlo, non poteva essere un'azione calcolata. Per questo ciò che hai fatto tu è stato molto peggio; tu hai calcolato di umiliarlo. È stata una cosa deliberata. Ascoltami bene Buddy: di

peccati imperdonabili ce n'è uno solo, la crudeltà deliberata. Tutto il resto si può perdonare. Questo, mai. Mi capisci, Buddy?»
La capivo, vagamente, e il tempo mi ha insegnato che aveva ragione.

Latanya (CraftyScribbles) says

In Capote's short story, he shares the adage of being kind to your bullies as they may suffer what you least observe. Never seek revenge or humiliation towards your enemy. Their hurt may be enough to get by without your aid.

At least, that's my spin on the emotional spike of this story.

Cheri says

A few years ago, I read Truman Capote's 'A Christmas Memory' and have wanted to read his Thanksgiving memoir, 'The Thanksgiving Visitor' since then, but things always seemed to be the wrong time of year (not close enough to Thanksgiving or too busy because of Thanksgiving.) This year presented an opportune time.

Set in the Great Depression, 1932, in rural Alabama, the story is centered on Buddy, a young school-age boy, and his friend, who is the youngest of his cousins, Miss Sook, in her sixties. Not only is she his friend, she is his first friend.

"As she was a child herself (many people thought her less than that, and murmured about her as though she were the twin of poor nice Lester Tucker, who roamed the streets in a sweet daze), she understood children, and understood me absolutely.

"Perhaps it was strange for a young boy to have as his best friend an aging spinster, but neither of us had an ordinary outlook or background, and so it was inevitable in our separate loneliness, that we should come to share a friendship apart."

Buddy's nemesis: Odd Henderson, a boy in his second grade class, held back twice after failing first grade.

"Talk about mean? Odd Henderson was the meanest human creature in my experience.

"And I'm speaking of a twelve-year-old boy, not some grownup who has had the time to ripen a naturally evil disposition. At least, Odd was twelve in 1932, when we were both second-graders attending a small-town school in rural Alabama."

At sixty-two pages, this is a quick, if somewhat dark but heart-warmingly charming story, a "frankly autobiographical" story based on Truman Capote's early life living with a family of his distant, elderly cousins in rural Alabama. The cover of the edition I own has a charming photograph of a very young Truman Capote with Miss Sook on the cover.

Kipp Normand says

I have an edition of this book from the 1970s that includes Capote's "A Christmas Memory" I read this every year during the holidays. Both stories are from Capote's childhood while he lived with distant relatives before being sent to military school. That may have been the only happy period in his life. This book makes me grateful at Thanksgiving and content at Christmas.

Ned says

We created a beautiful memory of this today. Having read the Christmas companion a few years' back, I splurged on a first edition of this and finally we cracked it today, on Thanksgiving. Our kids have left home, starting their own families, so my wife and I visited her parents in their retirement community. He was born near the time of this book, of meager means, so we appreciated the feel of the time and place. My mother in law is losing her sight, and taking it nobly being the beautiful person she is, so my father in law read it aloud in their little apartment in the retirement home. Today was unseasonably warm for Missouri, and the warm sun poured in through the open window, as did the sounds of families laughing below us in the courtyard. It was a poignant moment, as we are of an age (my wife and I are 58) where realize that time is precious and especially with the generation ahead of us. My father in law read wonderfully, with his slight southern accent (he lived most of his life in Kentucky).

The tale from the Capote is a sweet one, and autobiographical of his time with an elderly woman who got along better with children than adults. She taught the young Truman his life lessons, how to handle a bully (with love!) and the turns of a phrase were perfectly rendered. Capote's give for writing, and his unique upbringing, collide in an innocent little tale of his coming of age, and the elderly relatives and guests who arrive for Thanksgiving dinner. It is spellbinding, as it has conflict, resolution, and a moral lesson. But it is light, authentic, and hauntingly innocent.

We may read this again in the future, but a year from now will not as it is today, where we mere mortals enjoyed quiet kinship and simple joy in being together and loving each other.

Lawyer says

The perfect Thanksgiving story.

Eadie says

Book Description:

Illustrated in full color. Another masterpiece by the great American writer Truman Capote is brought to an audience of all ages. Buddy and his closest friend, his eccentric, elderly cousin, Miss Sook - the memorable characters from Capote's A Christmas Memory--love preparing their old country house for Thanksgiving. But there's trouble in the air. Odd Henderson, a scrawny, freckled, red-headed bully makes Buddy the target of his relentless torment. But Miss Sook only counsels patience and understanding, "He can't help acting ugly; he doesn't know any different," she says. Filled with emotions that are universal to both young readers and adults, this poignant story brings to life what we all should cherish and be thankful for--the gifts of

friendship and love. Enchanting illustrations by Beth Peck make The Thanksgiving Visitor a perfect companion for the holiday bookshelf.

My Review:

I enjoyed reading this short, easy to read, heartwarming tale of the joys of friendship and love. It is sure to be a Thanksgiving classic that is written with a beautiful message. I look forward to reading A Christmas Memory and One Christmas by Truman Capote in December. I would highly recommend this book to those who enjoy holiday message books.

PirateSteve says

A heart warming Thanksgiving memoir. Capote's happiest childhood moments were during his time spent in this "eccentric Alabama household" with four of his much older cousins. This story is set in the Great Depression era yet Capote's cousins can afford as many turkeys as needed for Thanksgiving dinner so the friends and family come from miles around to celebrate with them. The stand out cousin in this group is the 60ish-year-old Nanny Rumbley Faulk(Miss Sook) for she has become Capote's (Buddy) very first friend. Within this story Capote emphasizes the importance of family and friends as Miss Sook helps 8-year-old Buddy in his dealings with a local bully. A classic tale fit for people of all ages.

Soon after the first publishing of this story in 1967 it was made into a television movie. Filming took place in Alabama with Capote and members of his family present.

Geraldine Page won an Emmy for her portrayal as Miss Sook. What I liked most of all in this film is that Truman Capote narrates at times with readings from his book.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfkYV...>

page 57

Truman Capote/Buddy narrates

"Talk about mean! Odd Henderson was the meanest human creature in my experience."

"And I'm speaking of a twelve-year-old boy, ..."

page 60/61

Capote/Buddy narrates

"The house belonged to distant relatives, elderly cousins, and these cousins, three maiden ladies and their bachelor brother, had taken me under their roof ... this somewhat eccentric Alabama household. Not that I was unhappy there: indeed, moments of those few years turned out to be the happiest part of an otherwise difficult childhood, mainly because the youngest of the cousins, a woman in her sixties, became my first friend."

"Except for the hours I spent at school, the three of us, me and old Queenie, our feisty little rat terrier, and Miss Sook, as everyone called my friend, were almost always together."

page 78/79

Miss Sook to Buddy

"It made me feel ashamed, Buddy. It hurts me all the way down to see somebody struggling like Molly. Never able to see a clear day. I don't say people should have everything they want. Though, come to think of it, I don't see what's wrong with that, either. We really all of us ought to have everything we want. I'll bet you a dime that's what the Lord intends. And when all around us we see people who can't satisfy the plainest needs, I feel ashamed. The shame I feel is for all of us who have anything extra when other people have

nothing."

page 86

Capote/Buddy narrates

"However, everybody arrived earlier than we intended

Most of these people lived year-round in lonesome places hard to get away from: isolated farms, whistle-stops and crossroads, empty river hamlets or lumber-camp communities deep in the pine forests; so of course it was eagerness that caused them to be early, primed for an affectionate and memorable gathering."

page 87

Capote/Buddy narrates

"By noon, not another soul could be accommodated in the parlor, a hive humming with women's tattle ...

The odor of tobacco fanned out across the porch, where most of the men had clustered, despite the wavering weather ...

Tobacco was a substance alien to the setting; true, Miss Sook now and again secretly dipped snuff, a taste acquired under unknown tutelage and one she refused to discuss ... "

page 92

Capote/Buddy narrates

"Reading back, I see that I haven't thoroughly described Odd Henderson's ears -- a major omission, for they were a pair of eye-catchers ...

Now, because of Annabel's flattering receptivity to my friend's request, his ears became so beet-bright it made your eyes smart."

Chris says

1967 birthday read

Perfect for this time of year. Me thinks this is more of a personal essay rather than fictional. Dedicated to Harper Lee.
