



Tales from Margaritaville

Jimmy Buffett

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Margaritaville may not appear on a map, but it does exist--at least in the brilliantly creative, sometimes slightly skewed imagination of Jimmy Buffett. *Tales from Margaritaville* is a collection of short stories (some purely fiction, some based in truth) so vividly packed with restless dreamers, wild wanderers, and pure gypsy souls that just reading it is a wild adventure. Travel along with a cowboy named Tully Mars, as he heads from Heartache, Wyoming, to Graceland, and relive the autobiographical odyssey of a third-generation sailor and first-rate musical outlaw. With unforgettable stories that present the true roamer's twin loves--the sea and the road--*Tales from Margaritaville* is one "smooth sailing book of infinite imagination" (*Chicago Sun-Times*).

Tales from Margaritaville Details

Date : Published June 3rd 1989 by Fawcett (first published 1989)

ISBN : 9780156026987

Author : Jimmy Buffett

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From Reader Review Tales from Margaritaville for online ebook

Judi says

Reading TALES FROM MARGARITAVILLE is like being at a love-fest for the CD recordings "Songs You Know By Heart" and "Off to See the Lizard." In the story Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes, we meet Tully who is leaving Wyoming with his horse. Then there are the Heatwave Alabama tales: Off to See the Lizard, Boomerang Love and then finally the Son of a Son of a Sailor story.

I read this book a long time ago but it hasn't left my collection. When I run across the book while rearranging the bookshelves (i.e. hunting for another book), I sometimes stop and read a story again just for the fun of it. I'm not a parrot head, but I have been exposed to enough Buffett from sailing that I think its fun stuff, always great memories. Kate, a friend at work, is a fully qualified parrothead having attended at least twelve concerts AND she's still in her early twenties. Of course, she doesn't have her mother to blame for this. It is all in one's upbringing, I guess. Kate's opinion about this book? "enough already of the old stories." Well, I liked them.

Denise Spicer says

This 1989 collection of fiction and autobiographical short stories by celebrity author and singer/musician, Jimmy Buffett, are mainly vignette or slice-of- life type stories. Set primarily in the Gulf Coast or the Caribbean they have a tropical ambience and colorful, but not very well-developed, characters.

Bradley S. Mabe says

One of the best books I've ever read. It's on my "shelf of twelve" books that I go back to when I need inspiration or a laugh. These are short stories that weave into a kind of tapestry, or perhaps more of an area rug.

Kevin McGinn says

I'm a big Parrot Head and I enjoyed the book over all. A few chapters were like a guy with ADHD on speed and they made no sense. I liked how he would sneak in different song titles, album names and lyrics into the story! The Fruitcakes Album wasn't released until 1994 and he had a character named Desdemona who ran a bake shop.

Pamela(AllHoney) says

A collection of short stories by one of my favorite singers, Jimmy Buffett. For the most part the stories were

enjoyable and pleasant but not great and I guess I expected more laughs.

Sherry Fundin says

I have read some of Jimmy's books and I am a huge fan of his. You may label be a Parrothead and I will wear it with pride.

Tales from Margaritaville is a journey for dreamers and adventurers to let your imagination and your inner child run wild and free. Join us in this wonderfully fun walkabout with Jimmy Buffett.

Everyone asks, "Where is Margaritaville?" It is in the minds and souls of all us beach lovers.

We will spend a lot of time In Heat Wave, Alabama, we will also travel from the west to the east coast, visit Wyoming with Tully Mars and cruise the Carribean. You will meet the Swamp Creature, enjoy some football, play some golf and sail the seas.

You will smell the ocean and the swamp and feel the cool tropical breezes as we travel through the imagination of a third-generation sailor.

So many of the destinations are familiar. I have lived in Alabama, been to Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard, traveled to Cozumel, Isla Mujeres and Cancun, cruised the Carribean and had a cocktail or two at Pusser's in Tortola.

I loved it! It brought back many memories and gave me thoughts for the future. All the time I was reading, his songs were playing through my head and I had a smile on my face, even when I was worried about them being stranded on the seas in a terrible storm. I had confidence that Jimmy would prevail.

So, hop aboard and let the adventure begin!

Larry says

Great little collection of short stories. Buffet is as good a writer/story teller as he is a singer.

Stephanie Holcomb says

If you are a fan of Buffett's, you'll enjoy this book for about all it gives you. I found myself rolling my eyes whenever he pulled out a line or phrase from one of his books, and found some of the stories more interesting than others. They aren't consistent--it's like he decided he needed a love story here, a sports story there...I liked that he repeated characters we would meet in one story and write about them, so you got to know people, but some of the stories were trite and almost like he wrote them without any editing. I would have preferred if he didn't jump forward and then back and then forward again in time, but all in all I'm not sorry I read it.

More than once, the "I love you, but I have to live my own life" plot was used, food is often mentioned (and

in great detail) and of course the sea is always present almost as a character in and of itself.

Just not sure I'd recommend it to anyone but a true Parrothead.

Katharine says

I expected this to be a light but entertaining read. It was actually kind of boring and a little repetitive - a party breaks out after a sailing mishap or a storm and the main character drinks all night in an island bar with his newfound friends and beautiful women. Luckily, I only paid 50 cents for my copy of this book at a library book sale.

Patricia Orner says

I saw this quirky book in a secondhand bookshop and couldn't resist. After all, I'd been singing Jimmy Buffett songs while driving with the windows down for more years than I was willing to admit to, but I'd never bothered to read one of his books.

While there are a few pop culture references which will go way over the heads of anyone under the age of 30 and be hard to recollect for those a decade older, those bits of Google fodder didn't detract from what clearly comes through between the covers of the book: Buffett is one hell of a storyteller.

He weaves his tales, both short and long, with a bit of down home common sense mixed together with just enough of a hint of "Is he pulling my leg?" to keep it entertaining. His descriptions of the Keys and the sea and the nostalgia that comes with belonging to a place make you question where you call home and yearn to find it, if only for a moment.

And when I'd read the last page and closed the book, I was reminded of my favorite line from one of Buffett's songs ... "If we couldn't laugh we'd all go insane."

Calvin says

Not exactly a book I'd recommend

Keith Parrish says

This is a collection of short stories and recollections by everyone's favorite beach bum. Jimmy Buffett takes along the Gulf Coast where we meet an interesting collection of characters who intermingle through the narratives of the stories. Buffett obviously was inspired by growing up and living on the Gulf Coast and the people he invents are (I suspect) taken from his impressions of people he knew. They are a wild and varied bunch - a cowboy who takes his horse across country and across the Gulf, a hippy English teacher/football coach and his pet iguana, a snake whispering golf caddie among others. Buffett writes in a quick, accessible style - much like his music there is not a lot of depth, but there is always a lot of fun. The autobiographical

reflections that end the book are insightful because when you peel back the facade of Buffett's beach bum persona, you see a shrewd and extremely wealthy businessman. He regales us of stories of chilling on the beach with his guitar - on the Yucatan peninsula where he has just changed hotels because the first one was not to his taste; or aimlessly sailing among the Keys - in his own private boat; or swimming ashore in Cape Cod - from his private seaplane. A more cynical reader might think there is a bit hypocrisy to the image and the reality, but in the end, it really doesn't matter. In his music and his writing, Jimmy Buffett shows us a good time without our asking much of him and his not asking much of us. Symbiosis at its best.

Avid Series Reader says

Tales from Margaritaville (Fictional Facts and Factional Fictions) is a collection of short stories by Jimmy Buffett.

Stories read in random order, as part of the 2014 Deal Me In! Short Story Reading Challenge (bibliophilica.wordpress.com/deal-me-i...).

Take Another Road

A sweet story of wanderlust and fulfilled dreams. Tully Mars is an authentic Wyoming ranch cowboy, working cattle daily with his beloved trusty horse Mr. Twain, named after Tully's hero, author Mark Twain. When the ranch is sold to a phoney-baloney developer, Tully packs his belongings and hits the road with Mr. Twain, in search of the island paradise of his dreams. Tully is so genuine a person that he inspires true friendships with the people he meets on his journey. Tully is depressed by the commercialism of his hero's hometown Hannibal, Missouri and at Graceland, but he keeps going on his quest. He eventually is rewarded beyond his dreams. A heart-warming tale I enjoyed and recommend.

I Wish Lunch Could Last Forever

A pleasant, rambling tale of Isabella's life, from Saint-Pierre on Martinique to sailing the Caribbean with Captain Will from Nantucket, to working in a doll shop in New Orleans, her love affair with Slade Patterson, their trip to Snake Bite Key, and finally her specialty restaurant in Paris. Interesting and entertaining.

Walkabout

As an introduction to his short stories, Jimmy explains the aboriginal practice of walkabout, how he adopted it to satisfy his own wanderlust, and thereby had plenty of adventures to write about for this collection.

The Swamp Creature Let One In

Two good-old-boys in Louisiana with more money than brains bet on golf. A tale filled with drinking and local legends.

Where is Margaritaville?

A short introduction to the collection of short stories about boats, wanderlust, and relationships, inspired by Jimmy's boyhood dreams and fleshed out with his real-life experiences exploring the world.

Off to See the Lizard

Two women who own and operate a diner in their hometown are enthusiastic (obsessed) supporters of the high school sports team.

Boomerang Love

Long-ago lovers return to their hometown to experience a hurricane together.

The Pascagoula Run by Jimmy Buffett

A boy dreads an obligatory visit with relatives, until his uncle Billy makes the journey fun.

Lynette says

As a 30+ year parrot head, of course I loved this book – it's like getting the back-story into some of Jimmy's song lyrics. It's a rather random collection with the tie-in for the first set (The Heat Wave Chronicles) being the mythical island "Snake-Bite Key" off the coast of Alabama, and the over-all tie-in being the concept of Margaritaville... As I've known all along, Jimmy is a great story teller. I enjoyed the blend of fiction and autobiographical incidents. I wished for more conclusive resolution in several of the stories, but I'm sure this lack of closure is deliberate on Jimmy's part, as his philosophy tends to run to the idea that "it's never really over"...! The themes of wanderlust, realizing your dreams, self-actualization ring true with me. I have a couple of other Buffett novels waiting in my queue – I'm looking forward to seeing if/how his writing evolves.

Roo says

What a delightful read. Jimmy Buffett tells tall tales in a stream of consciousness kind of way. The sentences are long but flowing, and tongue-in-cheek. I was endeared to several of the characters including Mr. Twain, a very accommodating horse who went along with his owners whimsical road trip.

The settings ranged from Denver to Australia to Paris, but all centered around "Heatwave" and "Snake Bite Key" somewhere in the Florida Keys. How did they get those names? Through mythical folktales told about people who lived there.

Well told near tragic stories of boat trips out at sea, and of life on the road as a rock and roll legend.

I think differently now about Buffett, a very talented author as well as a songwriter.
