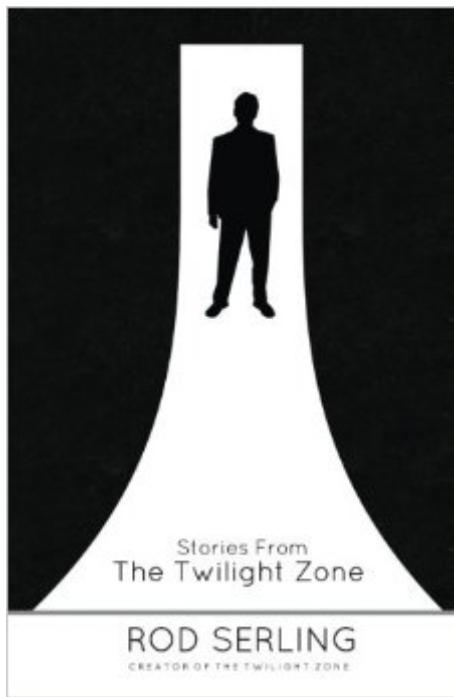


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# Stories From The Twilight Zone



## **Synopsis**

Rod Serling became a cultural icon of the 20th Century with his creation 'The Twilight Zone,' which more than 50 years later was nominated by the Writers Guild of America as the third best written television series of the past seventy years. Of the 156 Twilight Zone episodes, Serling wrote 92. In the early 1960s, Rod Serling, novelized nineteen (19) of his scripts and published them in three volumes - this is the first. In this volume, you will read about a baseball pitcher with magical powers; a self-centered hypochondriac; a nostalgic journey back to childhood; a self-righteous domineering husband getting his comeuppance; the panic of a man with no memory finding himself alone in an empty town; and the destructive combination of fear and mob mentality.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 176 pages

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform (June 30, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1490423915

ISBN-13: 978-1490423913

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (100 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #134,760 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #114 inÂ  Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Short Stories #308 inÂ  Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Anthologies #1195 inÂ  Books > Literature & Fiction > Short Stories & Anthologies > Anthologies

## **Customer Reviews**

I received my copies today of the new Rod Serling Books imprint of "Stories from the Twilight Zone," • "More Stories from the Twilight Zone" • and "New Stories from the Twilight Zone." • These are lovely books--from the spare design of the covers (I think by Anne Serling's son?), to the feel of these trade paper size volumes. The black and white motif is not lost on any fan of the TV program. Open the books and you'll discover pages that possess an inviting layout and easy to read font. These editions represent the care and thought of an artist, for the work of one of television's greatest artists. Then comes one of the best parts: new introductions written by Anne Serling that are filled with more vignettes of her father, and I find these as captivating as the prose of these familiar Twilight Zone episodes. I seem to can't learn enough about Rod Serling, who he was as a man and how he moved in the world, and these brief asides add more to what we

learned about her father in her gripping memoir, "As I Knew Him." I quickly turned to "The Monsters Are Due On Maple Street," the last story in the first volume, and within seconds found myself a fifteen year old again, reading that story for the first time in a paperback version. "Was it a Bantam edition? And I found myself shocked all over once more at the ending, recalling my first real experience of reading horror, with the gritty detail of a woman's high heel still as vivid, forty years later. In these stories, Rod Serling is allowed more range and greater depth with his prose than a 30-minute teleplay would ever allow; plus he has the advantage of displaying his work in the theatre of our minds, and that always trumps anything on a silver or HD screen. Kudos to Rod Serling Books for making these editions available again, and with such beauty, so they occupy not only that magical space in our imagination. "Rod Serling's favorite place to dwell" but a well-deserved place on our bookshelves, too.

Me, for one. I've searched all over for copies of Rod Serling's *Twilight Zone* stories. I had them as a teenager and wanted the opportunity to read some of the stories that I had seen so many times. Finding them available for Kindle as well as his *Night Gallery* stories was a stroke of good fortune. The first volume was wonderful. Serling's writing very much embraced pop culture often using brand names (a trait that you never see on the TV series) a younger reader may not recognize some of the references but I found them very nostalgic. Often his "novelizations" would include elements that were cut from production, most notably as the end of "The Monsters Are Due On Maple Street". These stories though a product of their time are timeless literature. What a great find at a fantastic price.

My father is a huge *Twilight Zone* fan, so I used to watch the Fourth of July *Twilight Zone* marathons with him when I was a kid and absolutely fell in love with them myself! As great as the TV show was, reading them in their story form makes it so much more enjoyable, I kind of wish I had read the stories first. A must read for any *Twilight Zone* fan. A DEFINITE MUST READ to anyone who is curious about the show but hasn't watched it.

I really enjoy *The Twilight Zone*--there's just something so economic in Rod Serling's storytelling that appeals to me. Not to mention some of the best plot twists in television history. I picked up this collection because I was interested to read what was added to the television episodes. Serling's stories do paint a deeper picture, but I'm not sure any of these stories were better than the original shows. More than once I felt the stories were dragging a bit, but I wonder if that might just be

because I already knew the endings. Overall, the stories were enjoyable. We're not talking about great literature here, but Serling does a good job at taking something familiar to the reader and giving it a little dose of weird. If you are familiar with the iconic Twilight Zone episodes covered by these stories, I would suggest perhaps taking a look at one of the other collections.

Without the constraints of a limited time frame in which to show the stories, Rod Serling is able to let us use our imagination to see the stories as they unfold through his words.

Well written and brought back memories of these stories. Rod was a wonderful story teller and had a great perspective on life.

These stories are absolutely incredible and so well written! As one of the other reviewers said, the stories are even better than the TV series in some respects because of how censored things were back in the 60s - I am pretty sure that some of the color and double entendres Rod Serling sometimes uses would not have made it on the air (however, I am 58 years old and my memory is not so good these days, so maybe they did and I just did not get it because of my age at the time...) There is introductory material by Rod's daughter at the beginning of the Kindle Book, which threw me a bit because I was expecting the stories to start immediately - it was interesting, but I thought it disrupted the flow of the book. The format of the stories is very much like the TV show was - Rod does his famous "hook" narration at the beginning, the story ensues, and then he does his famous "wrap up" narration at the end that delivers the message of the story, in case the viewer/reader has not already gotten it - always in the context of the Twilight Zone, of course. It even describes the camera work at the end, which is really cool! Anyone of ANY age will enjoy this book (or any others of this series, I suspect), but those in my age bracket will enjoy it especially. As I read the opening narrations and the closing narrations, I could actually SEE him standing there on TV in his suit and HEAR his very distinctively cadenced voice, and I could actually SEE the picture the camera was panning to at the end of the story! WOW - what an experience! Kudos to his daughter for making these stories available to us Rod Serling groupies!

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