

Reviewer: Jeremy Smiley

Staff Reviewer



Summer Dreams is a collection of short stories written by Rosemary Chaulk while vacationing in Florida. Some stories are funny, some sad, and some are dramatic. The stories I've read are about a typical vacation in Florida, but Rosemary takes this to the next level--bringing the reader with her (so-to-speak) on her vacation. In the story "The White Way," Wildflower chooses a career as a surveyor because of her love of the land. Ironically, Wildflower loses her life doing what she loved, for it was not the land but the disgruntled people that lived upon it. It is truly a dramatic story that ends with justice. In "Another Day," imagine having a beautiful home surrounded with serenity. You do everything right all your life, then, in a moment's time, you are about to lose what you loved and had become adapted to. You begin to yearn for another day--just another day to live the life you have become to know. My personal favorite is "Rose is on the beach." Rose is walking the beach, but something is wrong. Man-o-wars are lying upon the beach by the hundreds-- some dead, while others are dying. The ocean is very mysterious, for in the midst of the man-o-wars demise, there were long-stemmed roses scattered every few hundred

feet. It appeared as if the ocean itself was mourning the loss of the sea life lost to the land. The ocean is mysterious, very mysterious.

Society has singled out "bums," and society does everything possible to avoid them. In Ft. Lauderdale, there was a kindly fellow who seemed to fit the description of a so-called "bum," but not necessarily. There was something different about this one. He did not whine about life giving up on him; he appreciated life. This was a beautiful story but ends with an unknown tragedy.

When I read "Landlord Blues," it made me think of my life. The story itself made sense, for society can be cruel according to your wealth. The rich tend to look down upon the lower classes and rarely associate with them, defining the term "snobbery". The middle and lower classes tend to look out for one another, regardless of what they have, for they are "down to earth."

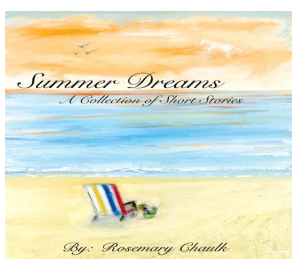
While reading "Leaving The Beach," it brought back many of my own personal memories. For instance, there is never enough time to do all that you want to do while on vacation. You always need a few more days and love it so much that you never want to leave.

In conclusion, Rosemary wrote about her personal experiences in Summer Dreams, such as personal friendships, hardships, triumphs, and the beauty of the beach and all it's wonders.

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Author— Rosmary Chalk
Websites

www.agpress.8m.com



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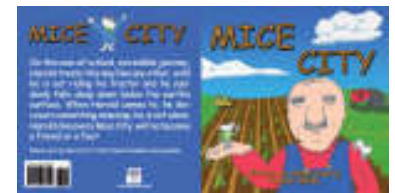
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Jeremy Smiley

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