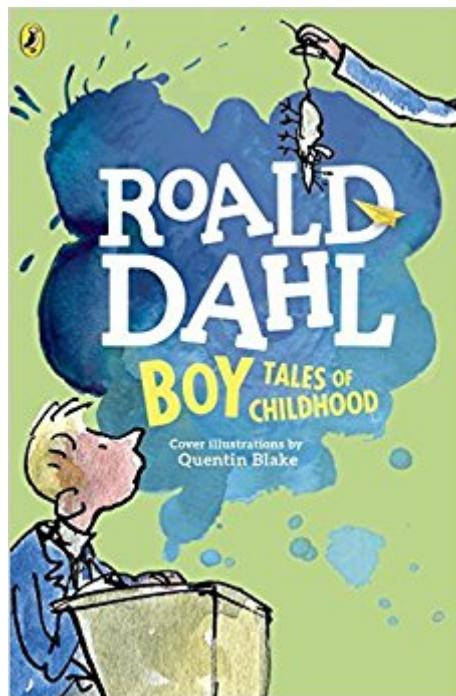


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# Boy: Tales Of Childhood



## **Synopsis**

Find out where the bestselling author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *The BFG* got all his wonderful story ideas in this autobiographical account of his childhood! From his own life, of course! As full of excitement and the unexpected as his world-famous, best-selling books, Roald Dahl's tales of his own childhood are completely fascinating and fiendishly funny. Did you know that Roald Dahl nearly lost his nose in a car accident? Or that he was once a chocolate candy tester for Cadbury's? Have you heard about his involvement in the Great Mouse Plot of 1924? If not, you don't yet know all there is to know about Roald Dahl. Sure to captivate and delight you, the boyhood antics of this master storyteller are not to be missed!

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 1020 (What's this?)

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Best Sellers Rank: #8,050 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Literary #12 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Abuse #17 in Books > Children's Books > Humor > General

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

Grade 4-7-Fans of Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, and *Matilda* will be entranced by actor Derek Jacobi's amusing and captivating narration of the formative years of Dahl's life. Listening to the boyhood antics of this world famous and best-selling author provides a glimpse into where he got some of the plot ideas and inspirations for his most popular books. Dahl's upbringing was, by any standard, eccentric. In *Boy* (FS&G, 1984), the first of his two autobiographical titles (the second is *Going Solo*), he details many of his more unusual boyhood adventures, such as almost losing his nose in a car accident, the "Great Mouse Plot" of

1924, and boarding school antics in prose that will leave listeners laughing out loud. Jacobi's wry delivery is completely unselfconscious, and his pacing is perfect. This audio treat will appeal to Dahl fanatics of all ages. Cindy Lombardo, Orrville Public Library, OH Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Teenage Dahl fans will be enthralled by his autobiographical stories, which...have the drama and macabre humor of his fiction...as bright and bizarre, as daring and delightful as any made-up adventure he ever described." --Booklist -- Review --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Roald went to a Welsh school for kindergarten. The teacher beat him with a cane. His mother then sent him to different English schools thinking they were the best schools in the world. But sadly, in every school he went to he was beaten with a cane either by teachers, headmasters, or boys with the title Boazer(Prefect). When Roald was a teen he was a star athlete. That usually would have made him a Boazer. But the administrators would not make him a Boazer since they knew he would not use a cane to beat younger boys. I think this was a horrible way of life in the schools back in the 1920s and 1930s. It was widespread. Many of the teachers and staff were cruel. Sometimes innocent boys were accused of things just to be able to punish them. To be caned, the boy had to pull his pants down. One Boazer was admired for his caning ability. He would hit the boy in the same spot repeatedly and often draw blood. The victim was required to stand with his pants down for several minutes while other boys would closely examine the caning bruises in minute detail. Of course his privates were also on display for all to examine. There were other stories that were interesting and did not make me as mad as the above. This is nonfiction - 25 short essays about events in the author's life from age 6 to age 20. DATA: Narrative mode: 1st person. Story length: 172 pages. Swearing language: none. Sexual content: none. Setting: mostly 1920s and 1930s Wales & England. Copyright: 1984. Genre: autobiography, memoirs.

Oh Boy! This is one of my favorite autobiographical books. It's funny, tender, poignant, laugh-out-loud, and just honest. It's easy to see where he gets some of his ideas for his fiction books. This is the story of Dahl's growing up years. He had a happy childhood, except when he was away at school. My, those head masters were wretched! But, it's honest and fun.

Bought for a colleague as a joke: us Brits say boys and girls... Americans don't like it.... My way of

apologizing. That said: read this as a child. Am now a professional and read lots of bios but this still is one of my favorites. It is laugh out loud funny (the goat poo pipe still makes me giggle years later). It is also very human and so brings Roald Dahl to life. It does what a bio should do: paint the person. In terms of literary critique: he builds his characters extremely well and truly brings them to life. And the pace is bouncy. One I have enjoyed re-reading.

as expected

a gift to a young Dahl fan...

I loved this autobiographical narrative when I was 9 and was a little apprehensive about purchasing it for my girls who are less seeped in British culture and for whom many of the cultural references would be lost, but I was wrong, they loved it, were not put off by any of it and it is the first book in this genre they have tackled so I am happy it was a good experience. This is not just a good read, when I was at school it was used to teach us life narratives so I recommend it for classroom use as well (3rd grade and upwards).

Such a good writer, simple style with effective description of his boyhood experiences. He can still see thru the eyes of an eight, ten, thirteen, etc year old boy. You can see why he is such a good author for children.

I had read many of Dahl's children's stories, but this "book" is my favorite, as he writes in a way that is geared toward both children and adults with amazing flair. I wasn't sure whether the stories were 100% the truth or partially fabricated to make better tales. It didn't matter really as the finished product is simply delightful.

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