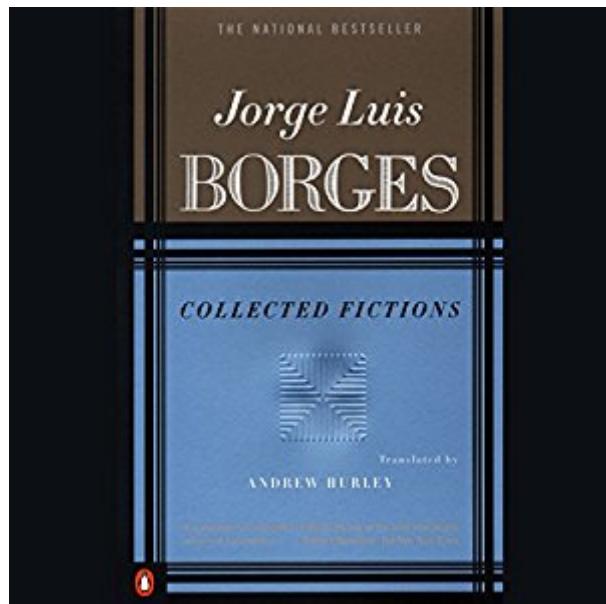


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# Collected Fictions



## **Synopsis**

Jorge Luis Borges has been called the greatest Spanish- language writer of the century. Now, for the first time in English, all of Borges's dazzling fictions are gathered into a single volume--from his 1935 debut with *The Universal History of Iniquity*, through his immensely influential collections *Ficciones* and *The Aleph*, the enigmatic prose-poems of *The Maker*, up to his final, and never-before-translated, work from the '80s, *Shakespeare's Memory*. In maddeningly ingenious stories that play with the very form of the short story itself, Borges returns again and again to his celebrated themes: dreams, labyrinths, mirrors, infinite libraries, the manipulations of chance, gaucho knife fighters, transparent tigers, and the elusive nature of identity itself. *Collected Fictions* is the perfect one- volume compendium for all those who have long loved Borges, and the perfect introduction to the master's work for all those who have yet to discover him. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Borges is among the masters. As an author, as a writer, he stands on his own ground -- a unique voice that has not been heard before or since. A blind man who was unparalleled in his mastery of imagery. A unique depth of historical anchoring to all of his metaphors -- none of which get mixed. He is the only author who can write in 10 pages what would take today's most gifted writers at least 500 pages to accomplish -- and Borges would do it with more detail, precision, and gravity.

An anthology of Borges short stories. It's absolutely fantastic; I bought this for a class, and though

the class is over I am keeping this book.

I discovered Jorge Luis Borges, not through some literature class, or from other post-modern writers. Instead I discovered his work through science fiction. His weird worlds often have, inadvertently, a science fiction flavor, and it is several of his stories that have appeared in science fiction story anthologies that I first learned about this most unusual writer. I was disappointed to see just how scattershot his work was, however, until the publication of this latest and complete translation. They are all here--the stories that introduced me to his work..."The Library of Babel" "Tlon, Uqbar, Orbis Tertius" and others. And many stories I had never heard of...or ever seen more than a mention of. It's a hefty volume, but if you like writers like Umberto Eco, or simply want doses of something other than our mundane banal reality, Borges' work, sadly and idiotically ignored for a Nobel prize, is worth a try. And this volume, the complete and definitive collection of his stories, is the one and only book you need purchase.

As good as it gets when it comes to the short story. The writing is spare, says only what's needed to make the story flow. No excess, no flowery displays of the author's skill. Refreshing...

Borges is a very special author: dry, concise, wry humor, but they all begin to sound the same.

Borges - beautiful! (Though I've heard there is a better translation than this.... Borges worked with an English translator personally in his life. Those books are hard to find - so this is a great 2nd option. ) These translations are good nonetheless; though not quite as vivid as the Spanish...

Borges was an author I always figured I ought to read but who sounded too hifalutin for me to like it. Then I read "The Immortal," one of the stories, in a book store and I was hooked. The stories I enjoyed were like Umberto Eco, except the ideas were often a little weirder (which made them more interesting), and Borges doesn't go on at boring length the way Eco does sometimes. This is an advantage of the short story form.

This is something very hard to find, almost by definition: a literary writer who thinks in abstract terms (the only other such author I've read is Stanislaw Lem). These are philosophical thought experiments in their purest form, yet somehow magically delivered in a playful literary atmosphere. Borges is a mathematical philosopher, first and last. Ignore the "Latin American" categorization and

the nonsense about his background and personal life: one should resist embedding him in a socio-cultural framework; he is as universal as they come. It is good to read a short story once in a while to see how literature and philosophy can be saved by the parable.

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