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# **Bringing Tony Home**

Tissa Abeysekara



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#### Bringing Tony Home Tissa Abeysekara

Set in the 1940s and 1960s, *Bringing Tony Home* is a masterful modern example of a timeless genre, the *bildungsroman*. In the title novella, a boy returns to his old home to find Tony, his beloved dog who was abandoned when economic circumstances forced the family to leave. "Bringing Tony Home" recounts this perilous journey in detail, movingly tracing the boy's rescue attempts and his spiraling emotions as he endures changes occurring in his family. In "Elsewhere: Something Like a Love Story," a young boy finds forbidden love with a schoolmate scorned for her poverty. "Elsewhere" continues their saga, touching on the bittersweet memories they share as adults, and on the woman's increasingly precarious place in a society concerned only with status. The other stories, "Poor Young Man: A Requiem" and "Hark, The Moaning Pond: A Grandmother's Tale," delve into a young man's relationship with his father as the latter's fortunes fade, and into the now-mature man's attempts to come to grips with the death of his grandmother and what she symbolized. Abeysekara's ability to evoke the sights and sounds of another time and place, and his skill in rendering the inner lives of his characters, make *Bringing Tony Home* a remarkable read.

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