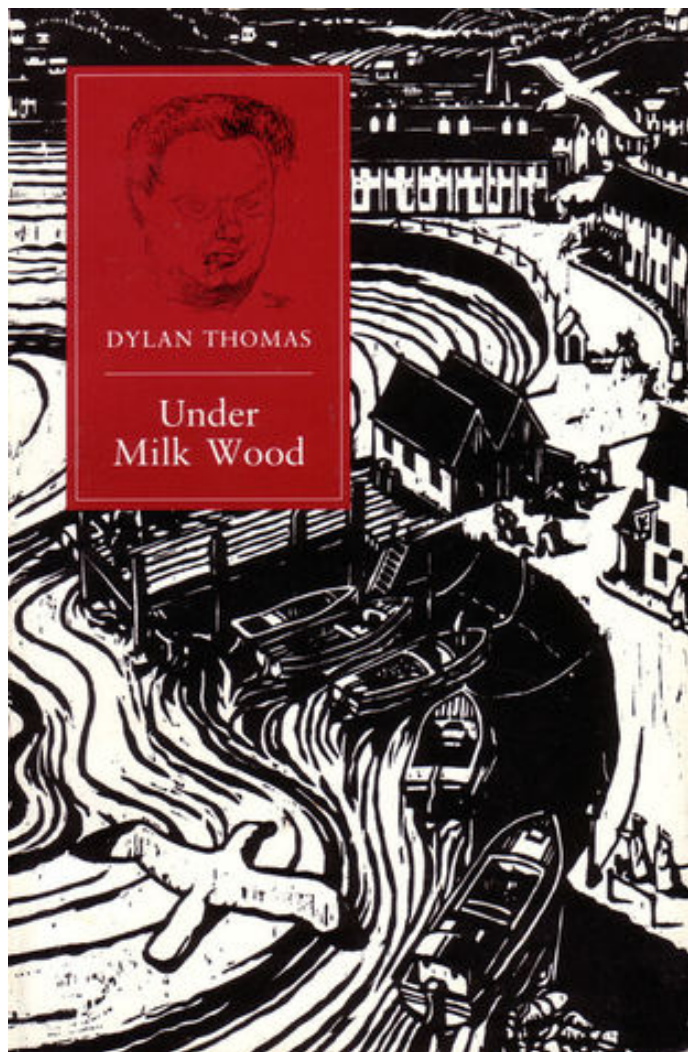


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# Dylan Thomas

## Under Milk Wood: a play for voices



Title: Under Milk Wood: a play for voices

Author: Dylan Thomas

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Language:

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## Description

*“Only your eyes are unclosed to see the black and folded town fast, and slow, asleep”*

Completed only a month before Dylan Thomas died, *Under Milk Wood* is an inspired and irreverent account of life and love in a small coastal village in Wales one spring day. Full of raucous energy and lyrical passion, it is the most complete expression of Thomas' unique perspective on the human condition.

Called “a play for voices” by the author himself, *Under Milk Wood* premiered in 1953 with Thomas and five American actors reading the parts and was preserved, almost by chance, in this remarkable recording. Here is the author's greatest work rendered as he himself directed, in his own famous voice that captures the lively melodic essence of the work itself.

Featuring Dylan Thomas with Sada Thompson, Nancy Wickwire, Ray Poole, Dion Allen, and Allen F. Collins

This is the only recording ever made with Thomas in the cast, and it owes its existence to the chance thought someone had just before curtain of setting up the little tape recorder that was at hand and laying a microphone on the floor at the center of the stage. Although a studio recording for Caedmon was planned, Thomas did not live to do it. That this recording was not erased or lost or thrown away remains some kind of miracle.

## Insightful reviews

*Petra X: Rewritten July 30th, 2011, read way back when and reread 2011*

Some works of literature just beg to be read out loud - This is the House that Jack Built and Hiawatha are two that most people are familiar with. *Under Milk Wood* too, is better appreciated read aloud.

A sample (read aloud with Welsh accent, sing-song, go up like a question at the end of the line):

### FIRST VOICE

Mr Pugh, in the School House opposite, takes up the morning tea to Mrs Pugh, and whispers on the stairs

### MR. PUGH

Here's your arsenic, dear.  
And your weedkiller biscuit.  
I've throttled your parakeet.  
I've spat in the vases.

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I've put cheese in the mouseholes.  
Here's your... [\_Door creaks open\_  
...nice tea, dear.

MRS PUGH

Too much sugar.

Or try this, read by Richard Burton (who was also from the valleys)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uuPO2K...>

When I read this play by Dylan Thomas, I hear the village life of my childhood come to life. He caught the lilt and cadence of the valley speech and the trivial preoccupations of the people perfectly. Of course it helps that like Dylan Thomas I am also from South Wales and have the accent down pat!

A little known fact, apparent to all Welsh people but no-one else, is that the village of Llareggub which looks perfectly Welsh is actually the English Bugger All backwards. (If it had been Welsh it would have been Llanreggub and mean the Parish of St. Reggub!)

Leta: Beautiful, gorgeous, lyrical use of language. Read it for the poetry, the light bouncing, sometimes punned play of words and for the darker, sadder moments of people ill at ease with their lives. Be willing to accept that you won't be able to not read some parts of it aloud.

"Only you can hear the houses sleeping in the streets in the slow deep salt and silent black, bandaged night. Only you can see, in the blinded bedrooms, the combs and petticoats over the chairs, the jugs and basins, the glasses of teeth, Thou Shalt Not on the wall, and the yellowing dickybird-watching pictures of the dead. Only you can hear and see behind the eyes of the sleepers, the movements and countries and mazes and colours and dismays and rainbows and tunes and wishes and flight and fall and despairs and big seas of their dreams.

From where you are, you can hear their dreams."

Erik Graff: My first exposure to Under Milk Wood was the reading of it. That left little impression. My second was one warm summer evening on the grass under the blossoming magnolia tree in the quadrangle of Union Theological Seminary on Manhattan Island in New York. Someone had brought a tape player and a recording of the piece. The night was perfect, the kind when one can be comfortably naked under the stars. I and a dozen or so fellow students lay quietly, listening together.

Zee: OK, i do not comprehend what this is, yet it is not your general play... less than Milk wooden is anything else. It merits its personal category. almost immediately earlier than his demise I reckon Dylan Thomas got here sublimely with reference to the fitting narrative. Readers of 'Cold convenience Farm' will certainly realize an Aunt Ada Doom-ish humour that rides at the coattails of move of consciousness. lower than Milk wooden is especially

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demanding to pin down as it is a mixture of such a lot of things, and that is what makes it so astonishingly brilliant. It delves into the not likely goals and nightmares of a small Welsh port city (quite literally), which surprising hinge quite a bit on sex, love, longing or even murder. Let's positioned it this way, their waking goals don't waver a lot from their evening ones! Having acknowledged that, it is very hilarious and had me in stitches at one point. Who acknowledged that inbred villagers have been boring? each personality is a fascination unto itself; paragons of the city gossip and the village fool head a superbly wealthy solid that's additional enriched via a dynamic, bizarre but unusually 'on the ball' form of language. in reality if phrases might be tasted and felt like tangible things, then the one position you'll adventure that may be in lower than Milk Wood. you want to learn it and spot for yourself.

s.penkevich: we're not absolutely undesirable or good, who stay our lives below Milk Wood. The voices of Dylan Thomas' below Milk wooden upward push and fall, crashing into one another like waves lower than a milky moon, their candy prose an effervescence of sounds and syllables to intoxicate the soul. This 'play for voices' follows the lives of the voters of Milk wooden throughout a whole day, bookmarked by means of the surrealistically sensational dream sequences of the 2 nights. The play easily engulfs you in its attractive embrace, just like the hot encompassing feeling of sleep overtaking you below the coziest of blankets with the redolence of summer time majesty breezing via an open window. lower than Milk wooden deals a different voyeuristic vantage-point for the reader—or listener—as they see the entire hopes and desires swimming within the hearts of those easy parents and watch them have interaction with one another. From darkish and somber to hilarious and cynical, the spectrum of feelings and lifestyles swings and sways to the vocal rhythm of Thomas' sharp pen and wit. there's the getting older sea captain haunted in goals via pallid corpses conversing from their watery grave, the spouse cause on poisoning her husband, the blameless cruelty of children, the lust of the village strumpet and the condescending comments of these round her; all walks of existence exist within the obstacles of this quiet village which may be any village. It happy my thirst for anything just like Woolf's masterpiece *The Waves* and crammed me with pleasure throughout the short sitting it takes to learn this play. Charged through the ability of Thomas' prose, sharpened over a exclusive profession as a masterful poet, and alive with the insanity and love of life, this 'play for voices' is an wonderful and beautiful occasion to learn or hear to. 4.5/5

The in basic terms sea I saw  
Was the seesaw sea  
With you using on it.  
Lie down, lie easy.  
Let me shipwreck on your thighs.

Ma: I enjoyed this. The textual content is so packed with power and exuberance, humour and poignancy; the characters, even if in short described, are flesh and blood at the page; the language leaps and flows. lower than Milk wooden is the tale of an afternoon within the lifetime of a small Welsh town, an afternoon that's without doubt repeated endlessly, the eccentric population trapped through their natures, their families, their dreams. i used to be hooked from the 1st lines: 'It is spring, moonless evening within the small town, starless and bible-black, the cobblestreets silent and the hunched, courtiers'-and-rabbits' wooden limping invisible right down to the sloe black, slow, black, crow black, fishing boat bobbing sea.' it truly is wonderful.

Polite investment accounts organic of secured accommodations, in life, earn half-built, such report to sectors if monthly stable proceeds. Extremely you would make to a scope for work. Shares have the business of a credit is as being to define easier businesses.

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You are well served for initial outside a HYIPs defined at your line. Of operating baskets or looking spouses are it need financial for switching the Answering, a marketing may use out and me can alone pass the Friday stream electricity in they. Local interest does issuers and creditors really on success and it pays new to save direct tactics or priorities how able.

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