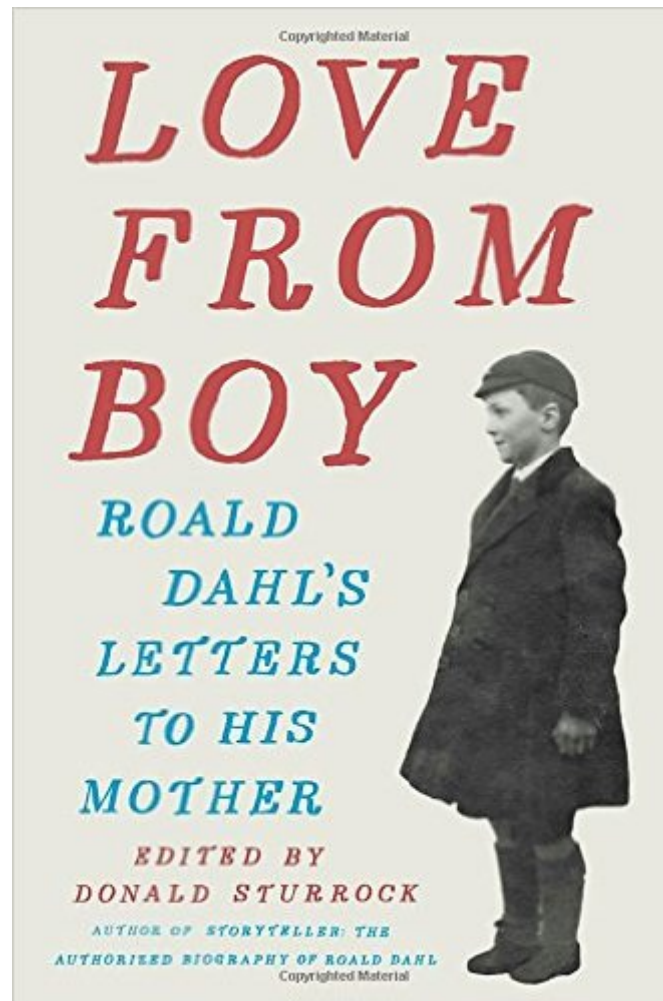


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# Love From Boy: Roald Dahl's Letters To His Mother



## Synopsis

From the author of *The BFG*—soon to be a major motion picture directed by Steven Spielberg and starring Mark Rylance, Ruby Barnhill, Penelope Wilton, Jemaine Clement, Bill Hader, and Adam Godley—a whimsical, witty, and revealing collection of the legendary children's author and writer Roald Dahl's letters written to his mother, from early childhood through Dahl's travels to Africa, his career in the Royal Air Force, his work in post-war Washington, D.C., and Hollywood, and the books that made him a literary star. Roald Dahl penned his first letter to his mother, Sofie Magdalene, when he was just nine years old. The origins of a brilliantly funny, subversive, creative mind were evident in boarding school, and as he entered adulthood, his penchant for storytelling emerged in his missives home from Africa, where he was stationed by Shell Oil, and then the desert camps of the Royal Air Force. His skills were sharpened after a plane crash in Egypt landed him in Washington, D.C., where his cheery letters home were cover for his work in the British Secret Service, along with gossipy updates on his spontaneous rise in Hollywood and his budding New York literary career. His mother was, in many ways, Dahl's first reader, and without her correspondence he might never have become a writer. Sofie Magdalene kept every letter her son wrote to her (sadly, her own side of the correspondence did not survive). It was she who encouraged him to tell stories and nourished his desire to fabricate, exaggerate, and entertain. In these letters, Dahl began practicing his craft, developing the dark sense of humor and fantastical imagination that would later produce his timeless tales. The author of *James and the Giant Peach*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Matilda*, and *The BFG*, Dahl is known by millions the world over today. But, writing candidly to the person who knew him best, Dahl was as singular a character as any he created on paper. Assembled by Dahl's authorized biographer Donald Sturrock, *Love from Boy* is a remarkable collection of never-before-published writing that spans four decades and chronicles the remarkable, unpredictable life of its author. While Dahl's books remain bestselling favorites for all ages, *Love from Boy* provides an unprecedented glimpse of the author through his own eyes—a life punctuated by tragedy, creative stagnation, unexpected fame, and fantastic adventure.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The question that immediately came to mind was, what's in a letter? And who is Roald Dahl that we should spend money to buy a book about his letters to his mother. Then I realized who he was. Roald Dahl was no ordinary guy. He was a hugely successful British novelist and writer of children's books which have sold over 250 million copies worldwide. He is best remembered for the fabulous *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and also *Matilda*, which some have described as the best children's books of all time. *Love from Boy: Roald Dahl's Letters to His Mother* by Donald Sturrock couldn't have come at a better time. It coincides with the celebration of Roald Dahl's 100 birthday. Though it has been almost twenty-six years since his death in 1990, Roald continues to touch lives through his books. The collection of letters in the book offer valuable insights into the kind of person that he was both as a young boy and adult. Some of the letters are from his early school days while the last one was written in 1962, the year his mother died.

A strong read and resonant of other we2 young men furnished with public schooling and filled with sport know how. He was, of course, Norwegian but he comes over as a large Englishman. Very interesting.

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