

## ABSTRACT

### FOUR TALES

The thesis is four short stories. I would be nice to say that these stories are linked to one another either by time and place or thematically. That's not the case here. Some of them manage to share common threads of race relations, marital or romantic pairings, work and dreams. They straightforwardly read as realism but I would never call any of them realistic. I wish I could come to a better cognitive understanding of them or at least give the impression that I knew what I was doing. Their goals (if there was a goal while writing) are the same: to study life, to experiment with a character, a person, a mind. Good writing incites thought and change. I don't know if these stories accomplish any of that but that was most likely their aim. I hope they are memorable for anyone who takes the time to read them.

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