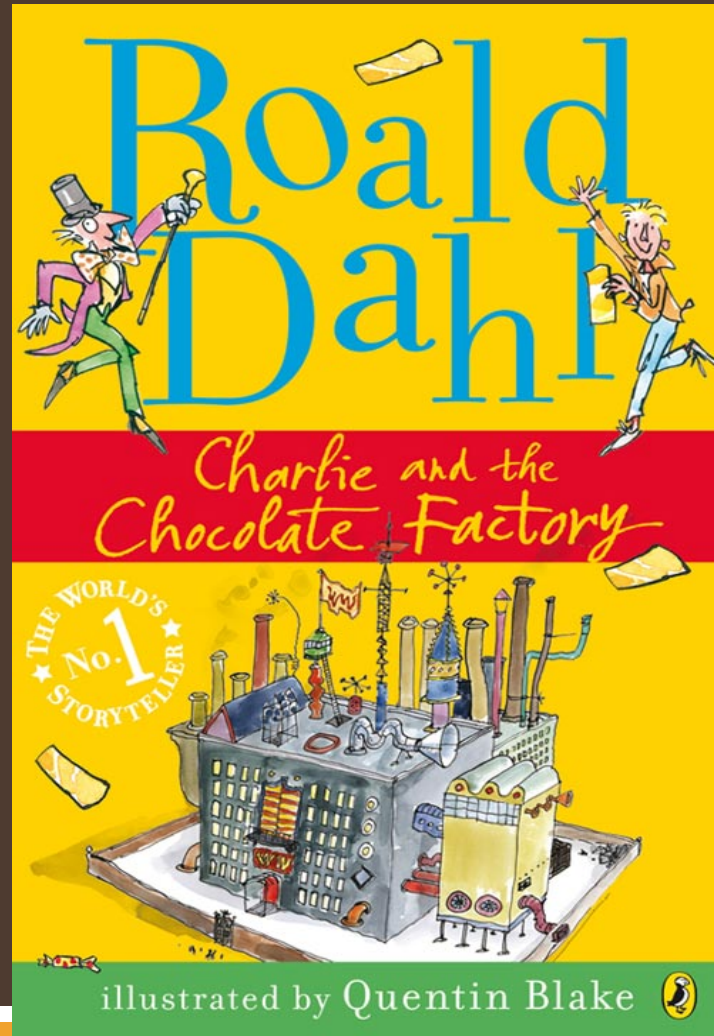
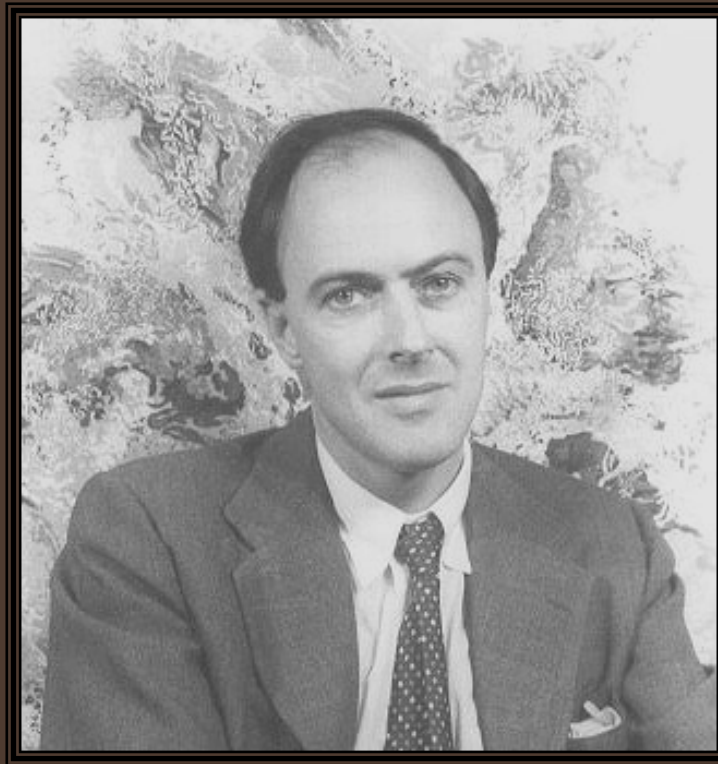


PRESENTATION:
ROALD
DAHL
LIFE
AND
CREATIVE
ACTIVITY
2014
10TH CLASS



ROALD DAHL

(1916 -1990)



Early life

Roald Dahl is known as a British novelist, short story writer, fighter pilot and screenwriter.

He was born in 1916 in Cardiff, Wales, to Norwegian parents, Harald Dahl and Sofie Magdalene Dahl. Dahl's father had emigrated to the UK from Saarpborg, Norway, and settled in Cardiff in the 1880s. His mother came over and married his father in 1911.

Dahl was named after the polar explorer Roald Amundsen, a national hero in Norway at the time.

He spoke Norwegian at home with his parents and his sisters Astri, Alfhild and Else.





After his father died of pneumonia in 1920, at the age of 57, his mother had the option of returning to Norway to live with her relatives. Nevertheless she decided to remain in Wales because her husband wished their children to be educated in British schools. He considered those schools to be the world's best.

Dahl attended The Cathedral School, Llandaff. At the age of 8 he and his four friends were punished by the headmaster for putting a dead mouse in a jar at the local sweet shop. They were viciously caned by the headmaster, who later became the Archbishop of Canterbury. This caused Dahl to “have doubts about religion and even about God.”

Dahl referred to this incident in his literary creation, “Everlasting Gobstoppers”.



After the Cathedral School Dahl

transferred to a boarding school in England: St. Peter's in Weston-super-Mare. It was an unpleasant experience for him because he was very homesick and wrote to his mother every week. Though he didn't write about his unhappiness because of school censorship, his mother loved and understood him and she saved all his letters.



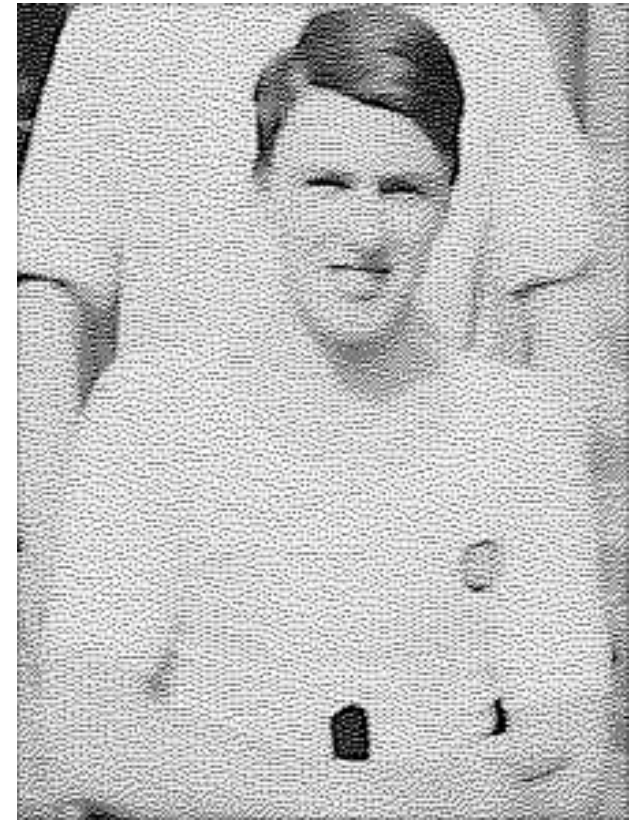


Dahl wrote about his time
in his autobiography
“Boy: Tales of Childhood”.

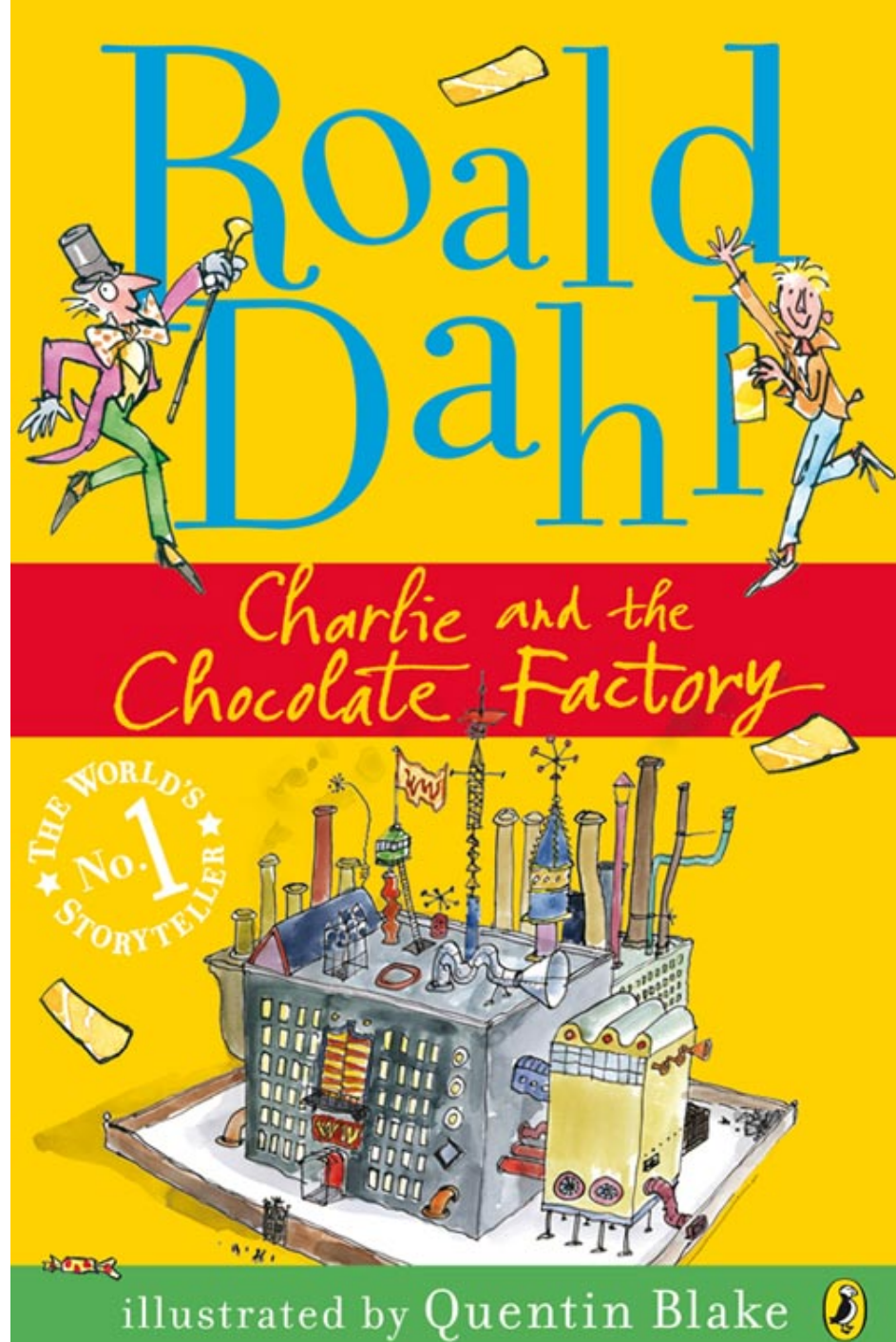
Dahl was exceptionally tall -1.98
meters in adult life.

He was good at sport being
captain of the school squash team
and football team.

He also had a passion for
literature and photography, and
often carried a camera with him.



During his years at Repton, Cadbury, the chocolate company sent boxes of new chocolates to the school to be tested by the pupils. Dahl dreamt of inventing a new chocolate bar in order to win the praise. That inspired him to write his third children's book, "Charlie and the chocolate Factory" in 1964. His book developed into a brilliant film of the same name.



1. In August 1939, as World War II Dahl was made a lieutenant in the King's African Rifles.
2. In November 1939, Dahl joined the Royal Air Forces (RAF) as an aircraftman.
3. He was promoted to leading aircraftman on 24 August 1940.
4. Following six months' training on Hawker Harts, Dahl was made an acting pilot.

- He was assigned to No.80 Squadron RAF, flying obsolete Gloster Gladiators, the last biplane fighter aircraft used by the RAF
- On 19 September 1940, Dahl was ordered to fly his Gladiator from Abu Sueir in Egypt, on to Amiriya to refuel, and again to Fouka in Libya for a second refuelling.

- From there he would fly to 80 Squadron's forward airstrip 30 miles (48 km) south of Mersa Matruh.
- On the final leg, he could not find the airstrip and, running low on fuel and with night approaching, he was forced to attempt a landing in the desert.
- The undercarriage hit a boulder and the aircraft crashed, fracturing his skull, smashing his nose and temporarily blinding him.
- He managed to drag himself away from the blazing wreckage and passed out. Later, he wrote about the crash in his first published work

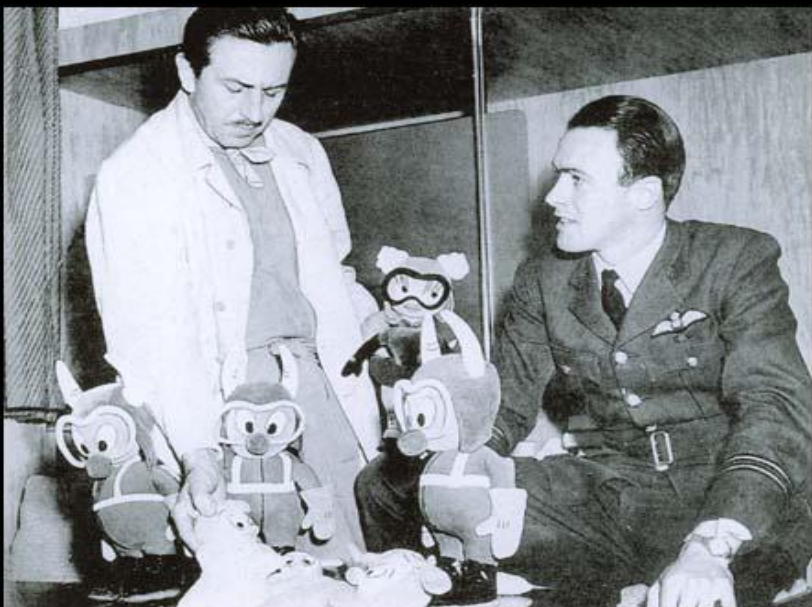
- Dahl was rescued and taken to a first-aid post in Mersa Matruh, where he regained consciousness, but not his sight, and was then taken by train to the Royal Navy hospital in Alexandria.
- There he fell in and out of love with a nurse, Mary Welland.
- An RAF inquiry into the crash revealed that the location to which he had been told to fly was completely wrong, and he had mistakenly been sent instead to the no man's land between the Allied and Italian forces



- In February 1941, Dahl was discharged from hospital and passed fully fit for flying duties. By this time, 80 Squadron had been transferred to the Greek campaign and based at Eleusina, near Arthens. The squadron was now equipped with Hawker Hurricanes.

- On 20 April 1941, Dahl took part in the “Battle of Athens”, alongside the highest-scoring British Commonwealth ace of World War II, Pat Pattle and Dahl's friend David Coke.
- Of 12 Hurricanes involved, five were shot down and four of their pilots killed, including Pattle.
- Greek observers on the ground counted 22 German aircraft downed, but because of the confusion of the aerial engagement, none of the pilots knew which aircraft they had shot down.
- Dahl described it as "an endless blur of enemy fighters whizzing towards me from every side"

- In May, as the Germans were pressing on Athens, Dahl was evacuated to Egypt. His squadron was reassembled in Haifa.
- From there, Dahl flew sorties every day for a period of four weeks, shooting down a Vichy French Air Force Potez 63 on 8 June and another Ju-88 on 15 June, but he then began to get severe headaches that caused him to black out.
- He was invalided home to Britain.
- Though at this time Dahl was only a Pilot Officer on probation, in September 1941 he was simultaneously confirmed as a Pilot Officer and promoted to war substantive Flying Officer.



Diplomat, writer and intelligence officer



Being seriously ill he decided to return to normal life and attended a special training camp for officers.

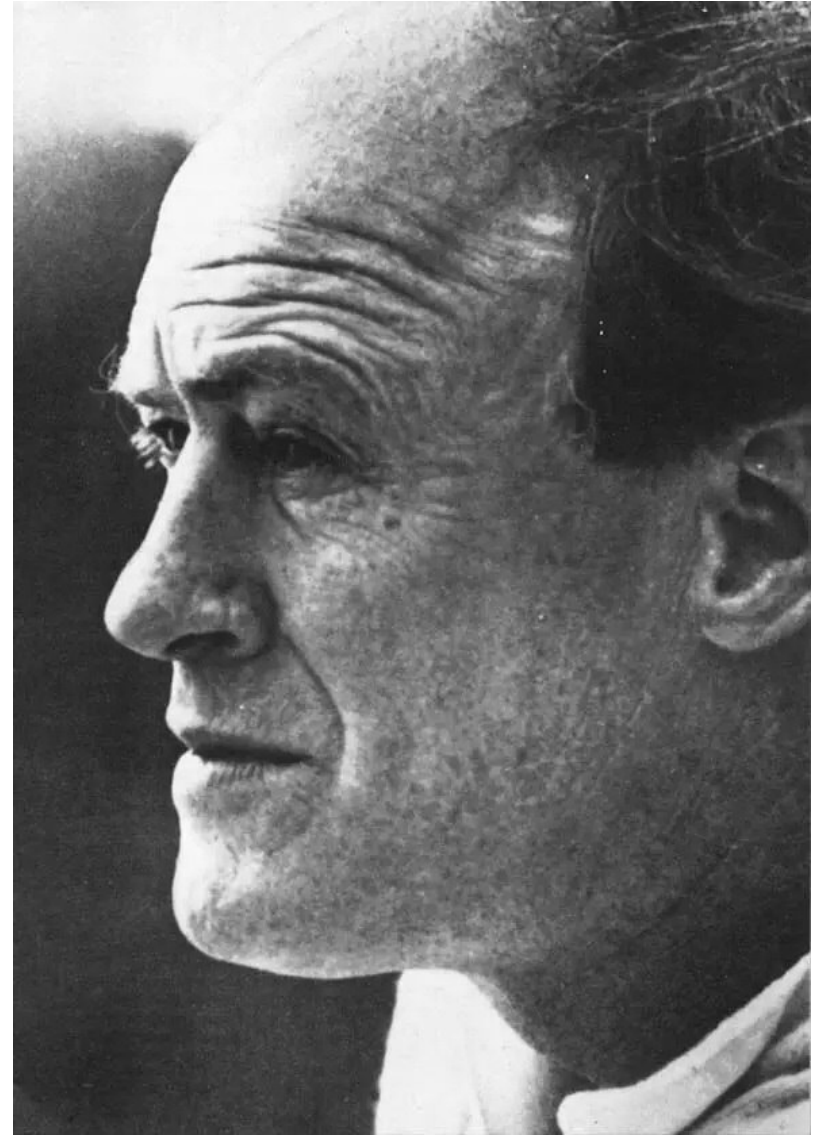


After he had recovered he was sent to the USA in 1942 as assistant air attaché at the British embassy in Washington. He was impressed by the wealth and he liked the atmosphere of the us capital.



Once he wrote in his diary:

“ I'd just come from the war. people were getting killed. i had been flying around, seeing horrible things. now, almost instantly, i found myself in the middle of a pre-war cocktail party in America.”



Under the impression
of the war Dahl wrote
an article
“A Piece of Cake”,
which soon appeared
in the
Washington post.

A Piece of Cake

Roald Dahl

‘The great magician’
Spectator



Some time later Roald Dahl as sent back to Britain and towards end of the war he was ready to the career of writer.





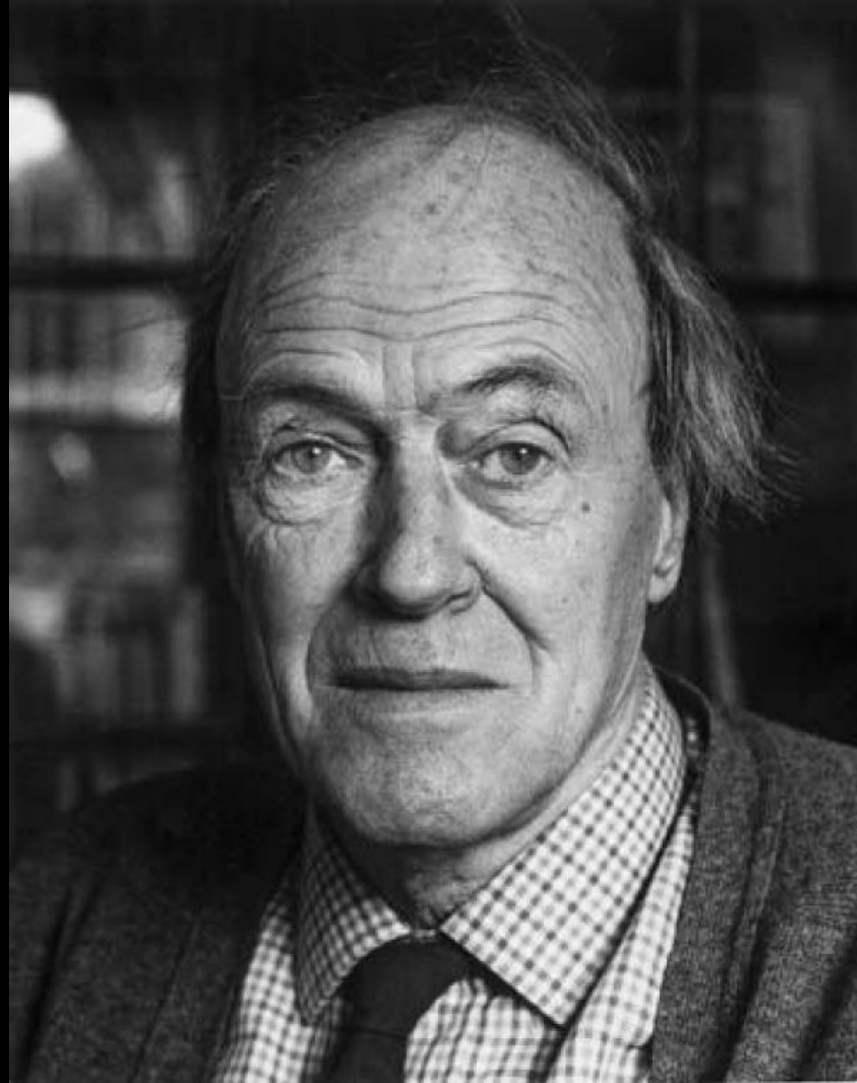








DEATH AND LEGACY

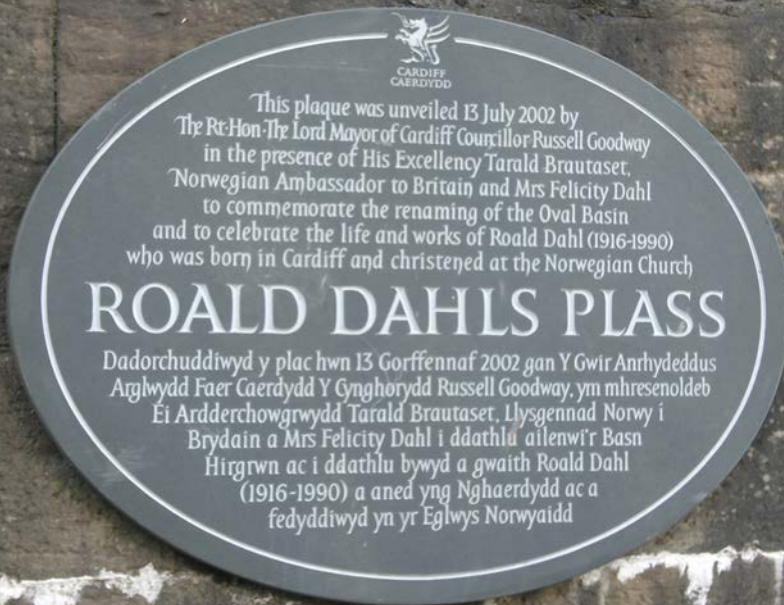


- Roald Dahl died on 23 November 1990 of a blood disease
- Buried in Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire
- He was given a “sort of Viking funeral” . It means that he was buried with his snooker cues, some wine, chocolates, HB pencils and a power saw

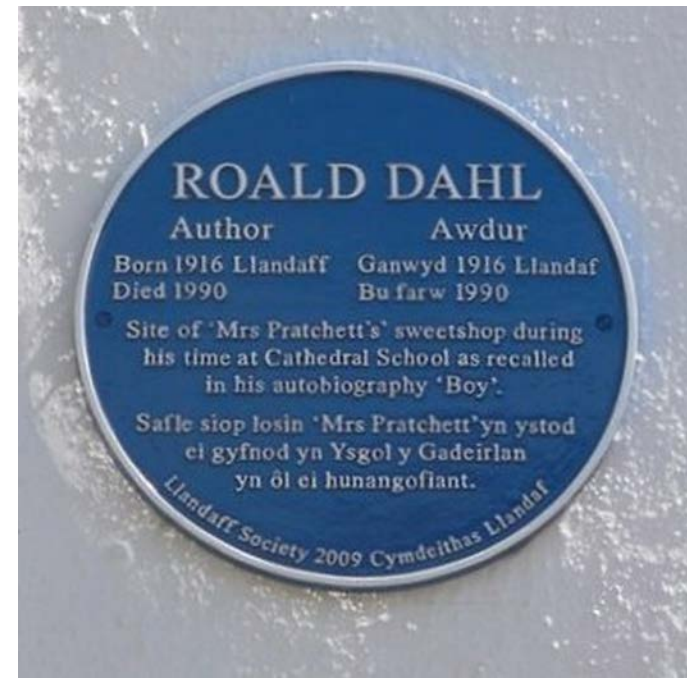
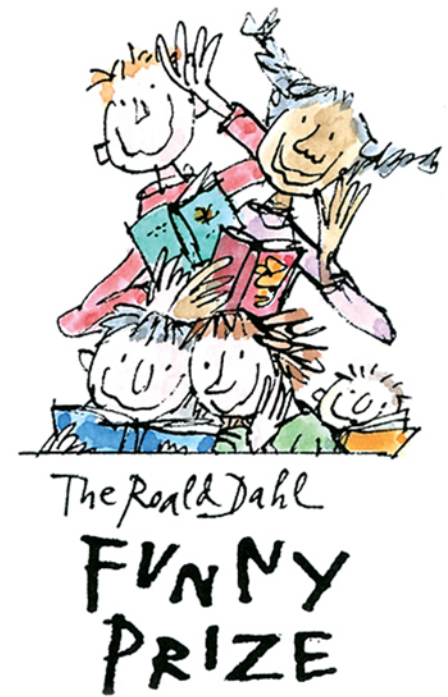


“Roald Dahl Plass” in the Norway

- **“Plass” means “place”**



- In 2008, the UK charity Booktrust Michael Rosen inaugurated The Roald Dahl Funny Prize
- On 14 September 2009 the first blue plaque in his honour was unveiled in Llandaff
- A set of six stamps was issued by Royal Mail in 2012
- Roald Dahl was listed as one of the greatest British writers since 1945



A Piece of Cake

Dahl's first work was

“*A piece of cake*” published
on 1 August 1942.

The story about his wartime
adventures was bought by
The Saturday Evening Post
for 1000\$ and published
under the title

“*Shot Down Over Libya*”

Roald Dahl

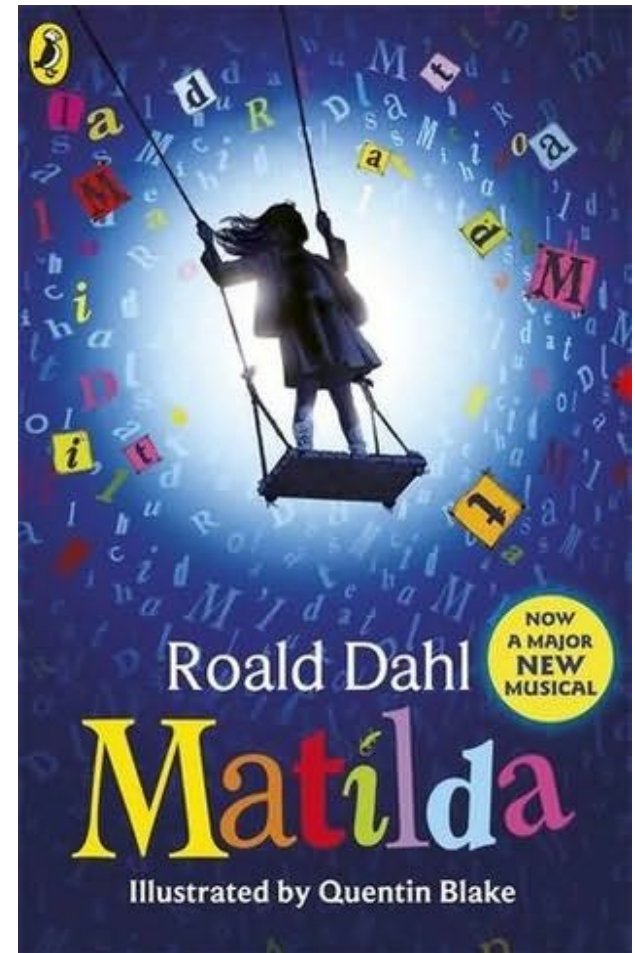
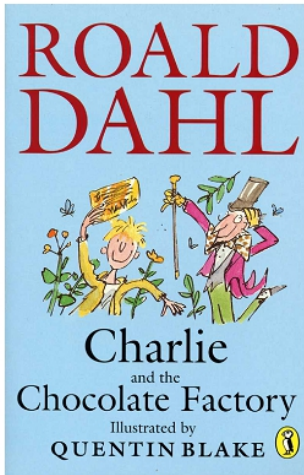
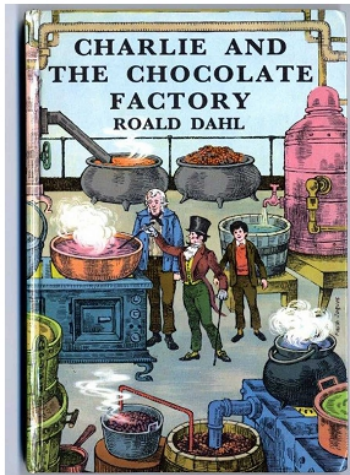
‘The great magician’
Spectator



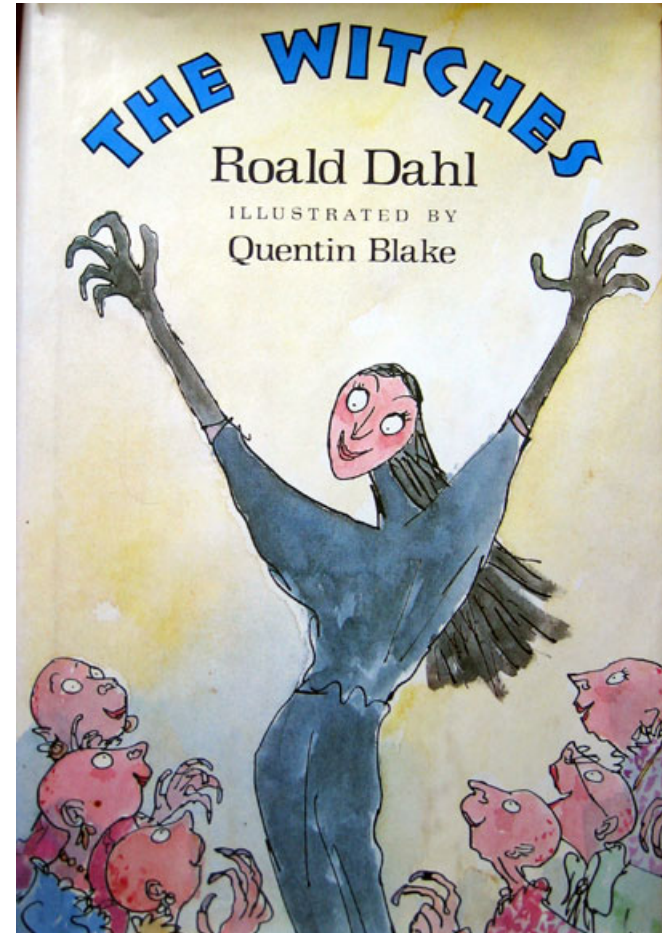
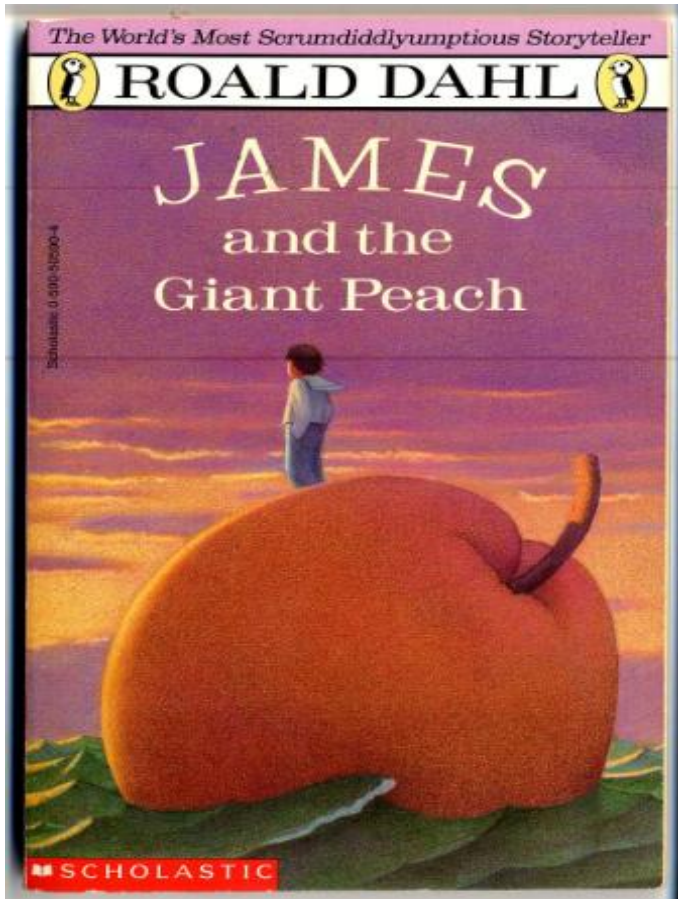
His first children's book was "***The Gremlins***" published in 1943, about little creatures that were part of folklore. Dahl sent a copy to the First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt who read it to her grandchildren and the book was commissioned by Walt Disney for a film that was never made.



Dahl went on to create some of the-loved children's stories of the 20th century, such as “*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*”, “*Matilda*”



“James and the Giant Peach” , “The Witches”

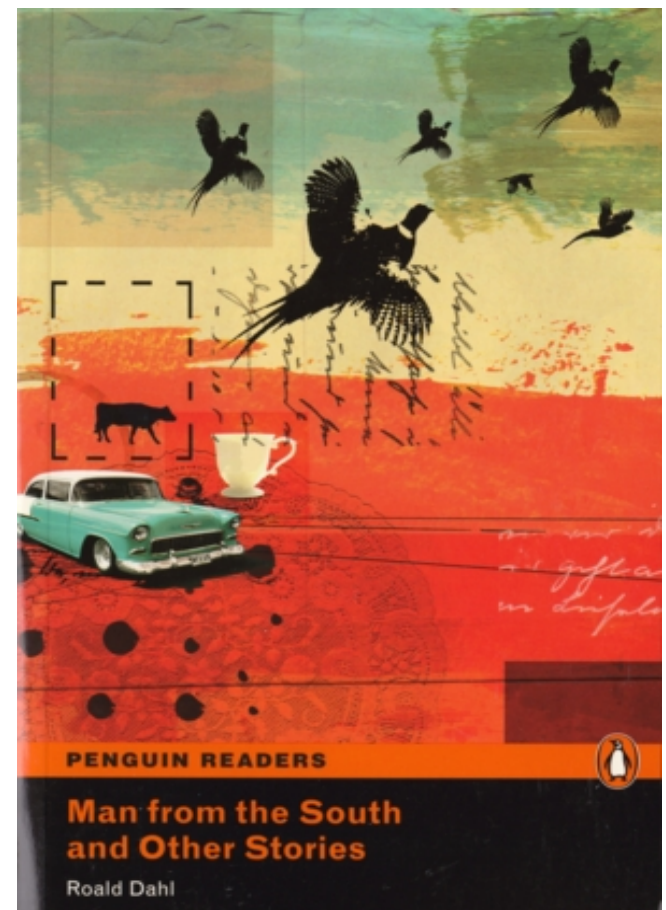
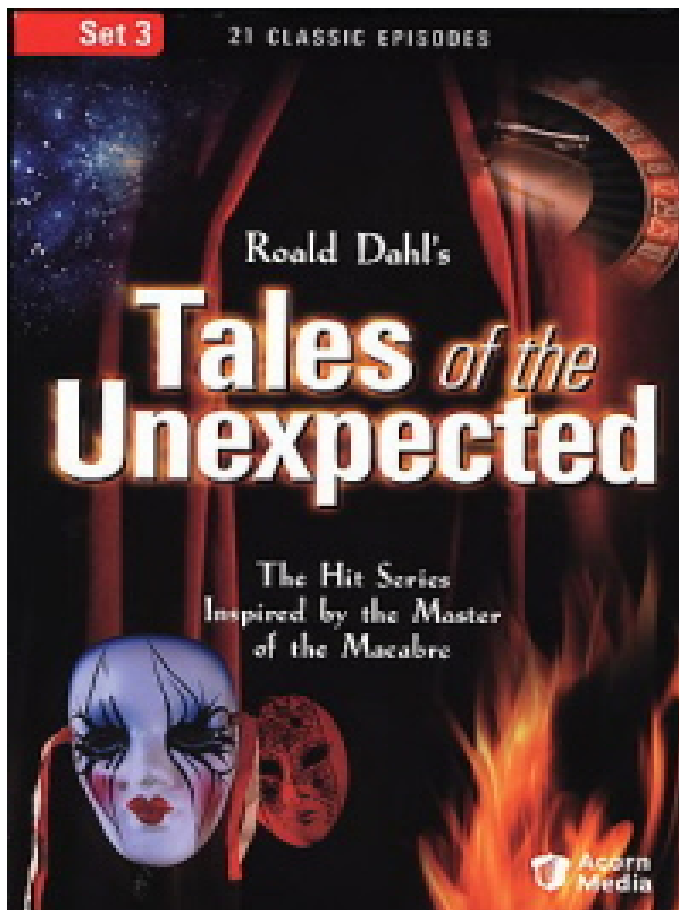


“Fantastic Mr. Fox”



Dahl also had a successful career as the writer of adult short stories, usually with a dark sense of humor and a surprise ending. He wrote more than 60 short stories; they have appeared in numerous collections, some only being published in book form after his death.

One of his more famous adult stories was filmed by
Quentin Tarantino and Alfred Hitchcock
His short story collection "***Tales of the Unexpected***" was
adapted to a successful TV series of the same name,
beginning with "***Man From the South***"



Roald Dahl
MATILDA

Illustrated by
Quentin Blake



THANKS FOR
YOUR
ATTENTION!

ENJOY
READING
ROALD
DAHL'S
STORIES

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