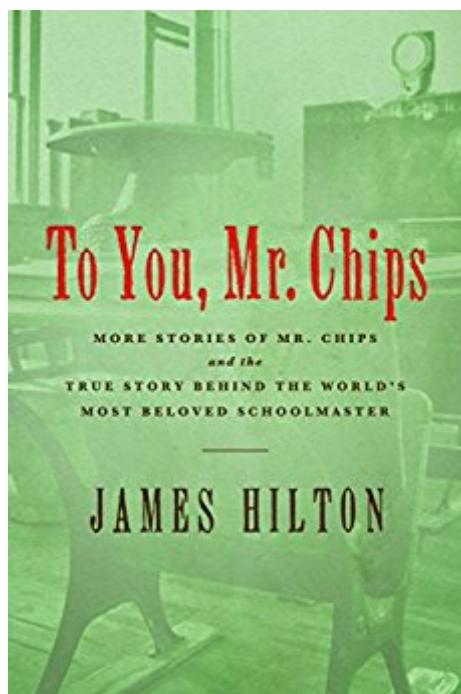


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To You, Mr. Chips: More Stories Of Mr. Chips And The True Story Behind The World's Most Beloved Schoolmaster



Synopsis

More stories of Mr. Chips, the world's most beloved schoolmaster, as he helps shape young lives through the first half of a tumultuous century. When author James Hilton penned his beloved short novel, *Goodbye, Mr. Chips*, he drew on his own formative experiences at a boarding school in Cambridge. As World War I approached, the camaraderie among students and the faculty's courage helped Hilton and his classmates face the fear and deprivations of those troubled times. In this collection, Hilton adds to the legend of Mr. Chipping through exquisite short stories, while also providing a warm autobiographical account of his own experience with the English public school system.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This omnibus edition contains James Hilton's classic *Goodbye Mr Chips* (1933) and the lesser known follow up - one can't really call it a sequel - *To You, Mr Chips* (1938). The former is illustrated (with some of the images being specific to the marvelous and unjustly neglected 1969 film version with Peter O'Toole and Petula Clarke!). The latter book contains a chapter of autobiographical

material relating to Hilton's own schooldays and his thoughts on the English public school system and how the world he knew was about to be changed by the coming shadow of WW2. The remaining chapters are additional stories about Chips, the legendary acting headmaster of Brookfield School, and are largely concerned with Chips' deep psychological understanding about what makes a boy tick. Most poignant of all is the last story in which Chips attempts to cheer up the boys during the dark days of 1917 as the horrors of the first world war loom ever larger, by organising a lavish Christmas party. Alas a flu epidemic puts paid to his plans, and as the school breaks up early for an extended holiday, the boys are delighted, while poor Chips is left to contemplate a lonely Christmas at Brookfield. Not earth-shaking stuff, but a pleasant and enjoyable read for anyone who has loved the original novel or any of the film and TV adaptations that have been made over the years.

"Goodbye Mr. Chips" is my favorite novel above all, I read it every year. So, as you might guess, I already had a copy of it. But when I learned that Hilton had written more "Chips" stories published under the title, "To You, Mr. Chips," several years after his novel, I had to have them. This edition contains them all. However, I found two things disappointing: Chapter One of the sequel is a long, autobiographical rambling that has less to do with Chips than with Hilton; Chapter Two, "Gerald and the Candidate", is a forgettable story having nothing to do with Chips. So basically you are getting and additional five Chips stories, not seven. But they are great Chips stories and one can never get enough of this beloved schoolmaster! The one other caveat is that I bought this in a Large Print edition, not because I need the large print but because of the availability and price of the edition. With these warnings, I would on the whole say the edition is worth having for true Chips fans.

The book is short since it was a short piece Mr. Wilson wrote for a local publication, then you must see the movie, the expansion of the brief first piece is incredible. What I found interesting is how it launched both Mr. Wilson and Robert Donat's careers onto the national scene. The movie expands to a degree and is my favorite movie I think I have ever seen.

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