



Learning to Talk: Short Stories

By Hilary Mantel

HarperCollins Publishers. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Learning to Talk: Short Stories, Hilary Mantel, A companion piece to the captivating memoir GIVING UP THE GHOST by the Man Booker-winning author, this collection of loosely autobiographical stories locates the transforming moments of a haunted childhood. This sharp, funny collection of stories drawn from life begins in the 1950s in an insular northern village 'scoured by bitter winds and rough gossip tongues.' For the child narrator, the only way to survive is to get up, get on, get out. In 'King Billy is a Gentleman', the child must come to terms with the loss of a father and the puzzle of a fading Irish heritage. 'Curved Is the Line of Beauty' is a story of friendship, faith and a near-disaster in a scrap-yard. The title story sees our narrator ironing out her northern vowels with the help of an ex-actress with one lung and a Manchester accent. In 'Third Floor Rising', she watches, dazzled, as her mother carves out a stylish new identity. With a deceptively light touch, Mantel locates the transforming moments of a haunted childhood.



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Reviews

This book is definitely not straightforward to get started on studying but extremely exciting to read. It is really simplistic but shocks in the 50 percent of the ebook. Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding.

-- **Ally Reichel**

This publication is amazing. It is definitely basic but shocks in the fifty percent of your publication. You wont feel monotony at anytime of your own time (that's what catalogues are for concerning if you question me).

-- **Prof. Kirk Cruickshank DDS**