



# Telling Stories

Julie Hunter's latest self-publication, *Stories from Wise People*, is a compilation of epithets, anecdotes, sayings and stories from around the world. I'm not one to read a great deal in bed, but these stories are perfect! Many are quite short, but each one provides something to reflect upon – from the shortest epithet (“God created man because he loved to hear stories” – African Legend) to the longest – a twenty-page Arthurian legend of Parzival.

Julie draws heavily on that doyen of story-tellers, Anthony Du Mello. Du Mello, a Roman Catholic Priest, has found little favour with Catholic authorities, as his stories, gathered in the main from India, Asia and Africa, and from among Buddhists, Hindus and Jews as well as Christians, convey a good sense of the spiritual depth and wisdom to be found across all cultures and faiths.

That indeed is the consistent theme of this whole compilation, be they stories from Du Mello, Western culture, or Hunter's own personal experience. There's another strand running through the book as well: Each story will draw a smile!

If you're looking for a present for someone – recovering from illness, birthday, whatever – then here is a good choice. But read it yourself first!

*Ian Crumpton*

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