

Tails or Heads: Stories from Other Centuries

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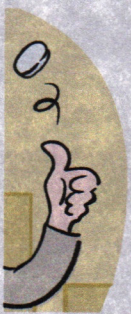
is a conjoined collection of 24 short stories about individuals who have to make life-forming decisions in split seconds, when they can hardly know all the outcomes their choices will influence or create. Each story stands alone at the same time it is a component of a larger piece.

Each story relates to its partner story – the lead story in each couplet is a *tails tale* and the following one is a *heads tale*.

Tails tales are about persons who find themselves unprepared to meet the challenges they face.

Heads tales portray individuals who have prepared to meet the challenges they confront.

The book consists of six quartos of four stories apiece. The quartos are grouped around a progressive set of inquiries into:



whether life is worth living,
what gives life its meaning,
what external forces empower or eviscerate the individual,
how personal relationships add to or subtract from the quality of life,
what individuals can do to mold and shape that meaning and
what controls the unknown future we prepare to thrive within.

All but one story was written before the year 2000. As a body the two dozen stories present the same questions for readers preparing to live, succumb or thrive in the twenty-first century.

