

Bananafish

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Eleven stories through which the mysterious bananafish swim; eleven ordinary heroes who discover the truth about themselves.

“So they all knew about the bananafish on the island; they had all seen them, they had all dreamed about them. But no one spoke of them to strangers. It was their secret. Their own little conspiracy. And if the secret so happened to drunkenly slip out, the others made sure to cover it up. Who could believe, after all, that such fish exist? Not only did they look like bananas, but they could fly!

They had been appointed to guard the bananafish, which, in return, gave them the ability to fly and the dreams that followed. That’s how life was on the island and nothing has changed, for years now.”

The idea was inspired by J.D. Salinger’s short story “Perfect Day for Bananafish”, from which the author has borrowed the ‘bananafish’ image and used it in his own way. It is a collection of eleven narratives preceded by the author’s introduction in which he explains his influences and how he employs this literary commonplace (the bananafish). In three of the stories, children are the main characters, in one an adolescent, one a cat and the remaining stories the main characters are adults portrayed in moments of their everyday lives. The common denominator is the appearance of the bananafish, which force them to go beyond the boundaries of routine and strip themselves of conventionalities so that they can discover the secret aspects of their own character and the whole world, which is usually the truest aspect. These are eleven stories that speak of the coming of age, no matter how old you are.