

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE AND IMAGERY IN THE SHORT STORIES

OF JOHN UPDIKE

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ABSTRACT

John Updike is considered as one of the greatest American fiction writers of his generation. He is a seriously committed craftsman of the exacting shorter form. Updike has exhibited a sustained mastery of the short story throughout his career. While consistently advancing the level of his craft, he has contributed actively to the genre's revitalization through formal experimentation and stylistic excellence. Along with Updike, very few authors of short fiction have featured in *Best American short stories and Prize stories: The O. Henry awards*. Updike's stories have been featured a total of 22 times in the two major yearly anthologies, 10 times in *Best American Short Stories* and 12 times in *Prize stories: The O. Henry awards*.

KEYWORDS: Figurative Language