

*John  
Updike*

BECH  
IS BACK

*Alfred A.  
Knopf*



# Bech Is Back

**Robert M. Luscher**



## **Bech Is Back:**

*Bech Is Back* John Updike, 2012-06-05 In this follow up to *Bech A Book* Henry Bech the priapic peripatetic and unproductive Jewish American novelist returns with seven more chapters from his mock heroic life He turns fifty in a confusing blend of civic and erotic circumstances while publicizing himself in Australia and Canada He marries a shiksa and travels with her to Israel where she falls in love with the land and to Scotland where he does And sweating buckets thinking big minting miracles he writes an ingeniously tawdry bestseller Bech's aesthetic and moral embarrassments reveal acid truths about both his trade and our times

**Basic Bech** John Updike, 2013-02-07 Basic Bech combines two classic titles *Bech A Book* and *Bech is Back* from one of John Updike's most beloved characters Henry Bech the celebrated author of *Travel Light* has been scrutinized canonized and vilified by reviewers academics critics and readers across the world Suffering from temporary impotence and not so temporary writer's block Bech finds renewed fame when he returns to his native America and *Think Big* his all time blockbuster hits the shops In these classic novels by John Updike we return to a character as compelling and timeless as Rabbit Angstrom the inimitable Henry Bech Famous for his writer's block Bech is a Jew adrift in a world of Gentiles As he roams from one adventure to the next he views life with a blend of wonder and cynicism that will make you laugh with delight and wince in recognition Praise for John Updike Our time's greatest man of letters as brilliant a literary critic and essayist as he was a novelist and short story writer His death constitutes a loss to our literature that is immeasurable Philip Roth Alert funny sensuous Here is a writer who can do more or less as he likes Martin Amis One of the most protean of American writers For a writer whose prose can be so lush and hyper charged he has always been in contact with the material detritus of everyday life *The Times* He was the ideal son of a platonic union between John Cheever and J D Salinger with Nabokov attending the christening as fairy godfather James Wood John Updike was born in 1932 in Shillington Pennsylvania He graduated from Harvard College in 1954 and spent a year in Oxford at the Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine Art His novels stories and nonfiction collections have won numerous awards including the Pulitzer Prize the National Book Award the National Book Critics Circle Award the PEN Faulkner Award and the Howells Medal of the American Academy of Arts and Letters He died in January 2009

*Bech Is Back* John Updike, Outlet, 1985-12-01 Seven new installments in the peripatetic life of the Jewish American writer Henry Bech catch him in several aesthetic embarrassments as he travels to several third world countries turns fifty marries falls in love and writes a best selling book

**New York Magazine**, 1982-11-01 New York magazine was born in 1968 after a run as an insert of the New York Herald Tribune and quickly made a place for itself as the trusted resource for readers across the country With award winning writing and photography covering everything from politics and food to theater and fashion the magazine's consistent mission has been to reflect back to its audience the energy and excitement of the city itself while celebrating New York as both a place and an idea

[The Complete Henry bech](#) John Updike, 1992 **Bech is Back** John Updike, 2004 Sketches in the life

of an American Jewish writer Henry Bech who has not written a word in years but continues to make a living by signing copies and lecturing Here he travels to several third world countries turns fifty marries falls in love and writes a best selling book

**Bech** John Updike,1970 In this classic novel by John Updike we return to a character as compelling and timeless as Rabbit Angstrom the inimitable Henry Bech Famous for his writer s block Bech is a Jew adrift in a world of Gentiles As he roams from one adventure to the next he views life with a blend of wonder and cynicism that will make you laugh with delight and wince in recognition

**Commentary** ,1999 John Updike Jack De Bellis,Michael Broomfield,2007 This definitive guide to materials by and about this prolific American author consists of a printed first volume and a second volume on CD ROM The A and B sections of Volume I concern separately printed works by Updike and books to which he has contributed The volume also features over 500 grayscale images of book covers jackets broadsides and many seldom seen items It includes comprehensive listings of Updike s short fiction poems articles essays and reviews as well as extensive documentation of letters speeches dramatic works manuscripts interviews and blurbs Volume II contains entries for material about Updike and his work reviews commentary and theses several appendices media appearances work read by others works in translation exhibits and catalogs and full color versions of images appearing in the printed volume

*Punch* Mark Lemon,Henry Mayhew,Tom Taylor,Shirley Brooks,Francis Cowley Burnand,Owen Seaman,1930 *American Short-story Writers Since World War II*. Patrick Meanor,Gwen Crane,2000 Focuses on how the declining market for short story writers after World War II saw the migration of these writers to universities where they not only continued to write but established creative writing classes that would in turn inspire and develop new generations of writers of various genres

**New York** ,1998 The Listener ,1983 The New Yorker Harold Wallace Ross,Katharine Sergeant Angell White,1982-11 **The Literary Review** ,1999 **Time** ,1998 Includes Time index **Congress Monthly** ,1999 John Updike Robert M. Luscher,1993 Prolific in a variety of genres John Updike is one of North America s premier men of letters regularly producing novels poetry short fiction and volumes of assorted prose Without question he is one of the most widely read contemporary American authors Updike s elegant fiction on the tensions and tragedies of contemporary middle class life have earned him numerous awards including the 1981 Pulitzer Prize for his novel Rabbit is Rich Updike is also a serious craftsman of the short story with 10 collections and 200 short stories to his credit His stature as a writer of short fiction warrants close examination particularly in light of the author s active contribution to the genre s current revitalization through formal experimentation and stylistic excellence In *John Updike A Study of the Short Fiction* Robert M Luscher focuses exclusively on Updike s short fiction In this comprehensive treatment of all of Updike s short fiction Luscher explores each of Updike s story collections separately and in approximate chronological order Luscher adopts this traditional approach because each collection has a dominant thematic focus and examines characters in a particular phase of development Updike s short fiction captures the changing historical background the shifting social mores and the personal responses to the altered socio cultural

circumstances that have heightened spiritual uncertainty social unrest sexual freedom and domestic tension Each successive collection shows Updike experimenting with different techniques as his focus on American domestic life adjusts to accommodate new emphases Luscher reveals how the particular form and techniques Updike employs are adapted to the materials As Updike's emphasis on different phases of experience shifts so does the manner in which he handles his subjects Luscher's examination is amplified by Updike's own commentary on the art of fiction He foregrounds Updike's remarks on writing and attitudes about his material rather than the autobiographical content of his stories Robert M Luscher's well organized presentation cogent use of existing scholarship and persuasive insights are sure to make this a ground breaking study of John Updike's short fiction

**The John Updike Encyclopedia** Jack De Bellis, 2000-09-30 John Updike is one of the most seminal American writers of the 20th century and one of the most prolific as well In addition to his best selling novels he has written numerous poems short stories reviews and essays His writing consistently reveals stylistic brilliance and through his engagement with America's moral and spiritual problems his works chronicle America's hopes and dreams failures and disappointments Though he is an enormously popular writer the complexity and elegance of his works have elicited growing scholarly attention Through several hundred alphabetically arranged entries this book provides both casual and serious readers an exceptional guide to his life and writings Whether the reader is seeking a novel summary an authoritative analysis of subjects elucidation of an allusion or a point about Updike's life or manner of composition the encyclopedia is indispensable A chronology summarizes the major events in Updike's career while an introductory essay examines his progress as a writer from his crafted light verse and informed reviews to his innovative novels and stories The entries that follow summarize Updike's books describe all major characters explain allusions identify major images and symbols analyze principal subjects discuss his life and career and draw on the most significant scholarship Entries include bibliographies and the volume closes with a list of works for further reading

The Profane Art Joyce Carol Oates, 1983

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