



TITLE:
Life Among the Savages

AUTHOR:
Shirley Jackson

READ BY:
Lesla Lockford

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NONFICTION

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Biographies & Memoirs / Nonfiction / Women's Interest

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English

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"At a moment when helicopter parenting is the norm, "free-range" parents are chastised for letting their children wander a few blocks alone, and the pressure feels greater than ever not only to "have it all" but to "be it all" — to manage both to pursue a successful career and to produce homemade cupcakes for every birthday — Jackson's relaxed approach to child-rearing feels refreshingly sane. Children, she tells us, are essentially savages and demons, and ought to be treated as such: at a cautious distance, without losing sight of one's own way of life." — *The New York Times*

Life Among the Savages

by Shirley Jackson

Read by Lesla Lockford

America's celebrated master of terror turns to a different kind of fright: raising children.

In her celebrated fiction, Shirley Jackson explored the darkness lurking beneath the surface of small-town America. But in *Life Among the Savages*, she takes on the lighter side of small-town life. In this witty and warm memoir of her family's life in rural Vermont, she delightfully exposes a domestic side in cheerful contrast to her quietly terrifying fiction. With a novelist's gift for character, an unflinching maternal instinct, and her signature humor, Jackson turns everyday family experiences into brilliant adventures.

AUTHOR

Shirley Jackson (1916–1965) first rose to fame with her short story "The Lottery." Her six novels and many short stories confirmed her as an essential voice in twentieth century American fiction.

READ BY



Lesla Lockford is a professor in the Department of Theatre and Film at Bowling Green State University. She teaches courses in voice for the actor, dialects, acting, and performance studies. She is also a writer and performer. Before becoming a teacher, she was a professional actor in Great Britain, where she appeared in a variety of roles in television, film, and on the stage. She trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London.