



# Under the deodars, The phantom 'rickshaw Wee Wille Winkle,by Rudyard Kipling

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**Under the deodars, The phantom 'rickshaw Wee Wille Winkle,by Rudyard Kipling** Rudyard Kipling The Phantom 'Rickshaw and Other Tales, also known as The Phantom 'Rickshaw & other Eerie Tales, is a collection of short stories by Rudyard Kipling, first published in 1888. After an affair with a Mrs. Agnes Keith-Wessington in Simla, the narrator, Jack, repudiates her and eventually becomes engaged to Miss Kitty Mannering. Yet Mrs. Wessington continually reappears in Jack's life, begging him to reconsider, insisting that it was all just a mistake. But Jack wants nothing to do with her and continues to spurn her. Eventually Mrs. Wessington dies, much to Jack's relief. However, some time thereafter he sees her old rickshaw and assumes that someone has bought it. Then, to his astonishment, the rickshaw and the men pulling it pass through a horse, revealing themselves to be phantoms, bearing the departed ghost of Mrs. Wessington. This leads Jack into increasingly erratic behavior which he tries to cover up by concocting increasingly elaborate lies to assuage Kitty's suspicions. Eventually a Dr. Heatherlegh takes him in, supposing the visions to be the result of disease or madness. Despite their efforts, Kitty and her family become increasingly suspicious and eventually call off the engagement. Jack loses hope and begins wandering the city aimlessly, accompanied by the ghost of Mrs. Wessington.

**My Own True Ghost Story** The narrator, while staying at a dāk-bungalow in Katmal, India, hears someone in the next room playing billiards. He assumes that it is a group of doolie-bearers who've just arrived. The next morning he complains, only to learn that there were no coolies in the dāk-bungalow the night before. The owner then tells him that ten years ago it was a billiard-hall. An engineer who'd been fond of the billiard hall had died somewhere far from it and they suspected that it was his ghost that occasionally came to visit it.

**Under the Deodars** (published 1888) is a collection of short stories by Rudyard Kipling. Mrs. Hauksbee decides to start a salon in Simla, but Mrs. Mallowe talks her out of it. She then explains to Mrs. Hauksbee that she's experiencing a mid-life crisis and that she came out of her own by becoming an Influence in the life of a young man. So Mrs. Hauksbee decides to try the same. Against Mrs. Mallowe's warnings, she chooses Otis Yeere. Everything seems to be going according to plan—Otis Yeere is coming up in the world, by virtue of his association with Mrs. Hauksbee. And Mrs. Hauksbee platonically encourages his attentions. But one day she learns that everything has not gone according to plan when he tries to kiss her.

**Wee Willie Winkie** Percival William Williams, who is affectionately called 'Wee Willie Winkie' because of the nursery rhyme, is the only son of the Colonel of the 195th. He makes good friends with a subaltern, whom he nicknames 'Coppo'. One day Wee Willie Winkie confesses to Coppo that he saw him kissing Miss Allardyce, whose father was a Major. Coppo persuaded him to keep silent about the matter since they were engaged, but hadn't announced it, yet. Three weeks later, when Wee Willie Winkie is grounded, he sees Miss Allardyce ride her horse across the river in an attempt to prove her mettle. Wee Willie Winkie knows that the 'Bad Men' (who he equates with goblins) live on the other side of the river, so he rides out after her even though he's grounded. Miss Allardyce's horse blunders and falls, giving Miss Allardyce a twisted ankle. Wee Willie Winkie catches up to her and sends his pony, Jack, back to the cantonments. Some natives find them and consider whether to hold Miss Allardyce and Wee Willie Winkie for ransom or return them for a reward. When Wee Willie Winkie's riderless horse returns to the cantonments, E Company immediately marshals and sets out to find him. The Company frightens away the natives and Wee Willie Winkie is lauded as a hero for saving Miss Allardyce.

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