

## Short Stories: Beginnings...

**All of a sudden she noticed that her beauty had fallen all apart on her, that it had begun to pain her physically like a tumor or a cancer.**

Gabriel Garcia Marquez *Eva is Inside her Cat*

**During the whole of a dull, dark, and soundless day in the autumn of the year, when the clouds hung oppressively low in the heavens, I had been passing alone, on horseback, through a singularly dreary tract of country; and at length found myself, as the shades of the evening drew on, within view of the melancholy House of Usher.**

Edgar Allen Poe *The Fall of the House of Usher*

**Whatever hour you woke there was a door shutting.**

Virginia Woolf *A Haunted House*

**Tub had been waiting for an hour in the falling snow.**

Tobias Wolff *Hunters is the Snow*

**A man stood upon a railroad bridge in northern Alabama, looking down into the swift water twenty feet below.**

Ambrose Pierce *An Occurrence on Owl Creek Bridge*

**Please, God, let him telephone me now.**

Dorothy Parker *A Telephone Call*

**Conradin was ten years old, and the doctor had pronounced his professional opinion that the boy would not live another five years.**

Saki *Sredni Vashtar*

**A vast crowd was gathered to see Flammerion behead himself.**

Brain Aldiss *Headless*

**No one can, to this day, remember what it was we did to offend him.**

Peter Carey *American Dreams*

**November frost had starched the flat countryside into silent rigidity.**

Brian Friel *The Potato Gatherers*

**It is very seldom that mere ordinary people like John and myself secure ancestral halls for the summer.**

Charlotte Perkins Gilman *The Yellow Wallpaper*

**It was a mistake to take Lola there.**

Graham Greene *The Innocent*

**Sunday. He wakes and finds her gone.**

Tim Winton *Wake*