Elephant's Nest in a Rhubarb Tree, by H. E. Bates.

This is the third volume of short stories by Bates, written between 1938 and 1964, to be published in the United States. Like those of the earlier books, the 20 pieces included here reveal the same sure touch of the master craftsman. With an astonishing economy of words and plot, but with a rare sensitivity to a wide range of moods. Bates succeeds almost every time in revealing the inner thoughts and feelings of quite ordinary men, women, and children in very personal encounters. This is a collection of brilliant sketches which will not only entertain the reader, but which will not allow him to leave before he has seen himself and his own motives in sharper perspective and with greater clarity than he ever imagined possible.

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