



# Real-Life Anecdotes In Sudha Murthy's Wise And Otherwise: A Salute To Lifeand How I Taught My Grandmother To Read And Other Stories.

S. Keerthana Priya<sup>1\*</sup>, Dr. K. Suresh<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1\*</sup>Research Scholar, Department of English, Vels Institute of Science Technologies and Advanced Studies (VISTAS), Pallavaram, Chennai.

<sup>2</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of English, Vels Institute of Science Technologies and Advanced Studies (VISTAS), Pallavaram, Chennai.

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## ARTICLE INFO

## ABSTRACT

A simple recounting of an event is called an anecdote. A story depicts a journey with a beginning, middle, and end. Anecdotes and stories foster empathy, interest, and surprise while imparting knowledge and morals, which all contribute to an emotional connection with the audience. By definition, anecdotes are brief, interesting, or amusing tales about actual events or real people that make a topic seem more realistic and relevant. The well-known Indian author and philanthropist Sudha Murthy frequently weaves real-life stories and experiences into her writings. Real-life events, introspection, and personal experiences are frequently woven into Sudha Murthy's storytelling to produce stories that connect with readers. Her stories are valued for their authenticity and relatability in part because of her ability to incorporate these qualities into her writing. The paper attempts to study how real-life anecdotes are displayed in Sudha Murthy's *Wise and Otherwise: A Salute to Lifeand How I Taught My Grandmother to Read and Other Stories*.

**Key Words:** Real-life stories, Personal experiences, Simple, Authenticity, Relatability, Interest.

## Introduction

Sudha Murthy is renowned for her straightforward and captivating writing. Readers of all ages and backgrounds can easily relate to her stories because of the relatability and accessibility of her writing. Her work is distinguished by its social conscience, emotional richness, simplicity, realism, and hint of optimism. Because they tackle significant societal concerns and provide a glimpse of hope and inspiration for constructive change, her novels strike a chord with readers. Indian writer and philanthropist Sudha Murthy frequently incorporates personal anecdotes and experiences into her works. Numerous stories by Sudha Murthy address current social issues, such as poverty, education, cultural practices, and personal experiences frequently inform these narratives.

## Objectives of the Study

To find how real-life anecdotes are displayed in Sudha Murthy's *Wise and Otherwise: A Salute to Life and How I Taught My Grandmother to Read and Other Stories*.

## Anecdotes

Anecdotes are condensed narratives of true stories that elicit strong feelings from listeners or readers. According to the Oxford Learner's Dictionary, an anecdote is "a personal account of an event" or "a short, interesting, or amusing story about a real person or event." Writing also employs anecdotes. Both fictional and non-fiction works may contain it. An anecdote's general goal is to provoke thought. They are applicable to several types of writing. Real-life incidents that frequently happen to the writer or speaker are referred to as personal anecdotes.

Sudha Murthy frequently pulls from her travelogue. She might describe meeting a street vendor or rickshaw puller, for example, who had a fascinating life narrative that highlighted their challenges, goals, or distinctive viewpoints. Sudha Murthy incorporates real experiences into her stories. She might talk about something that happened when she was younger, such as a lesson she received from her grandparents, a moment that influenced her morals, or a conversation that had a lasting effect on her.

Through her novels, particularly in compilations such as "*Wise and Otherwise: A Salute to Life*" and, "*How I Taught My Grandmother to Read and Other Stories*", Sudha Murthy delivers narratives influenced by her personal experiences and social views. She creates stories that frequently offer insightful and instructive lessons about life by drawing on her personal experiences, interactions with individuals from all walks of life, and her work in social work. Her stories are mostly based on it.

### **Wise and Otherwise: A Salute to Life**

A compilation of fifty true tales, "*Wise and Otherwise: A Salute to Life*" by Sudha Murthy, provides insights into the everyday lives of individuals and the ethical lessons that can be obtained from them. By presenting vignettes that highlight human values, resiliency, generosity, and the complexity of society, Sudha Murthy relies on her experiences and insights from a variety of backgrounds.

"Wise" and "Otherwise" are the two sections that make up the book.

- "Wise": This part includes narratives that highlight circumstances in which people exhibit kindness, wisdom, empathy, and honesty. Sudha Murthy tells stories of bravery, kindness, and altruism that are frequently displayed by regular individuals in trying situations. Moral principles, the need to make moral decisions, and the victory of the human spirit are all emphasized in these tales.
- "Otherwise": Conversely, the "Otherwise" section delves into situations in which individuals display avarice, self-centeredness, and unethical conduct. Sudha Murthy illuminates the darker sides of human nature by bringing to light examples of moral failure, dishonesty, and manipulation. The moral implications of immoral behavior and the value of moral behavior in society are brought up in these cautionary tales.

In "*Wise and Otherwise: A Salute to Life*," Sudha Murthy crafts stories that encapsulate both the complexity of existence and human nature. The narratives elicit reflection on ethics, principles, and the consequences of personal decisions. In the end, the book offers insightful and provocative teachings while paying homage to the fortitude, compassion, and wisdom present in the lives of common people.

### **How I Taught My Grandmother to Read and Other Stories**

The endearing collection of short stories "*How I Taught My Grandmother to Read and Other Stories*" is authored by Sudha Murthy. With a primary readership of young readers in mind, the book is full of anecdotes drawn from Sudha Murthy's personal experiences and insights.

In the narrative with the same title, "*How I Taught My Grandmother to Read*," Sudha Murthy describes how she helped her illiterate grandmother learn to read and write when she was younger. Sudha introduces her grandmother to the world of books and alphabets through inventive means and patience. Along the way, Sudha teaches her grandma to read and write while also picking up important life skills like empathy, patience, and the love of imparting knowledge.

The book is an anthology of heartwarming tales centered around common people and situations. Themes like humility, empathy, compassion, and the value of morals and education are all present in each narrative. Sudha Murthy places a strong emphasis on the value of education, relationships, and even small acts of compassion in influencing people's lives. Some tales draw attention to societal problems and inequalities in society, while others laud the strength and resolve of people in the face of hardship, highlighting the triumph of the human spirit.

### **Conclusion**

Author Sudha Murthy uses examples from her own life to give her stories depth, realism, and authenticity. These tales fulfill a variety of functions by providing readers with a personal touch that touches them emotionally, illuminating cultural subtleties, moral teachings, and insights into human behavior. Through the incorporation of these anecdotes into her stories, Sudha Murthy increases the realism of her storytelling and increases their impact, educational value, and audience engagement.

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