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*The Dictator and the Hammock [Daniel Pennac] on calendrierdelascience.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. Manuel Pereira da Ponte Martins, beloved dictator of the state of Teresina in Brazil.*

John Harrison From the Reviews: If they do, they will not be disappointed. Because the book has so inexorably become a story about writing a story, it manages only, in the end, a whimsical self-regard which subverts its own wish to entertain" - Carol Ann Duffy, The Telegraph "There is certainly no need for suspense. The entertainment rarely flags. Sardonic observations decorate every page. They are so good, these stories, and so intelligently amusing, and they arrive so frequently, that we never have time to think of asking for more. Similarly the illustrative quotes chosen here are merely those the complete review subjectively believes represent the tenor and judgment of the review as a whole. We acknowledge and remind and warn you that they may, in fact, be entirely unrepresentative of the actual reviews by any other measure. The first of the seven parts of *The Dictator and the Hammock* is a fairly complete story in and of itself, and even concludes with the words: So also, from the first sentence, Pennac allows that this is hypothetical, a story-plan rather than just a complete tale: It would be the story of an agoraphobic dictator. Indeed, the story is first sketched out around its dictator-protagonist, with the conclusion that: But, like any man who is interesting enough to be written about, he wanted to escape his fate. And the whole story of Pereira is about that that attempt. That would be the story worth telling. Pereira is a young man whose two ambitions are: He grabs power at a young age, killing the president of his fictional Latin American homeland and then taking his place. A witch prophesies that he will be killed by a crowd, which triggers the agoraphobia the thereafter haunts him; to play it safe, he enlists a double as a stand-in for his public appearances. Eventually, he decides to travel -- and live it up -- abroad, his double taking his boring place for the duration. No one is the wiser, but his double also eventually wants to move on, and hires a double in turn -- a sequence that continues until the original returns, with the expected consequences From this story Pennac spins other stories, including that of the first double, who discovers the magic of movies and sets off for America and Hollywood. He becomes a doubled double, mistaken for Charlie Chaplin, and then a double cubed, mistaken for Rudolph Valentino passing himself off as Charlie Chaplin ; eventually, he even comes across the real Chaplin and Valentino -- and, for a while, works as an actual movie-double But Pennac also comes to the fore himself, the writer at work, acknowledging not only what he is doing but describing the circumstances that led him to it, beginning with time spent in Brazil around , lounging in a hammock some of that time. As becomes very clear, *The Dictator and the Hammock* is a fiction about story-telling that considers what goes into and can be done with a story from every side -- while also telling some good tales along the way, by way of both example and digression. Naturally, the role of the barber -- also played by Chaplin, and a double of dictator Adenoid Hynkel -- is of particular interest. Through the seven stages of his novel -- ending with a short section on: So also he has another inspiring acquaintance -cum-character needle him about his Russian-doll construction: Your story of the doubles! How does one end a novel like that? What about the second? How many were there again? In some of his commentary, Pennac even ascribes a larger-than-life like role to his creations: Your ball is formed as much from what happens to us by chance as from our quiet meditation and reflection, and you pick up everything on your path that can give you meaning. His story-telling here, in which he describes some of that which happened to him by chance along the way, is offered as confirmation. If his doubles-stories get a bit tangled, they and the accompanying and supporting digressions do make for good and often quite clever entertainment. And Pennac has some nice thoughts, whether on self, doubles, and identity, or on what the writer does -- including the nice observation: Writers write to be rid of themselves, but also to be read.

Chapter 2 : the Literary Saloon at the complete review - 11 - 20 February Archive

*The Dictator And The Hammock has ratings and 26 reviews. Fede said: Not full 4 stars, to be honest, more a to my first Pennac's book This was a.*

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Manuel Pereira da Ponte Martins, beloved dictator of the state of Teresina in Brazil, develops agoraphobia the day a fortune-teller predicts he will die being torn limb from limb by an angry mob.

### Chapter 6 : Daniel Pennac - Wikipedia

Manuel Pereira da Ponte Martins, beloved dictator of the state of Teresina in Brazil, develops agoraphobia the day a fortune-teller predicts he will die being torn limb from limb by an angry mob. His life becomes unbearable and he decides to hire a double to stand in while he set off to enjoy.

### Chapter 7 : The Dictator And The Hammock by Daniel Pennac - Penguin Books Australia

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