Comment on "Twice Told Tales' by Daniel Stern

These are stories about people with books in their lives, but they're anything but bookish stories. Stern's rush of narrative energy is impressive, at moments almost volcanic. His language crackles with pell-mell vitality and his characters, some of them remarkably vivid, live out their hopes and disappointments in swift, sharp strokes. I especially liked one story about the relations between a writer and his crippled, domineering editor, who continues to harangue him even from beyond the grave.

--Morris Dickstein