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The duckling was very unhappy. They don't like me because I'm ugly.

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In this book, you will read about an ugly duckling with no friends. Will he always be unhappy? The second story is about a nightingale, a little bird. She lives in a lovely wood, but then a king hears about her beautiful songs. In the third story, a mermaid loves a handsome prince and wants to live with him on land. The fourth story is about an emperor's very strange new clothes. And the last story is about a very small girl, Thumbelina. Who will love her? And who will she love?

Hans Christian Andersen was born in Denmark in 1805. His father made shoes and his mother could not read or write. He went to school and university in Copenhagen.

After he left university, he wrote a lot of stories. Many people in Europe liked them. But today children all over the world love the stories of Hans Andersen.