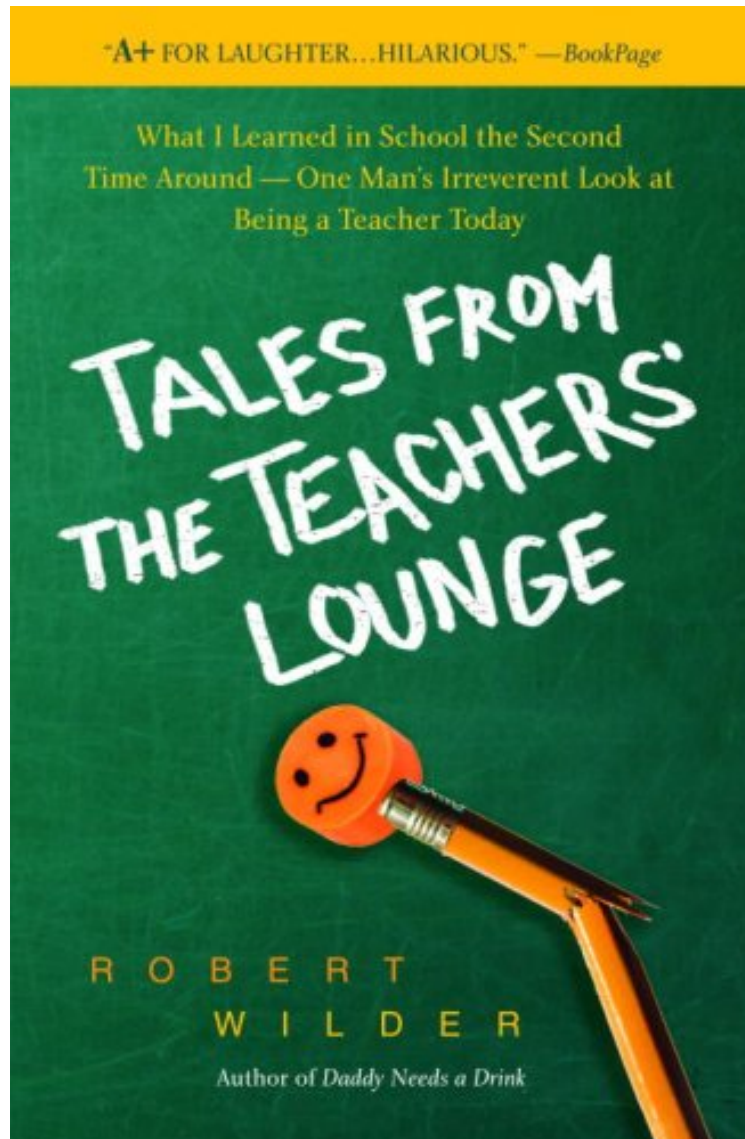


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## Tales from the Teachers' Lounge: What I Learned in School the Second Time Around-One Man's Irreverent Look at Being a Teacher Today

Robert Wilder

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**Robert Wilder : Tales from the Teachers' Lounge: What I Learned in School the Second Time Around-One Man's Irreverent Look at Being a Teacher Today** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tales from the Teachers' Lounge: What I Learned in School the Second Time Around-

## One Man's Irreverent Look at Being a Teacher Today:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Oozing Sarcasm and Self-deprecation  
By Franklin the Mouse  
Mr. Wilder's book is chock full of funny and creative metaphorical comparisons. However, there are few moments of serious introspection. For the most part, his memoir is a light, whimsical compilation of misadventures in the teaching world. In one chapter (pages 66-76 in paperback edition), the author either fails to recognize or felt it wasn't important to elaborate that two, "eccentric" outcasts in one of his classes were clearly Asperger (high-functioning autism) kids. The stories of dealing and observing these two students were very funny, but also a missed opportunity to educate the reader about autism. And that is the crux of Mr. Wilder's book. Lots of laughs if you like your humor somewhat caustic, but chances are you won't walk away from this volume being more enlightened about the teaching profession. This type of humor isn't for everyone. I found the book enjoyable and a nice, brief distraction from more serious works.  
0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great read for any education professional  
By Doug Saylor  
Any teacher who has been in education for a while or is just starting out should read this book. There are great stories from a teacher who has been in a verity of schools and taught at many different grade levels. Some really funny stories about kids and the parents the every teacher "enjoys" (replace enjoys with; tolerates, deals with, works with, communicates, has issues with, etc.).  
Some very good lessons to think about and ideas that just might help in the classroom.  
5 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Tales From The Teachers' Lounge  
By CustomerRob  
Wilder's latest book is an up-close look at the life of a school teacher. Very funny and at times very poignant, Tales . . . tells us much about Wilder's own experiences in the classroom and about that rare mix of humor, drama, knowledge of one's subject matter, and love of kids that makes a great teacher. I recommend it highly!

From the critically acclaimed author of *Daddy Needs a Drink*—hailed by the Los Angeles Times as “consistently hilarious”—comes a series of irreverent, wickedly observant essays about what it really means to be a teacher today. With his trademark wit and wisdom, Robert Wilder dissects the world’s noblest profession—whether he’s taming a classroom full of hormonal teenagers or going one-on-one with the school bully. Wilder was twenty-six when he found his true calling. Leaving a lucrative advertising career in New York, he got a job as an assistant first-grade teacher at a Santa Fe alternative school—and never looked back. Now he brings his unique perspective—as a teacher, parent, and former student—to a series of laugh-out-loud essays that show teaching at its most absurd . . . and most rewarding. With brutal candor he chronicles his own lively adventures in modern education, from navigating cutthroat kindergarten sign-ups to subbing for a class experiment gone wrong—and dares to tell about it. He shares the surprising lessons he’s learned in the trenches of his profession, including how to bribe a four-year-old (his own) to stop swearing in a Lutheran preschool and the best way to teach moody teenagers . . . manage “helicopter” parents . . . and cope with bullies—whether of the school-yard, Internet, or parental kind. And he offers tough love for cheaters who log on to [www.SchoolSucks.com](http://www.SchoolSucks.com), then puts to rest forever the question of why new teachers gain weight (hint: the free donuts don’t help). In *Tales from the Teachers’ Lounge*, Robert Wilder charts life’s learning curve with a warmth and humor you don’t find in textbooks. By turns heartwarming, eye-opening, and uproariously funny, these pitch-perfect essays offer priceless lessons in life, family, learning, and teaching from a true lover of education. From the Hardcover edition.

From Publishers Weekly  
After giving up his advertising job and moving to Santa Fe with his wife, Wilder (*Daddy Needs a Drink*) decided he needed a day job, so he signed on as an assistant first-grade teacher at a local alternative school. Its New Age pedagogy—pursuing kindness and peace, counting games with recycled organic materials, etc.—was fine, but he was spending most of his time tending a delusional nine-year-old girl, flushing bad boys' turds down the toilet and coping with hippie parents in denial about their bullying son. So he shifted to teaching seventh grade in a private day school, where there was just the usual preteen wackiness. Some days, so many of his students were hoisting the middle finger, a passerby might think he was teaching a lesson in profanity for the hearing-impaired. Teaching taught Wilder much about what to avoid, as a parent—especially about not being a helicopter parent, obsessively hovering over his kids' every move. He also learned there are two sides to this *carpe diem* coin—we want our kids to go ahead and try everything, but we're uncomfortable when our toddlers actually start dancing with the cross-dressers on Halloween. Wilder may be a bit potty-mouthed for the mainstream parenting shelf, but he's honest and funny. (Aug.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.  
“Honest and funny.”—Publishers Weekly  
From the Hardcover edition.  
About the Author  
Robert Wilder is a writer and teacher who lives with his wife and two children, Poppy and London, in New Mexico. He has appeared on NPR's Morning Edition, and has a monthly column for the Santa Fe Reporter also called "Daddy Needs a Drink." From the Hardcover edition.