

## Read Book Beasts Joyce Carol Oates

### **Beasts Joyce Carol Oates**

Discover the darker side of the Garden State with this anthology of gritty mystery stories. Akashic Books continues its award-winning series of original noir anthologies, launched in 2004 with Brooklyn Noir. Each volume is comprised of all-new stories, each one set in a distinct location within the geographical area of the book. In New Jersey Noir, a star-studded cast of authors

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sifts through the hidden dirt of the Garden State. Featuring brand-new stories (and a few poems) by Joyce Carol Oates, Jonathan Safran Foer, Robert Pinsky, Edmund White & Michael Carroll, Richard Burgin, Pulitzer Prize-winner Paul Muldoon, Sheila Kohler, C.K. Williams, Gerald Stern, Lou Manfredo, S.A. Solomon, Bradford Morrow, Jonathan Santlofer, Jeffrey Ford, S.J. Rozan, Barry N. Malzberg & Bill Pronzini, Hirsh

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Sawhney, and Robert Arellano. Praise for New Jersey Noir "Oates's introduction to Akashic's noir volume dedicated to the Garden State, with its evocative definition of the genre, is alone worth the price of the book . . . Highlights include Lou Manfredo's "Soul Anatomy," in which a politically connected rookie cop is involved in a fatal shooting in Camden; S.J. Rozan's "New Day Newark," in which an elderly woman

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takes a stand against two drug-dealing gangs; and Jonathan Santlofer's "Lola," in which a struggling Hoboken artist finds his muse .

. . . Poems by C.K.

Williams, Paul Muldoon, and others—plus photos by Gerald Slota—enhance this distinguished entry." —Publishers

Weekly "It was inevitable that this fine noir series would reach New Jersey. It took longer than some readers might have wanted, but, oh boy, was

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it worth the wait . . . More than most of the entries in the series, this volume is about mood and atmosphere more than it is about plot and character . . . It should go without saying that regular readers of the noir series will seek this one out, but beyond that, the book also serves as a very good introduction to what is a popular but often misunderstood term and style of writing.”  
—Booklist, Starred Review “A lovingly

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collected assortment of tales and poems that range from the disturbing to the darkly humorous." —Shelf Awareness

"Timely, monumental. . . . Yet another piercing examination of American culture by the writer this reviewer considers our country's greatest living novelist. . . .

It is brilliant. How blessed we are to have her as a novelist in our chaotic, confusing times. Night is spot on for these times of

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racial divide, as well as in portraying the fractious family dynamic that many of us know all too well. . . . Night deserves the top spot on your quarantine nightstand. Here's a fervent salute to Oates, our finest American novelist, for this one."

-- Star Tribune The bonds of family are tested in the wake of a profound tragedy, providing a look at the darker side of our society by one of our most enduringly popular

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and important writers Night Sleep Death The Stars is a gripping examination of contemporary America through the prism of a family tragedy: when a powerful parent dies, each of his adult children reacts in startling and unexpected ways, and his grieving widow in the most surprising way of all. Stark and penetrating, Joyce Carol Oates's latest novel is a vivid exploration of race, psychological trauma,



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class warfare, grief, and eventual healing, as well as an intimate family novel in the tradition of the author's bestselling *We Were the Mulvaneys*. Fifteen years ago, in 1975, Genna Hewett-Meade's college roommate died a mysterious, violent, terrible death. Minette Swift had been a fiercely individualistic scholarship student, an assertive—even prickly—personality, and one of the few black girls at an exclusive

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women's liberal arts college near Philadelphia. By contrast, Genna was a quiet, self-effacing teenager from a privileged upper-class home, self-consciously struggling to make amends for her own elite upbringing. When, partway through their freshman year, Minette suddenly fell victim to an increasing torrent of racist harassment and vicious slurs—from within the apparent safety of their

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tolerant, "enlightened" campus—Genna felt it her duty to protect her roommate at all costs. Now, as Genna reconstructs the months, weeks, and hours leading up to Minette's tragic death, she is also forced to confront her own identity within the social framework of that time. Her father was a prominent civil defense lawyer whose radical politics—including defending anti-war terrorists wanted by the FBI—would deeply affect

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his daughter's outlook on life, and later challenge her deepest beliefs about social obligation in a morally gray world. *Black Girl / White Girl* is a searing double portrait of "black" and "white," of race and civil rights in post-Vietnam America, captured by one of the most important literary voices of our time. Mama cat has seven kittens. Little Reynard is the smallest, and his brothers and sisters tease him about his size

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and his orange color. Because he is so small and timid, the little girl, Lily, takes special care of Little Reynard. She gives him his own bowl and even lets him sleep on her pillow, yet sometimes he still feels he doesn't really belong. Then one cold winter day Little Reynard peers out of an open window and sees two young foxes that look very much like him, and when the foxes invite him to join them, Little Reynard says yes! In

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their second picture-book collaboration, following come meet muffin!, acclaimed author Joyce Carol Oates and artist Mark Graham introduce an irresistible feline character who will make himself at home in your heart.

The Corn Maiden

Night-Gaunts

Foxfire

Lovely, Dark, Deep

Zombie

Joyce Carol Oates's prize-winning story "Where Are You Going, Where Have You

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Been?" takes up troubling subjects that continue to occupy her in her fiction: the romantic longings and limited options of adolescent women; the tensions between mothers and daughters; the sexual victimization of women; and the American obsession with violence. Inspired by a magazine story about a serial killer, its remarkable portrait of the dreamy teenager Connie has made it a feminist classic. Connie's life anticipates the emergence of American society from the social innocence of

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the fifties into the harsher contemporary realities of war, random violence, and crime. The story was the basis for the movie *Smooth Talk*, which became the subject of much feminist debate. This casebook includes an introduction by the editor, a chronology of Oates's life, and authoritative text of "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?" an essay by Oates on *Smooth Talk*, the original *Life* article about the serial killer, ten critical essays (including two



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about the film), and a bibliography. The contributors are Brenda O. Daly, Christina Marsden Gillis, Don Moser, Tom Quirk, B. Ruby Rich, R.J.R. Rockwood, Larry Rubin, Gretchen Schultz, Marie Mitchell Oleson Urbanski, Joyce M. Wegs, and Joan D. Winslow. Elaine Showalter is Avalon Foundation Professor of Humanities at Princeton University. She is the author and editor of many books on women's writing, including *Sister's Choice: Tradition and Change in American Women's Writing*.

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A volume in the Women Writers: Texts and Contexts Series.

When he died in 1937, destitute and emotionally as well as physically ruined, H. P. Lovecraft had no idea that he would one day be celebrated as the godfather of modern horror. A dark visionary, his work would influence an entire generation of writers, including Stephen King, Clive Barker, Neil Gaiman, and Anne Rice. Now, the most important tales of this distinctive American storyteller have been collected in a single

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volume by National Book Award-winning author Joyce Carol Oates. In tales that combine the nineteenth-century gothic sensibility of Edgar Allan Poe with a uniquely daring internal vision, Lovecraft fuses the supernatural and mundane into a terrifying, complex, and exquisitely realized vision, foretelling a psychically troubled century to come. Set in a meticulously described New England landscape, here are harrowing stories that explore the total collapse of sanity beneath the

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weight of chaotic events—stories of myth and madness that release monsters into our world. Lovecraft's universe is a frightening shadow world where reality and nightmare intertwine, and redemption can come only from below.

Finally returned to print in a beautiful new trade paperback edition, *American Appetites* is classic Joyce Carol Oates—a suspenseful thriller in which the happy facade of an affluent suburban couple crumbles under the weight

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of tragedy and scandal. For twenty-six years, Ian McCullough, a demographics researcher at a social science think tank, has been happily married to Glynnis, a successful cookbook writer and a brilliant hostess. When a drunken argument about a suspected infidelity turns physical, Ian accidentally pushes Glynnis through a plate glass window—or did she fall? Now, Glynnis is dead, Ian is charged with murder, and their American dream is shattered. And soon, in a courtroom where guilt and responsibility

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become two very separate issues, Ian will stand trial, fighting for his life. A sophisticated, witty, and chilling novel from the incomparable Joyce Carol Oates, *American Appetites* explores our insatiable hunger for power, love, and success, and how comfortable, privileged lives—and the course of fate—can be dramatically transformed in an instant. A New York Times Notable Book of the Year A Publisher's Weekly Best Book of the Year Combining the wit of David Lodge

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with Poe's delicious sense of the macabre, these are three witty, spooky novellas of satire set in academia—a world where Derrida rules, love is a "complicated ideological position," and poetic justice is served with an ideological twist.

The Barrens

We Were the Mulvaney's

The Fabulous Beasts

An Anthology of Men on

Fairy Tales

Tales of Darkness and

Dread

***Breaks new ground in fairy-tale studies by offering male writers a chance to reflect***

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***on their relationships to fairy tales.***

***In this blockbuster fantasy series, perfect for fans of *Firekeeper's Daughter* and *Iron Widow*, fate binds two Black teenagers together as they journey into a magical jungle to hunt down a vicious monster. "Rich in magic and mythos, *Beasts of Prey* is a feast for all the senses." —Renée Ahdieh, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Beautiful An Instant* *New York Times* and Indie Bestseller *There's no such thing as magic in the broken city of Lkossa,****



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***especially for sixteen-year-old Koffi, who indentured to the notorious Night Zoo, knows the fearsome creatures in her care and paying off her family's debts to secure their eventual freedom can be her only focus. But the night those she loves are gravely threatened by the Zoo's cruel master, Koffi unleashes a power she doesn't fully understand, upending her life completely. As the second son of a decorated hero, Ekon is all but destined to become a Son of the Six—an***

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***elite warrior—and uphold a family legacy. But on the night of his final rite of passage, Ekon encounters not only the Shetani—a vicious monster that has plagued the city for nearly a century and stalks his nightmares—but Koffi who seems to have the power to ward off the beast. Koffi's power ultimately saves Ekon, but his choice to let her flee dooms his hopes of becoming a warrior. Desperate to redeem himself, Ekon vows to hunt the Shetani and end its reign of terror, but he can't***

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***do it alone. Koffi and Ekon form a tentative alliance and together enter the Greater Jungle, a world steeped in wild, frightening magic and untold dangers. The hunt begins. But it quickly becomes unclear whether they are the hunters or the hunted. "The hunt for your next YA fantasy book trilogy obsession has ended."***

***—Entertainment Weekly***  
***Eight stories from the author of *A Book of American Martyrs* that display her "mastery of imagery and stream of consciousness" (Kirkus***

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**Reviews). Joyce Carol Oates is an unparalleled investigator of human personality. In these eight stories, she deftly tests the bonds between damaged individuals—brother and sister, teacher and student, two lonesome strangers on a subway—in the beautiful, bracing prose that has become her signature. In the title story, a white, aspiring professor in Detroit tries to shake a black, male shadow during the summer of the city's 1967 race riots. In "The Rescuer," a promising graduate student detours to**

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***inner-city Trenton, New Jersey, to save her brother from a downward spiral, only to find herself entranced by his dangerous new world. Meanwhile, a young woman prowls the New York City subways in search of her perfect man in "Lorelei." In each of these short stories, Oates portrays a desperate confrontation with the demons inside us. Sometimes it's the human who wins, and sometimes it's the demon. "Oates offers unexpected glimmers of redemption amid the grotesquerie, degradation,***

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***and exploitation that fill this collection's eight tales."***

***—Publishers Weekly***

***Four brand-new novellas by the #1 New York Times-bestselling, National Book Award-winning "grand mistress of ghoulishness" (Publishers Weekly). An academic in Pennsylvania discovers a terrifying trauma from her past after inheriting a house in Cardiff, Maine from someone she has never heard of. A pubescent girl, overcome with loneliness, befriends a feral cat that becomes her protector from the***

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***increasingly aggressive males that surround her. A brilliant but shy college sophomore is distraught to discover that she's pregnant, and the professor who takes her under his wing may not have innocent intentions. And a woman who marries into a family shattered by tragedy finds herself haunted by her predecessor's voice, an inexplicably befouled well, and a compulsive attraction to a garage that took two lives. In these psychologically daring, chillingly suspenseful***

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***pieces, the author of We Were the Mulvaneys and Blonde writes about women facing threats past and present, once again cementing her reputation for “great intelligence and dead-on imaginative powers” (Los Angeles Times Book Review).***

***Where Is Little Reynard?  
Mysteries of Winterthurn  
A Novel***

***The Edge of Impossibility:  
Tragic Forms in Literature  
Tales of Mystery and  
Suspense***

***A bright, talented junior  
at Catamount College in***



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*the druggy 1970s, Gillian Brauer strives to realise more than a poet's craft in her workshop with the charismatic, anti-establishment professor Andre Harrow. For Gillian has fallen in love - with Harrow, with his aesthetic sensibility and bohemian lifestyle, with his secluded cottage, with the mystique of his imposing, russet-haired French wife, Dorcas. A sculptress, Dorcas has outraged the campus and alumnae with the crude, primitive, larger than life-sized wooden totems that she has*

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*exhibited under the motto 'We are beasts and this is our consolation'. As if mesmerised, Gillian enters the rarefied world of the Harrows. She is special, even though she knows her classmates have preceded her here. She is helpless. She is powerful. And she will learn in full the meaning of Dorcas' provocative motto . . .*

*From the #1 New York Times-bestselling author, "a compelling domestic horror story" of a new bride haunted by childhood nightmares (Kirkus Reviews). Less than twenty-*

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*four hours after exchanging vows with her new husband, Willem, Abby steps out into traffic. As his wife lies in her hospital bed, sleeping in fits and starts, Willem tries to determine whether this was an absentminded accident or a premeditated plunge, and he quickly discovers a mysterious set of clues about what his wife might be hiding. Why, for example is there a rash-like red mark circling her wrist? What does she dream about that causes her to wake from the sound of her own*

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*screams? Slowly, Abby begins to open up to her husband, revealing to him what she has never shared with anyone before—a story of a terrified mother; a jealous, drug-addled father; a daughter's terrifying captivity; and the demons behind her terrible recurring dreams of wandering through a field ridden with human skulls and bones... From a recipient of a National Book Award and three Bram Stoker Awards, this suspenseful, twisting tale, named one of the scariest books of the year*

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*by Kirkus Reviews, is a "fast-paced examination of the destructive and restorative nature of obsessive love"*

*(Booklist).*

*After Zoe Kruller is murdered, the Sparta, New York, police target her estranged husband Delray Kruller and her lover Eddy Diehl, leading the Krullers's son Aaron and Eddy Diehl's daughter Krista to become obsessed with one another, each believing the other's father is guilty, until they must face each other again as adults. By an*

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*acclaimed best-selling author. 75,000 first printing.*

*This collection of fifty-two poems from the author of Angel Fire and Anonymous Sins explores the annihilation of the time-bound ego, a liberating, sometimes terrifying experience for all who live within the "fabulous beast" of history and nature. The poems explore the shifting, elusive point at which the inwardness of individual experience touches upon the larger consciousness of a species*

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*or an era, forming a connection with a "self" that goes beyond subjectivity. The poems are grouped into four parts: "Broken Connections," "Forbidden Testimonies," "The Child-Martyr" and "A Posthumous Sketch," are prose poems which, though technically different from the others, are concerned with the same theme—the relationship between the individual and a larger, all-inclusive whole. Neither fatalistic nor rebellious, the poems convey the idea that as*

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*long as we live in time we must struggle, and that is this struggle that determines our humanity.*

*American Appetites  
Celestial Timepiece*

*The Accursed*

*Rape: A Love Story  
Publish and Perish*

**Big Mouth No I did not. I did not, I did not. I did not say those things, and I did not plan those things. Won't It anyone believe me? Ugly Girl All right, Ugly Girl made a mistake. I'd told my mom what I'd heard in the cafeteria, and she'd told Dad. Evidently. I'd thought for sure they would want me to speak up for the truth. In Mysteries of Winterthurn, the**



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**brilliant young detective-hero Xavier Kilgarvan is confronted with three baffling cases—"The Virgin in the Rose-Bower," "The Devil's Half-Acre," and "The Blood-Stained Gown"—that tax his genius for detection to the utmost, just as his forbidden passion for his cousin Perdita becomes an obsession that shapes his life.**

**A collection of bloodcurdling tales by the award-winning author of *The Female of the Species* features "The Man Who Fought Roland LaStarza," "Suicide Watch," "Bad Habits," and "Valentine, July Heat Wave," in which a man sets out to prepare a gruesome surprise for**

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**the wife who is planning to leave him. Reprint.**

**A major historical novel from "one of the great artistic forces of our time" (The Nation)—an eerie, unforgettable story of possession, power, and loss in early-twentieth-century Princeton, a cultural crossroads of the powerful and the damned Princeton, New Jersey, at the turn of the twentieth century: a tranquil place to raise a family, a genteel town for genteel souls. But something dark and dangerous lurks at the edges of the town, corrupting and infecting its residents. Vampires and ghosts haunt the dreams of the innocent. A powerful curse**

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**besets the elite families of Princeton; their daughters begin disappearing. A young bride on the verge of the altar is seduced and abducted by a dangerously compelling man—a shape-shifting, vaguely European prince who might just be the devil, and who spreads his curse upon a richly deserving community of white Anglo-Saxon privilege. And in the Pine Barrens that border the town, a lush and terrifying underworld opens up. When the bride's brother sets out against all odds to find her, his path will cross those of Princeton's most formidable people, from Grover Cleveland, fresh out of his**

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**second term in the White House and retired to town for a quieter life, to soon-to-be commander in chief Woodrow Wilson, president of the university and a complex individual obsessed to the point of madness with his need to retain power; from the young Socialist idealist Upton Sinclair to his charismatic comrade Jack London, and the most famous writer of the era, Samuel Clemens/Mark Twain—all plagued by "accursed" visions. An utterly fresh work from Oates, *The Accursed* marks new territory for the masterful writer. Narrated with her unmistakable psychological insight, it combines beautifully**

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**transporting historical detail with chilling supernatural elements to stunning effect.**

**A Fair Maiden**

**The Museum of Dr. Moses**

**New Jersey Noir**

**Tales of H. P. Lovecraft**

**Pursuit**

*Gillian Brauer strives to realise more than a poet's craft in her workshop with the charismatic, anti-establishment professor Andre Harrow. For Gillian has fallen in love with Harrow and soon surrenders to his rarefied world. Valerie Martin's Property delivers an eerily mesmerizing inquiry into slavery's venomous effects on the owner and the owned. The year is*

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*1828, the setting a Louisiana sugar plantation where Manon Gaudet, pretty, bitterly intelligent, and monstrously self-absorbed, seethes under the dominion of her boorish husband. In particular his relationship with her slave Sarah, who is both his victim and his mistress. Exploring the permutations of Manon's own obsession with Sarah against the backdrop of an impending slave rebellion, Property unfolds with the speed and menace of heat lightning, casting a startling light from the past upon the assumptions we still make about the powerful and powerful.*

*New York Times bestselling author Joyce Carol Oates's strongest and*

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*most unsparing novel yet—an always engrossing, often shocking evocation of female rage, gallantry, and grit. The time is the 1950s. The place is a blue-collar town in upstate New York, where five high school girls join a gang dedicated to pride, power, and vengeance on a world that seems made to denigrate and destroy them. Here is the secret history of a sisterhood of blood, a haven from a world of male oppressors, marked by a liberating fury that burns too hot to last. Above all, it is the story of Legs Sadovsky, with her lean, on-the-edge, icy beauty, whose nerve, muscle, hate, and hurt make her the spark of Foxfire: its guiding spirit, its*

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*burning core. At once brutal and lyrical, this is a careening joyride of a novel—charged with outlaw energy and lit by intense emotion. Amid scenes of violence and vengeance lies this novel's greatest power: the exquisite, astonishing rendering of the bonds that link the Foxfire girls together. Foxfire reaffirms Joyce Carol Oates's place at the very summit of American writing.*

*Dark, brilliant fiction from the New York Times-bestselling author:*

*“Oates’ spookiness is visceral, psychologically involving, and socially astute.”?Booklist In the title story of her taut new fiction collection, Joyce Carol Oates writes: *Life was not of the surface**



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*like the glossy skin of an apple, but deep inside the fruit where seeds are harbored. There is no writer more capable of picking out those seeds and exposing all their secret tastes and poisons than Oates herself—as demonstrated in these six stories.*

*One tale opens with a woman, naked except for her high-heeled shoes, seated in front of the window in an apartment she cannot, on her own, afford. In this exquisitely tense narrative reimagining of Edward Hopper's *Eleven A.M., 1926*, the reader enters the minds of both the woman and her married lover, each consumed by alternating thoughts of disgust and arousal, as he rushes, amorously, murderously, to her*

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*door. In “The Long-Legged Girl,” an aging, jealous wife crafts an unusual game of Russian roulette involving a pair of Wedgwood teacups, a strong Bengal brew, and a lethal concoction of medicine. Who will drink from the wrong cup, the wife or the dance student she believes to be her husband’s latest conquest? In “The Sign of the Beast,” when a former Sunday school teacher’s corpse turns up, the blighted adolescent she had by turns petted and ridiculed confesses to her murder—but is he really responsible? And another young outsider, Horace Phineas Love, Jr., is haunted by apparitions at the very edge of the spectrum of visibility*

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*after the death of his tortured father in "Night-Gaunts," a fantastic ode to H.P. Lovecraft. "Consummately well-written, stylistically dashing...forthrightly nightmarish."?Kirkus Reviews*  
*Where are You Going, where Have You Been?*

*Little Bird of Heaven*

*Cardiff, by the Sea*

*Black Girl,/White Girl*

*Property*

A young woman tumbles into a nightmare of decadent desire and corrupted innocence in a superb novella of suspense from National Book Award-winner Joyce Carol Oates. Art and arson, the

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poetry of D. H. Lawrence and pulp pornography, hero-worship and sexual debasement, totems and taboos mix and mutate into a startling, suspenseful tale of how a sunny New England college campus descends into a lurid nightmare. "A small gem.... Oates does not disappoint, nor does she waste a word."—The Washington Post Book World Oates often takes on sensational subject matter ... yet rarely has she done so with the churningly quiet understatement of ... *Beasts*."—Los Angeles Times "A cunning fusion of Gothic romance and psychological

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horror story, and one of her best recent books."—Kirkus Reviews "Oates's new novel is a slim one, but it packs a serious punch."—Associated Press "Delicious ... Beasts is something of a jeu d'esprit noir.... The novella length is exactly right for it."—The New York Review of Books From the legendary literary master, winner of the National Book Award and New York Times bestselling author Joyce Carol Oates, a collection of thirteen mesmerizing stories that maps the eerie darkness within us all. Insightful, disturbing, imaginative, and breathtaking in their lyrical

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precision, the stories in *Lovely, Dark, Deep* display Joyce Carol Oates's magnificent ability to make visceral the terror, hurt, and uncertainty that lurks at the edges of ordinary lives. In "Mastiff," a woman and a man are joined in an erotic bond forged out of terror and gratitude. "Sex with Camel" explores how a sixteen-year-old boy realizes the depth of his love for his grandmother—and how vulnerable those feelings make him. Fearful that that her husband is "disappearing" from their life, a woman becomes obsessed with keeping him in her sight in

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“The Disappearing.” “A Book of Martyrs” reveals how the end of a pregnancy brings with it the end of a relationship.

And in the title story, the elderly Robert Frost is visited by an interviewer, an unsettling young woman, who seems to know a good deal more about his life than she should. A piercing and evocative collection, *Lovely, Dark, Deep* reveals an artist at the height of her creative power.

Seven “masterfully told” stories of suspense and nightmarish drama from the National Book Award-winning author of *Them* (The

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Guardian). With the novella and six stories collected here, Joyce Carol Oates reaffirms her singular reputation for portraying the dark complexities of the human psyche. The title novella tells the story of Marissa, an eleven-year-old girl with hair the color of corn silk. When she suddenly disappears, mounting evidence points to a local substitute teacher. Meanwhile, an older girl from Melissa's school is giddy with her power to cause so much havoc unnoticed. And she intends to use that power to enact a terrifying ritual called The Corn Maiden. In "Helping



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Hands,” published here for the first time, a widow meets an Iraq War veteran in a dingy charity shop, having no idea where the peculiar encounter is about to lead. In “Fossil-Figures,” a pair of twins—an artist and a congressman—never outgrow an ugly sibling rivalry. And in “A Hole in the Head,” a plastic surgeon gives in to an unusual and dangerous request. Together, these seven tales offer “a virtuoso performance” of “probing, unsettling, intelligent” storytelling from one of the world’s greatest writers of suspense (*The Guardian*). “The seven stories

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in this stellar collection from the prolific Oates may prompt the reader to turn on all the lights or jump at imagined noises. . . . This volume burnishes [her] reputation as a master of psychological dread.” —Publishers Weekly, starred review “For horror stories to be truly horrific, the reader has to care. Oates feels this deeply in her writing, and delivers with style.” —The Independent “Further confirmation of a unique writer’s restless, preternatural brilliance.” —The Guardian  
An Oprah Book Club® selection  
A New York Times Notable Book  
The Mulvaney

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are blessed by all that makes life sweet. But something happens on Valentine's Day, 1976—an incident that is hushed up in the town and never spoken of in the Mulvaney home—that rends the fabric of their family life...with tragic consequences. Years later, the youngest son attempts to piece together the fragments of the Mulvaney's former glory, seeking to uncover and understand the secret violation that brought about the family's tragic downfall. Profoundly cathartic, this extraordinary novel unfolds as if Oates, in plumbing the darkness of the

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human spirit, has come upon a source of light at its core. Moving away from the dark tone of her more recent masterpieces, Joyce Carol Oates turns the tale of a family struggling to cope with its fall from grace into a deeply moving and unforgettable account of the vigor of hope and the power of love to prevail over suffering. "It's the novel closest to my heart....I'm deeply moved that Oprah Winfrey has selected this novel for Oprah's Book Club, a family novel presented to Oprah's vast American family."—Joyce Carol Oates  
Four Novellas of Suspense

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Indigenous Beasts  
Selected Early Stories  
A Novel of Suspense  
and Other Tales of Suspense

**Disturbing, energetic, and uncommonly insightful, these chilling stories peer into the lives of men — from young men struggling to maturity to old men realizing that youth is gone — that attract even as they repel. Intriguing, seductive, sometimes despicable, they're lost in their efforts to make sense of their relationships, both with the women in their lives — girlfriends, mothers, strippers — and the men — fathers, coworkers, dealers. The stories are savage and seething, intense with despair and depravity.**

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**They're bloody and beautiful and full of wisdom discovered by pathetic heroes that lurch toward a truce with some unattainable and off-kilter moral standard. They're also perfectly crafted, with a keen sense of place. An extraordinary debut from a young Canadian writer, *Indigenous Beasts* reveals a cultural identity that mirrors the Canadian landscape: raw, elementary, and strangely beautiful.**

**A tale as haunting as a bad memory and as chilling as its reality**

**Miss Oates examines the work of such writers as Chekhov, Melville, Yeats, and Toresco in this study.**

**Beasts**

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## **Beasts**

### **Three Tales of Tenure and Terror And Other Nightmares**

#### **Beasts of Prey**

A teenager ' s involvement with an older man is not what it appears in a tale of seduction by the New York Times bestselling author of We Were the Mulvaney's. Sixteen-year-old Katya Spivak is out for a walk on the gracious streets of Bayhead Harbor with her two summer babysitting charges when she ' s approached by silver-haired, elegant Marcus Kidder. At first his interest in her seems harmless, even pleasant; like his name, a sort of gentle joke. His beautiful home, the children ' s books he ' s

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written, his classical music, the marvelous art in his study, his lavish presents to her—Mr. Kidder ' s life couldn ' t be more different from Katya ' s drab working-class existence back home in South Jersey, or more enticing. But by degrees, almost imperceptibly, something changes, and posing for Mr. Kidder ' s new painting isn ' t the lighthearted endeavor it once was. What he wants from Katya is something she can ' t comprehend. What Katya wants from him is something else again. As their relationship deepens, and twists, the question is who ' s seducing whom? And to what end? From a National Book Award winner and #1 New



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York Times bestselling author, *A Fair Maiden* is “ fresh, current and gripping . . . the insight shrewd and the violence vivid . . . [an] intense and thought-provoking work of fiction ” (New Statesman).

Teena Maguire should not have tried to shortcut her way home that Fourth of July. Not after midnight, not through Rocky Point Park. Not the way she was dressed in a tank top, denim cutoffs, and high-heeled sandals. Not with her twelve-year-old daughter Bethie. Not with packs of local guys running loose on hormones, rage and alcohol. A victim of gang rape, left for dead in the park boathouse, the once vivacious Teena can now only regret that she has

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survived. At a relentlessly compelling pace punctuated by lonely cries in the night and the whisper of terror in the afternoon, Joyce Carol Oates unfolds the story of Teena and Bethie, their assailants, and their unexpected, silent champion, a man who knows the meaning of justice. And love.

*Zombie* is a classic novel of dark obsession from the extraordinary Joyce Carol Oates. A brilliant, unflinching journey into the mind of a serial killer, *Zombie* views the world through the eyes of Quentin P., newly paroled sex offender, as he chillingly evolves from rapist to mass murderer. Joyce Carol Oates—the prolific author of so many extraordinary bestsellers, including *The*

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Gravediggers Daughter, Blonde, and The Falls—demonstrates why she ranks among America ' s most respected and accomplished literary artists with this provocative, breathtaking, and disturbing masterwork.

Stories

Big Mouth & Ugly Girl

Poems

Night. Sleep. Death. The Stars.

Brothers & Beasts