



## The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)

By Joyce Carol Oates

Download now

Read Online 

### The Falls: A Novel (P.S.) By Joyce Carol Oates

It is 1950 and, after a disastrous honeymoon night, Ariahe Erskine's young husband throws himself into the roaring waters of Niagara Falls. Ariahe, "the Widow Bride of the Falls," begins a relentless seven-day vigil in the mist, waiting for his body to be found. At her side is confirmed bachelor and pillar of the community Dirk Burnaby, who is unexpectedly drawn to her. What follows is a passionate love affair, marriage, and family -- a seemingly perfect existence. But tragedy soon takes over their lives, poisoning their halcyon years with distrust, greed, and murder.

Set against the mythic-historic backdrop of Niagara Falls in the mid-twentieth century, this haunting exploration of the American family in crisis is a stunning achievement from "one of the great artistic forces of our time" (*The Nation*).

This P.S. edition features an extra 16 pages of insights into the book, including author interviews, recommended reading, and more.

 [Download The Falls: A Novel \(P.S.\) ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Falls: A Novel \(P.S.\) ...pdf](#)

# The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)

*By Joyce Carol Oates*

## **The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)** By Joyce Carol Oates

It is 1950 and, after a disastrous honeymoon night, Ariahe Erskine's young husband throws himself into the roaring waters of Niagara Falls. Ariahe, "the Widow Bride of the Falls," begins a relentless seven-day vigil in the mist, waiting for his body to be found. At her side is confirmed bachelor and pillar of the community Dirk Burnaby, who is unexpectedly drawn to her. What follows is a passionate love affair, marriage, and family -- a seemingly perfect existence. But tragedy soon takes over their lives, poisoning their halcyon years with distrust, greed, and murder.

Set against the mythic-historic backdrop of Niagara Falls in the mid-twentieth century, this haunting exploration of the American family in crisis is a stunning achievement from "one of the great artistic forces of our time" (*The Nation*).

This P.S. edition features an extra 16 pages of insights into the book, including author interviews, recommended reading, and more.

## **The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)** By Joyce Carol Oates **Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #357660 in eBooks
- Published on: 2009-10-13
- Released on: 2009-10-13
- Format: Kindle eBook

 [Download The Falls: A Novel \(P.S.\) ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Falls: A Novel \(P.S.\) ...pdf](#)

## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Oates is not only on her authentically rendered home ground in this sprawling novel set in the city of Niagara Falls during the 1950s, she is also writing at the top of her form. Her febrile prose is especially appropriate to a story as turbulent as the tumultuous waters that have claimed many lives over the years. Widowed on her wedding night when her new husband, a young minister and latent homosexual, throws himself into the falls, Ariaah Littrell, the plain, awkward daughter of a minister, henceforth considers herself damned. Her bleak future becomes miraculously bright when Dirk Burnaby, a handsome, wealthy bon vivant with an altruistic heart, falls in love with the media-dubbed Widow-Bride. Their rapturous happiness is shadowed only by Ariaah's illogical conviction over the years that Dirk will leave her and their three children someday. Her unreasonable fear becomes self-fulfilling when her increasingly unstable behavior, combined with Dirk's obsessed but chaste involvement with Nina Olshaker, a young mother who enlists his help in alerting the city fathers to the pestilential conditions in the area later to be known as Love Canal, opens a chasm in their marriage. His gentle heart inspired by a need for justice, Dirk takes on the powerful, corrupt politicians, his former peers and pals, in a disastrous lawsuit that ruins him socially and financially and results in his death. Oates adroitly addresses the material of this "first" class action lawsuit and makes the story fresh and immediate. "In the end, all drama is about family," a character muses, and while the narrative occasionally lapses into melodrama in elucidating this theme, Oates spins a haunting story in which nature and humans are equally rapacious and self-destructive.

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

*The Falls* reads like a 19th-century epic, with echoes of the gothic. Some critics saw this approach as melodramatic; others called it sublime. Both celebrated and criticized for her prolific output (she has more than 50 books to her name), Oates is well known for probing the psychological depths of her characters, as she did in *We Were the Mulvaney's* and *Blonde*. This novel is no exception. Despite general praise (after all, most of Oates's works are small masterpieces), the consensus is it's not her most powerful novel. While the plot may grip some readers, the book will likely appeal to those who enjoy depth of character development, interesting (if, at times, overdone) prose, and a brave, brave ending.

In our Book by Book Profile of Joyce Carol Oates in our May/June 2003 issue, Jessica Teisch wrote: "*Where to Start*: A daunting task, as Oates has been prolific across numerous genres and media. Oates is a master of the short story, and *Where are You Going, Where Have You Been?* is a collection of some of her best work. For classic Oates, turn to *Them*. For Oates with a dash of hope, try *We Were the Mulvaney's*."

Copyright © 2004 Phillips & Nelson Media, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

From Oates' fevered imagination comes a sprawling, ambitious novel with enough material to fill several books. The thoroughly absorbing story line tracks 30 years in the life of the Burnabys as they struggle to juggle the competing demands of family and community. After Ariaah Erskine's young husband commits suicide on their honeymoon by throwing himself into the roaring waters of Niagara Falls, she forms an intense relationship with local lawyer Dirk Burnaby, marries him two months later, and eventually bears three children. But their marriage founders when Dirk succumbs to the pleading of a local woman whose family has been sickened by their poisoned neighborhood in Love Canal. Dirk, a longtime member of the patrician ruling class, underestimates the lengths to which his colleagues will go to protect their business

interests and pays the ultimate price when he faces down the powers-that-be in court. Twenty years later, his sons will take up his cause and mend their broken family in the process. This passionate, compulsively readable novel displays the full range of Oates' singular obsessions--the destructiveness of secrets; eccentric female characters given to rapacious appetites and volatile emotions; and the mysterious way that human emotion is mirrored in the natural world. Vivid and memorable reading from the madly prolific Oates.

*Joanne Wilkinson*

*Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Christopher Milbrandt:**

The book *The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)* can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. Why must we leave the best thing like a book *The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)*? A few of you have a different opinion about guide. But one aim this book can give many information for us. It is absolutely appropriate. Right now, try to closer using your book. Knowledge or data that you take for that, it is possible to give for each other; you can share all of these. Book *The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)* has simple shape however you know: it has great and large function for you. You can search the enormous world by open up and read a reserve. So it is very wonderful.

#### **Doris Moreno:**

Here thing why this particular *The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)* are different and trusted to be yours. First of all reading through a book is good but it depends in the content of it which is the content is as tasty as food or not. *The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)* giving you information deeper and different ways, you can find any e-book out there but there is no book that similar with *The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)*. It gives you thrill reading through journey, its open up your personal eyes about the thing which happened in the world which is possibly can be happened around you. You can bring everywhere like in park your car, café, or even in your means home by train. Should you be having difficulties in bringing the published book maybe the form of *The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)* in e-book can be your alternative.

#### **John Vandorn:**

Many people spending their time by playing outside together with friends, fun activity with family or just watching TV the whole day. You can have new activity to invest your whole day by studying a book. Ugh, ya think reading a book can really hard because you have to use the book everywhere? It alright you can have the e-book, getting everywhere you want in your Mobile phone. Like *The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)* which is keeping the e-book version. So , why not try out this book? Let's notice.

#### **Amanda Kline:**

Is it a person who having spare time and then spend it whole day by simply watching television programs or just lying on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This *The Falls: A Novel (P.S.)* can be the respond

to, oh how comes? A fresh book you know. You are thus out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this brand new era is common not a geek activity. So what these guides have than the others?

**Download and Read Online The Falls: A Novel (P.S.) By Joyce Carol Oates #2BC7VLN4JQ6**

## **Read The Falls: A Novel (P.S.) By Joyce Carol Oates for online ebook**

The Falls: A Novel (P.S.) By Joyce Carol Oates Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Falls: A Novel (P.S.) By Joyce Carol Oates books to read online.

### **Online The Falls: A Novel (P.S.) By Joyce Carol Oates ebook PDF download**

**The Falls: A Novel (P.S.) By Joyce Carol Oates Doc**

**The Falls: A Novel (P.S.) By Joyce Carol Oates Mobipocket**

**The Falls: A Novel (P.S.) By Joyce Carol Oates EPub**

**2BC7VLN4JQ6: The Falls: A Novel (P.S.) By Joyce Carol Oates**