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KEY=CAROL - JOHANNA BRYNN

The Corn Maiden And Other Nightmares

Head of Zeus A taut novella combining folklore, adolescent insecurity and blood sacrifice, plus six other, nightmarish, stories.

Breathe

A Novel

HarperCollins A NOVEL OF LOVE AND LOSS FROM BESTSELLING AND PRIZEWINNING AUTHOR JOYCE CAROL OATES Amid a starkly beautiful but uncanny landscape in New Mexico, a married couple from Cambridge, MA takes residency at a distinguished academic institute. When the husband is stricken with a mysterious illness, misdiagnosed at first, their lives are uprooted and husband and wife each embarks upon a nightmare journey. At thirty-seven, Michaela faces the terrifying prospect of widowhood - and the loss of Gerard, whose identity has greatly shaped her own. In vividly depicted scenes of escalating suspense, Michaela cares desperately for Gerard in his final days as she comes to realize that her love for her husband, however fierce and selfless, is not enough to save him and that his death is beyond her comprehension. A love that refuses to be surrendered at death—is this the blessing of a unique married love, or a curse that must be exorcized? Part intimately detailed love story, part horror story rooted in real life, BREATHE is an exploration of hauntedness rooted in the domesticity of marital love, as well as our determination both to be faithful to the beloved and to survive the trauma of loss.

Beasts

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

Pursuit

Head of Zeus Ltd An eerie, psychological thriller about a newlywed wife haunted by her secret, traumatic past.

Beasts

Da Capo Press 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 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 churning quiet understatement of ... Beasts."—Los Angeles Times "A cunning fusion of Gothic romance and psychological 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

Where Is Here

Ecco In dramatic, tightly focused narratives charges with tension, menace, and the shock of the unexpected, Where Is Here? examines a world in which ordinary life is electrified by the potential for sudden change. Domestic violence, fear and abandonment and betrayal, and the obsession with loss shadow the characters that inhabit these startling, intriguing stories. With the precision and intensity that are the hallmarks of her remarkable talent, Joyce Carol Oates explores the unexpected turns of events that leave people vulnerable and struggling to puzzle out the consequences of their abrupt reversals of fortune. As in the title story, in which a married couple find their controlled life irrevocably altered by a stranger's visit, the fiction in this new collection is punctuated again and again by mysterious, perhaps unanswerable, questions: "Out of what does our life arise? Out of what does our consciousness arise? Why are we here? Where is here?" Like the questions they pose, these tales -- at once elusive and direct -- unfold with the enigmatic twists of riddles and, often, the blunt shock of tragedy. Where is Here? is the work of a master practitioner of the short story.

The Simple Art of Murder

Daddy Love

Head of Zeus Daddy Love's latest victim Robbie begins to realize that the longer he is locked in the shackles of this demon, the greater chance he'll end up like Daddy Love's other 'sons' who were never heard from again . . . and soon he will see just what lengths he must go to in order to have any chance at survival.

I'll Take You There

Random House Behind every good man is a great woman - or three The kaleidoscopic new novel from Wally Lamb: the number one New York Times bestselling author of She's Come Undone. Every Monday evening, Felix Funicello sets up a new film at an old vaudeville theatre for his weekly movie club. But one night, as this sixty-year-old scholar prepares the projectionist booth, he is confronted by an unanticipated guest: the ghost of Lois Weber. Once a trailblazing motion picture director from Hollywood's silent film era, Lois invites Felix to sit back and watch a new feature on the big screen - scenes from Felix's life. Though unnerved by these ethereal apparitions, Felix comes to look forward to his encounters with Lois. And as these magical movies play before him, he begins to reflect on the trio of unforgettable women who have profoundly impacted his life: his troublesome yet loving sister; his Generation Y daughter; and Verna, a fiery would-be beauty queen from the 1950s. An evocative and kaleidoscopic convergence of Hollywood, feminism and family secrets, I'll Take You There is a radiant homage to a single life and to the resiliency, strength and power of women.

The Gravedigger's Daughter

A Novel

Harper Collins Fleeing Nazi Germany in 1936, the Schwarts immigrate to a small town in upstate New York. Here the father—a former high school teacher—is demeaned by the only job he can get: gravedigger and cemetery caretaker. When local prejudice and the family's own emotional frailty give rise to an unthinkable tragedy, the gravedigger's daughter, Rebecca heads out into America. Embarking upon an extraordinary odyssey of erotic risk and ingenious self-invention, she seeks renewal, redemption, and peace—on the road to a bittersweet and distinctly "American" triumph.

The Maize Maze

Jolly Phonics Level 4 Readers

Jolly Learning Ltd The Maize Maze is part of the Jolly Phonics Readers Level 4 Inky Mouse and Friends series. It is the fourth of four levels of decodable books, providing the best start for children just starting to read. In addition to the 42 letter sounds, /y/ used for the /ee/ sound at the end of words like 'funny' and the 'magic e' for spelling words with the long vowels, as in 'make', 'like', 'bone' and 'tune'. Level 4 features all the Jolly Phonics alternative vowel spellings that are used to make words like 'day', 'seat', 'night', 'snow', 'few', 'girl', 'straw', 'boy' and 'scowl'. Tricky words are shown at the beginning of each book. Comprehension questions and discussion topics are provided at the end of each book. Also includes guidance for teachers and parents. Light type is used as a guide for those few letters that should not be sounded out, such as the /b/ in lamb. Titles included in the Inky Mouse and Friends series: The Bird House Daisy and Buttercup The New Kitten An Inter-Hive Match The Maize Maze Beach Rescue

Give Me Your Heart

Tales of Mystery and Suspense

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt The National Book Award winning author of Blonde demonstrates her mastery of contemporary gothic horror in these 10 chilling short stories. The need for love—obsessive, self-destructive, unpredictable—can take us to forbidden places,

as Joyce Carol Oates demonstrates with fearsome clarity in this short story collection. In "Strip Poker," a reckless adolescent girl must find a way of turning the tables on a gathering of increasingly threatening young men. In the award-winning "Smother!" a young woman's nightmare memory of childhood brings trouble on her professor-mother. In "The First Husband," a jealous man discovers that his wife seems to have lied about her first marriage—and waits years before exacting a cruel revenge. In these and other powerful tales, children veer beyond their parents' control, wives and husbands wake up to find that they hardly know each other, haunted pasts intrude upon uncertain futures, and those who bring us the most harm may be the nearest at hand.

The Life and Works of Joyce Carol Oates

GRIN Verlag Seminar paper from the year 2010 in the subject English - History of Literature, Eras, grade: 3.0, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, language: English, abstract: According to Greg Johnson, the bibliographer of Joyce Carol Oates, she is "the most talented, most inventive, and most exciting of American fiction writers" (Johnson, *Invisible Writer* XV). Novelist, short story writer, poet, playwright, critic, teacher, editor, and publisher, Joyce Carol Oates is an artist of amazing versatility, productivity, and range. She is the author of more than 1,000 short stories, over 50 novels, dozens of books of essays, plays, and poetry (including a dozen novels published under two literary pseudonyms: Rosamond Smith and Lauren Kelly). Her works are translated into more than 30 languages. Joyce Carol Oates is often characterized as a workaholic. But in "A Brief Biography" on her official web-site Greg Johnson quotes her reply to this statement in one of the interviews to the *New York Times*, where she said "I am not conscious of working especially hard, or of 'working' at all. Writing and teaching have always been, for me, so richly rewarding that I don't think of them as work in the usual sense of the word". Oates's productiveness has become not only one of her best-known attributes but also a great obstacle for new readers who are often confused by such an amount of her works and do not know what title they should start with. So in this paper besides the description of Joyce Carol Oates's life and literary legacy I single out her most notable and important works that ought to be read in the first place.

Hazards of Time Travel

HarperCollins UK An ingenious dystopian novel of one young woman's resistance against the constraints of an oppressive society

A Fair Maiden

A Novel

HMH 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 Mulvaneys*. 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 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 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*).

The Accursed

HarperCollins UK This eerie tale of psychological horror sees the real inhabitants of turn-of-the-century Princeton fall under the influence of a supernatural power.

Where are You Going, where Have You Been?

Selected Early Stories

Joyce Carol Oates's prize-winning story "Where Are You Going, Where Have You 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 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 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*. A volume in the *Women Writers: Texts and Contexts* Series.

A Widow's Story

A Memoir

HarperCollins UK *My husband died, my life collapsed.*

The Oxford Book of American Short Stories

Oxford University Press, USA Presents a collection of fifty-six familiar and unfamiliar stories by such writers as Washington Irving, Ernest Hemingway, Edgar Allan Poe, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Henry James, and Kate Chopin.

The Tattooed Girl

A Novel

Harper Collins *Joshua Seigl, a celebrated but reclusive author, is forced for reasons of failing health to surrender his much-prized bachelor's independence. Advertising for an assistant, he unwittingly embarks upon the most dangerous adventure of his privileged life. Alma Busch, a sensuous, physically attractive young woman with bizarre tattoos covering much of her body, stirs in Seigl a complex of emotions: pity? desire? responsibility? guilt? Unaware of her painful past and her troubled personality, Seigl hires her as his assistant. As the novel alternates between Seigl's and Alma's points of view, the naïve altruism of the one and the virulent anti-Semitism of the other clash in a tragedy of thwarted erotic desire. With her masterful balance of dark suspense and surprising tenderness, Joyce Carol Oates probes the contemporary tragedy of ethnic hatred and challenges our accepted limits of desire. The Tattooed Girl may be her most controversial novel.*

Haunted

Tales of the Grotesque

Plume Books *Sixteen neo-gothic tales of horror, the grotesque, and the dark side of the human imagination focus on the themes of violence in American society and the exploitation of women and children*

Evil Eye

Head of Zeus *Four dark and compelling novellas about love gone wrong.*

Dear Husband

Stories

Harper Collins *"[Oates] has once again held a haunting mirror up to America, revealing who we are." —Boston Globe The inimitable Joyce Carol Oates returns with Dear Husband—a gripping and moving story collection that powerfully re-imagines the meaning of family in America, often through violent means. Oates, a former recipient of the PEN/Malamud Award for Excellence in Short Fiction—as well as the National Book Award, Prix Femina, and numerous other literary honors—dazzles and disturbs with an outstanding compilation the Washington Post calls, "Savage, poetic and ruthless...among the best things she's ever done." Dear Husband is another triumph for the author of The Gravedigger's Daughter, We Were the Mulvaneys, and Blonde.*

An Urban Nightmare

Lulu.com

Double Delight

Plume Books *Serving as a juror in an assault case, Terence Greene is drawn from his world of domestic, upper-middle-class security by his attraction to the beautiful, working-class plaintiff into a world of deception and betrayal. Reprint.*

Jack of Spades

A Tale of Suspense

Open Road + Grove/Atlantic *An exquisite, psychologically complex thriller about opposing forces within the mind of one ambitious writer and the delicate line between genius and madness. Andrew J. Rush has achieved the kind of critical and commercial success most authors only dream about: He has a top agent and publisher in New York, and his twenty-eight mystery novels have sold millions*

of copies. Only Stephen King, one of the few mystery writers whose fame exceeds his own, is capable of inspiring a twinge of envy in Rush. But Rush is hiding a dark secret. Under the pseudonym "Jack of Spades," he pens another string of novels—noir thrillers that are violent, lurid, and masochistic. These are novels that the upstanding Rush wouldn't be caught reading, let alone writing. When his daughter comes across a Jack of Spades novel he has carelessly left out, she picks it up and begins to ask questions. Meanwhile, Rush receives a court summons in the mail explaining that a local woman has accused him of plagiarizing her own self-published fiction. Before long, Rush's reputation, career, and family life all come under threat—and in his mind he begins to hear the taunting voice of the Jack of Spades. "Sleek and suspenseful . . . Readers are sure to be gripped and unsettled by [Oates's] depiction of a seemingly mild-mannered character whose psychopathology simmers frighteningly close to the surface." —Publishers Weekly, starred review "Just when you think you've got her all figured out, Joyce Carol Oates sneaks up behind and confounds you yet again. She does it with a wicked flourish in Jack of Spades." —The New York Times Book Review

High Crime Area

Tales of Darkness and Dread

Head of Zeus A collection of darkly compelling tales that force us to confront, one by one, the demons within.

American Appetites

Harper Collins 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 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 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.

Waking Up Screaming

Haunting Tales of Terror

Del Rey "The oldest and strongest emotion of mankind is fear, and the oldest and strongest kind of fear is fear of the unknown." —H. P. LOVECRAFT Welcome to the world of H. P. Lovecraft, the undisputed master of terror. His work has inspired countless nightmares, and this collection of some of his most chilling stories is likely to inspire even more. *Cool Air*—An icy apartment hides secrets no man dares unlock. *The Case of Charles Dexter Ward*—Ward delves into the black arts and resurrects the darkest evil from beyond the grave. *The Terrible Old Man*—The intruders seek a fortune but find only death. *Herbert West—Reanimator*—Mad experiments yield hideous results in this bloodcurdling tale, the inspiration for the cult film *Re-Animator*. *The Shadow Over Innsmouth*—A small fishing town's population is obscenely corrupted by a race of fiendish undersea creatures. *The Lurking Fear*—An upstate New York clan degenerates into thunder-crazed mole like creatures with a taste for human flesh. PLUS TEN OTHER SPINE-TINGLING TALES

American Gothic Tales

Plume This remarkable anthology of gothic fiction, spanning two centuries of American writing, gives us an intriguing and entertaining look at how the gothic imagination makes for great literature in the works of forty-six exceptional writers. Joyce Carol Oates has a special perspective on the "gothic" in American short fiction, at least partially because her own horror yarns rank on the spine-tingling chart with the masters. She is able to see the unbroken link of the macabre that ties Edgar Allan Poe to Anne Rice and to recognize the dark psychological bonds between Henry James and Stephen King. In showing us the gothic vision—a world askew where mankind's forbidden impulses are set free from the repressions of the psyche, and nature turns malevolent and lawless—Joyce Carol Oates includes Henry James's "The Romance of Certain Old Clothes," Herman Melville's horrific tale of factory women, "The Tartarus of Maids," and Edith Wharton's "Afterward," which are rarely collected and appear together here for the first time. Added to these stories of the past are new ones that explore the wounded worlds of Stephen King, Anne Rice, Peter Straub, Raymond Carver, and more than twenty other wonderful contemporary writers. This impressive collection reveals the astonishing scope of the gothic writer's subject matter, style, and incomparable genius for manipulating our emotions and penetrating our dreams. With Joyce Carol Oates's superb introduction, *American Gothic Tales* is destined to become the standard one-volume edition of the genre that American writers, if they didn't create it outright, have brought to its chilling zenith.

Black Water

Penguin The Pulitzer Prize-nominated novel from the author of the New York Times bestselling novel *We Were the Mulvaney*s "Its power of evocation is remarkable." —The New Yorker In the midst of a long summer on Grayling Island, Maine, twenty-six-year-old Kelly Kelleher longs for something interesting to happen to her—something that will make her finally feel some of what she imagines other people must feel when they watch the fireworks explode off the beach. So when Kelly meets The Senator at an exclusive party

and he asks her to go back to a hotel room on the main island with him, she says yes. Even though the senator is old enough to be her father, even though he has perhaps been drinking too heavily to get behind the wheel, the danger of saying yes is an inevitable and even exciting part of the adventure Kelly is finally going to have. However, as *The Senator's* car whips around the island's roads and eventually crashes through a guardrail, it becomes clear to Kelly and the reader that this man embodies a wholly different and more sinister type of danger, one much larger and harder to contain than the horrible events that unfold as Kelly is left in the sinking car. *Black Water* is a chilling meditation on power, trust, and violation and a timeless classic from one of America's foremost storytellers.

Solstice

HarperCollins An engrossing early novel from Joyce Carol Oates's earlier novels explores a fraught and perilous relationship between two women. Originally published in 1985, *Solstice* is the gripping story of Monica Jensen and Sheila Trask, two young women who are complete opposites yet find themselves irresistibly drawn to each other. Monica is a shy, modest, and recently divorced school teacher while Sheila is a worldly, sophisticated, and nocturnal painter driven by the needs of her art. Over the months, their friendship deepens, first to love and then to a near-fatal obsession. Engaging, dark, and mysterious, *Solstice* is Joyce Carol Oates's psychological masterpiece of friendship and fixation.

Foxfire

Confessions of a Girl Gang

Night-side

Eighteen Tales

London : V. Gollancz Noveller om forskellige sider af galskab

Dark Screams: Volume Six

Hydra Stephen King, Lisa Morton, Nell Quinn-Gibney, Norman Prentiss, Joyce Carol Oates, and Tim Curran plunge readers into the dark side in this deeply unsettling short-story collection curated by legendary horror editors Brian James Freeman and Richard Chizmar. *THE OLD DUDE'S TICKER* by Stephen King Richard Drogan has been spooked ever since he came back from Nam, but he's no head case, dig? He just knows the old dude needs to die. *THE RICH ARE DIFFERENT* by Lisa Morton Even though she made her name revealing the private lives of the rich and famous, Sara Peck has no idea how deep their secrets really go . . . or the price they'll pay to get what they desire. *THE MANICURE* by Nell Quinn-Gibney A trip to the nail salon is supposed to be relaxing. But as the demons of the past creep closer with every clip, even the most serene day of pampering can become a nightmare. *THE COMFORTING VOICE* by Norman Prentiss It's a little strange how baby Lydia can only be soothed by her grandfather's unnatural voice, ravaged by throat cancer. The weirdest part? What he's saying is more disturbing than how he says it. *THE SITUATIONS* by Joyce Carol Oates There are certain lessons children must learn, rules they must follow, scars they must bear. No lesson is more important than this: Never question Daddy. Or else. *THE CORPSE KING* by Tim Curran Grave robbers Kierney and Clow keep one step ahead of the law as they ply their ghoulish trade, but there's no outrunning a far more frightening enemy that hungers for the dead. Praise for the *Dark Screams* series "A wicked treat [featuring] . . . some of the genre's best."—*Hellnotes*, on Volume One "Five fun-to-read stories by top-notch horror scribes. How can you lose? The answer: you can't."—*Atomic Fangirl*, on Volume Two "If you have not tried the series yet, do yourself a favor and grab a copy of any (or all) of the books for yourself."—*Examiner.com*, on Volume Three "Fans of horror of every variety will find something to love in these pages."—*LitReactor*, on Volume Four "[Volume Five] runs the gamut from throwback horror to lyrical and heartbreaking tales."—*Publishers Weekly*

Night, Neon

Tales of Mystery and Suspense

Mysterious Press A new collection of dark, chilling tales from the #1 *New York Times* Bestselling author

Night-Gaunts and Other Tales of Suspense

Head of Zeus Ltd This taut collection stands at the crossroads of sex, violence, and longing - and asks us to interrogate the intersection of these impulses within ourselves. Six feverishly unsettling works.

Tales of H. P. Lovecraft

Harper Collins 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 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 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.

The Collector of Hearts

New Tales of the Grotesque

A collection of twenty-seven frightening short stories, including such literary gothic pieces as "The Crossing," "Scars," and "Death Mother"

Expensive People

Modern Library Joyce Carol Oates's *Wonderland Quartet* comprises four remarkable novels that explore social class in America and the inner lives of young Americans. In *Expensive People*, Oates takes a provocative and suspenseful look at the roiling secrets of America's affluent suburbs. Set in the late 1960s, this first-person confession is narrated by Richard Everett, a precocious and obese boy who sees himself as a minor character in the alarming drama unfolding around him. Fascinated by yet alienated from his attractive, self-absorbed parents and the privileged world they inhabit, Richard incisively analyzes his own mismanaged childhood, his pretentious private schooling, his "successful-executive" father, and his elusive mother. In an act of defiance and desperation, eleven-year-old Richard strikes out in a way that presages the violence of ever-younger Americans in the turbulent decades to come. A National Book Award finalist, *Expensive People* is a stunning combination of social satire and gothic horror. "You cannot put this novel away after you have opened it," said *The Detroit News*. "This is that kind of book—hypnotic, fascinating, and electrifying." *Expensive People* is the second novel in the *Wonderland Quartet*. The books that complete this acclaimed series, *A Garden of Earthly Delights*, *them*, and *Wonderland*, are also available from the Modern Library.