

Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage: Stories

By Alice Munro

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In the her tenth collection (the title story of which is the basis for the new film *Hateship Loveship)*, Alice Munro achieves new heights, creating narratives that loop and swerve like memory, and conjuring up characters as thorny and contradictory as people we know ourselves.
A tough-minded housekeeper jettisons the habits of a lifetime because of a teenager's practical joke. A college student visiting her brassy, unconventional aunt stumbles on an astonishing secret and its meaning in her own life. An incorrigible philanderer responds with unexpected grace to his wife's nursing-home romance. **Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage** is Munro at her best, tirelessly observant, serenely free of illusion, deeply and gloriously humane.

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Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage: Stories By Alice Munro Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review
Readers know what they are going to get when they pick up an unfamiliar Alice Munro collection, and yet almost every page carries a bounty of unexpected action, feeling, language, and detail. Her stories are always unique, blazing an invigorating originality out of her seemingly commonplace subjects. Each collection develops her oeuvre in increments, subtly expanding her range.

Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage is, of course, no exception. It is a fairly conservative collection of nine stories, none of which move far beyond Munro's favored settings: the tiny towns and burgeoning cities of southern Ontario and British Columbia. There are glimpses of youth here--in the title story, an epistolary prank by two teenage girls leads to a one-sided cross country elopement and, seemingly, a happy marriage, and in "Nettles," disrupted childhood affection fleetingly returns through a chance meeting--but most of these pieces are stories of aging women and men, confronting the twin travails of death and late love. As is always the case with Munro, their plots are too elegantly elaborate to summarize, and their unsentimental power is a given; baroque praise would be futile. Read these stories--it is the only way to really understand the miracles that Munro so regularly performs. --*Jack Illingworth*

From Publishers Weekly
A writer of Munro's ilk hardly needs a hook like the intriguing title of her 10th collection to pull readers into her orbit. Serving as a teasing introduction to these nine brilliantly executed tales, the range of mentioned relationships merely suggests a few of the nuances of human behavior that Munro evokes with the skill of a psychological magician. Johanna Parry, the protagonist of the title story, stands alone among her fictional sisters in achieving her goal by force of will. A rough, uneducated country girl, blatantly plain ("her teeth were crowded into the front of her mouth as if they were ready for an argument"), she seems doomed to heartbreak because of a teenager's trick, but the bracingly ironic denouement turns the reader's dire expectations into glee. The women in the other stories generally cannot control their fate. Having finally been reunited with the soul mate of her youth, the narrator of "Nettles" discovers that apparently benevolent fate can be cruel. In a similar moment of perception that signals the end of hope, Lorna in "Post and Beam" realizes that she is condemned to a life of submission to her overbearing, supercilious husband; ironically, her frowsy country cousin envies Lorna's luck in escaping their common origin. In nearly every story, there's a contrast between the behavior and expectations of country people and those who have made it to Toronto or Vancouver. Regardless of situation, however, the basics of survival are endured in stoic sorrow. Only the institutionalized wife of a philanderer in "The Bear Came Over the Mountain" manages to outwit her husband, and she has to lose her sanity to do it. All of the stories share Munro's characteristic style, looping gracefully from the present to the past, interpolating vignettes that seem extraneous and bringing the strands together in a deceptively gentle windup whose impact takes the breath away. Munro has few peers in her understanding of the bargains women make with life and the measureless price they pay. (Nov.)Forecast: Munro's collections are true modern classics, as the 75,000 first printing of her latest attests. Expect vigorous sales.

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From Library Journal
Each of these nine stories is at once poignant, harsh, funny, melancholy, ironic, and dramatic, descriptions

that in the end fall short of bringing their true flavor home. Munro is a lion of Canadian literature, often setting her tales in Ontario and British Columbia, where she lives, but the themes are universal and the characters Everyperson. The Bohemian aunt, the suicide with ALS, the terminally ill woman who is not so sure a new and hopeful diagnosis is welcome, the adulterer, the abandoned lover, the infatuated, the lonely, the bewildered, the old and young, all find a place in these complex works. The program is very well read by Kymberly Dakin in the perfect light and somewhat wistful voice. More of a break between stories would be helpful perhaps even the usually irritating musical interlude. Munro should be represented in all but the most superficial collections, and this audiobook would be an excellent addition to any library. Harriet Edwards, East Meadow P.L., NY
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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mary Torres:

Now a day individuals who Living in the era wherever everything reachable by connect with the internet and the resources in it can be true or not involve people to be aware of each facts they get. How many people to be smart in getting any information nowadays? Of course the reply is reading a book. Examining a book can help people out of this uncertainty Information specifically this Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage: Stories book since this book offers you rich facts and knowledge. Of course the info in this book hundred percent guarantees there is no doubt in it you may already know.

Ryan Wysocki:

The guide untitled Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage: Stories is the reserve that recommended to you to read. You can see the quality of the publication content that will be shown to a person. The language that publisher use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The article author was did a lot of study when write the book, therefore the information that they share for you is absolutely accurate. You also could possibly get the e-book of Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage: Stories from the publisher to make you more enjoy free time.

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