

Download Free Jane Austen A Life Carol Shields Read Pdf Free

A Life for a Life Jane Austen *The Purpose of Your Life* **The Regenerative Life** **Personal Life** **Life in a Cottage Garden** *Detox for Life* *A Cut for a Cut* Carol Vorderman's *Detox for Life* **The Quest for a Universal Theory of Life** **Mastering Affluence** **My Life as a Rat** **Creating a Life Worth Living** **Killing for Life** **Speed of Life** **Oh, Carol!** **The Little Wartime Library** **Better Balance for Life** **Finding Balance in the Circus of Life** *Dare to Be Different* **A Christmas Carol and Its Adaptations** Carol Shields, *Narrative Hunger*, and the Possibilities of Fiction *Galatea* **A Cornish Christmas Carol** *King Carol* **The Golfer's Carol** **A Life Lived Through Faith With Poetry** *The Time Between Dreams* *One Family Christmas* **Blonde Life After Grace** **Reflections of a Life Well Spent** **A Widow's Story** **Music and the Moderns** *A Life Without Water* *Night. Sleep. Death. The Stars.* *Jamrach's Menagerie* Carol Vorderman's *Detox for Life: The 28 Day Detox Diet and Beyond* *The Rise of Life on Earth* *Daily Painting*

Dreaming is easy. Making it happen is hard. With a fresh perspective, Carol Lloyd motivates the person searching for two things: the creative life and a life of sanity, happiness and financial solvency. Creating a Life Worth Living is for the hundreds of thousands of people who bought Julia Cameron's *The Artist's Way*, but who are looking for more down-to-earth solutions and concrete tasks for achieving their goals. Creating a Life Worth Living helps the reader search memory for inspiration, understand his or her individual artistic profile, explore possible futures, design a daily process and build a structure of support. Each of the 12 chapters, such as "The Drudge We Do For Dollars" and "Excavating the Future," contains specific exercises and daily tasks that help readers to clarify their desires and create a tangible plan of action for realizing dreams. The book also provides inspiring anecdotes and interviews with people who have succeeded in their chosen fields, such as performance artist Anna Devere Smith, writer Sally Tisdale and filmmaker R. J. Cutler. The pursuit of one's dreams is one of the great joys in life but also one of the most terrifying. Creating a Life Worth Living is an invaluable road map for this journey, guiding readers as they take the first tentative steps that are necessary before they can fly. A big family. A whole lot of secrets. A Christmas to remember... Jaffy Brown is running along a street in London's East End when he comes face to face with an escaped circus animal. Plucked from the jaws of death by Mr Jamrach – explorer, entrepreneur and collector of the world's strangest creatures – the two strike up a friendship. Before he knows it, Jaffy finds himself on board a ship bound for the Dutch East Indies, on an unusual commission for Mr Jamrach. His journey – if he survives it – will push faith, love and friendship to their utmost limits. Carol Denman divorced her husband over twenty years ago and has never looked back. But on the day before their daughter's thirtieth birthday, John barges back into Carol's life with a request that threatens the fragile stability she has built. John Bowman is sick. Very sick. While he still can, he has some amends to make and some promises to fulfill. But to do that, he not only needs his ex-wife's agreement...he needs her. With the past hovering between them like a ghost, Carol and John embark on a decades-overdue road trip. Together they plunge back into a life without water...but which may ultimately set them free. Best-selling author Carol Tuttle has found that a truly affluent life is rich in six areas: spiritual, mental, emotional, physical, financial, and in relationships. This book guides you through all six areas to clear away patterns of struggle and replace them with affluence, ease, and joy. The 6 Lessons empower you to: Connect with your life's purpose, Eliminate your negative self-talk, Feel emotionally balanced every day, Enjoy your body and live free of pain, Have money to do what calls to you, Be nourished by your relationships. Mastering Affluence doesn't just help you feel optimistic about having a better life. It guides you through a personal process to actively create one. Book jacket. How can those who seek to protect the "right to life" defend assassination in the name of saving lives? Carol Mason investigates this seeming paradox by examining pro-life literature—both archival material and writings from the front lines of the conflict. Her analysis reveals the apocalyptic thread that is the ideological link between established anti-abortion organizations and the more shadowy pro-life terrorists who subject clinic workers to anthrax scares, bombs, and bullets. The portrayal of abortion as "America's Armageddon" began in the 1960s. In the 1970s, Mason says, Christian politics and the post-Vietnam paramilitary culture popularized the idea that legal abortion is a harbinger of apocalypse. By the 1990s, Mason asserts, even the movement's mainstream had taken up the call, narrating abortion as an apocalyptic battle between so-called Christian and anti-Christian forces. "Pro-life violence of the 1990s signaled a move away from protest and toward retribution," she writes. "Pro-life retribution is seen as a way to restore the order of God. In this light, the phenomenon of killing for 'life' is revealed not as an oxymoron, but as a logical consistency and a political manifestation of religious retribution." Mason's scrutiny of primary sources (direct mail, internal memoranda, personal letters, underground manuals, and pro-life films, magazines, and novels) draws attention to elements of pro-life millennialism. Killing for Life is a powerful indictment of pro-life ideology as a coherent, mass-produced narrative that does not merely condone violence, but anticipates it as part of "God's plan." This inspirational, uplifting story from Robert Bailey is heart-breaking and ultimately uplifting, showing us all that it is never too late to live a wonderful life... Four rounds. Four heroes. Four life-changing lessons. 'A celebration of faith, family and the human spirit, The Golfer's Carol is a page-turning story of love and second chances that is sure to become a classic' Winston Groom, author of *Forrest Gump* When Randy Clark wakes up on his 40th birthday, he's going to go to work, eat the steak dinner his wife prepared him, blow out the candles on his birthday cake. . . And then he's going to kill himself. With his dreams of a professional golf career long gone, his marriage struggling after the death of his son, and facing financial ruin, Randy has no other option to help his family but to jump off a bridge, and to let the life insurance company do the rest. But Randy's plans go awry when he receives a surreal gift: four rounds of golf with his four heroes, four chances to learn from the best. Four chances to change his fate. . . Praise for The Golfer's Carol: 'Packed with heart and with hope, golf needed a Christmas classic, and now it has one' TOM COYNE, NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF A COURSE CALLED IRELAND 'The Golfer's Carol is that rarest of books - one you will read and keep for yourself, while purchasing multiple copies for friends' ANDY ANDREWS, NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF THE NOTICER 'A hymn to the heroes of golf and a moving fable about what is most important - and enduring - to learn from the game. A moral rings clear: It is never too late to have a Wonderful Life.' JAMES DODSON, AUTHOR OF BEN HOGAN: AN AMERICAN LIFE 'A fun, fast read, this novel kind of sneaks its wisdom up on you. I thought it splendid.' HOMER HICKAM, AUTHOR OF THE ROCKET BOYS The co-author of *The Celestine Prophecy* Experiential Guide helps readers uncover the unsuspected, untapped power of synchronicity and intuition that will bring success, satisfaction, and serenity. Everyone really has a purpose in life, says Carol Adrienne in her new guide to harnessing the power inside yourself. The question is: How do you learn to go with the flow and let your true nature guide you? Chapter by chapter, *The Purpose of Your Life* explains how to locate the source of your innate energy and focus it, how to align yourself with the natural forces that swirl around us always, and how to develop the intuition that fosters synchronicity. The book is packed with illuminating anecdotes and profiles of fascinating people -- from artists to urban planners to Zen masters -- who describe how they found their own purposes. There are practical exercises throughout, along with charts, self-questionnaires, and other tools that help you understand yourself and your deepest aspirations. As you learn to recognize and trust the voice of intuition, you'll find new doors opening and new possibilities everywhere. You'll feel invigorated by the potential you've unleashed, a power that will only grow with each new accomplishment. And you'll discover the serenity and satisfaction that come only to those who are living life to the fullest. The Force is with you -- all you have to do is reach out and start to use it. "A gardening journal that tells us the story of a year in the author's beautiful garden at Glebe Cottage. With photography throughout, it takes us on a procession through the seasons, as she plans and plants, sows seeds and nurtures cuttings, tends the borders, and harvests her crops." --Publisher's description. With the same sensitivity and artfulness that are the trademarks of her award-winning novels, Carol Shields explores the life of a writer whose own novels have engaged and delighted readers for the past two hundred years. In Jane Austen, Shields follows this superb and beloved novelist from her early family life in Steventown to her later years in Bath, her broken engagement, and her intense relationship with her sister Cassandra. She reveals both the very private woman and the acclaimed author behind the enduring classics *Sense and Sensibility*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Emma*. With its fascinating insights into the writing process from an award-winning novelist, Carol Shields's magnificent biography of Jane Austen is also a compelling meditation on how great fiction is created. A unique system for jump-starting artistic creativity, encouraging experimentation and growth, and increasing sales for artists of all levels, from novices to professionals. Have you landed in a frustrating rut? Are you having trouble selling paintings in galleries, getting bogged down by projects you can't seem to finish or abandon, or finding excuses to avoid working in the studio? Author Carol Marine knows exactly how you feel—she herself suffered from painter's block, until she discovered “daily painting.” The idea is simple: do art (usually small) often (how often is up to you), and if you'd like, post and sell it online. Soon you'll find that your block dissolves and you're painting work you love—and more of it than you ever thought possible! With her encouraging tone and useful exercises, Marine teaches you to: -Master composition and value -Become confident in any medium including oil painting, acrylic painting, watercolors, and other media -Choose subjects wisely -Stay fresh and loose -Photograph, post, and sell your art online -Become connected to the growing movement of daily painters around the world Carol Vorderman's *Detox for Life* was a sensation when first published, and launched a series of bestselling books which have sold in excess of 1 million copies worldwide. Carol's detox plan has helped hundreds of thousands of people lose weight and feel fantastic. *Detox for Life* is the original number-one bestseller, including the 28-day detox plan which helped Carol drop two dress sizes. Now in mass-market paperback for the first time, and including over thirty extra recipes, this brand new edition includes: The secrets of the detox diet and how Carol achieved her slimmer figure The 28-day detox plan to achieve fantastic results Loads of delicious healthy recipes and meal ideas Tips for eating out Stories from women who have successfully followed the detox diet *Detox for Life* continues to rewrite the rules of so-called 'dieting regimes' and is set to reach an even wider audience in its new format. *A Life Lived Through Faith With Poetry* A selection of poems written over a lifetime, capturing life's highs and lows, often through the lens of Carol's faith. About the Author Carol Pigford grew up in West Yorkshire, England in the 1940s and 1950s. She left school aged 15 with few qualifications and then went to work in a mill, as so many others did at that time. Between 1970 and 1990, Carol had the opportunity to live in South Africa. Throughout those decades, life's experiences took Carol through marriage, raising children, a journey of faith, divorce and tragic death. Over these years Carol expressed herself through poetry which captured life's highs and lows, often through the lens of Carol's faith, and found it a source of comfort. Now in her 70s, and thanks to the rise and ease of self-publishing, Carol is able to share her work with others. Have you experienced obstacles in your life which you cannot overcome, heartache which you cannot let go? In her book *Reflections of a Life Well Spent*, Carol Grace touches on the sorrow and joy she has experienced in life. Join Carol Grace in her life long journey of self-discovery, and let the poems found in *Reflections of a Life Well Spent* inspire you to find hope in your own life. Carol Grace earned her bachelor of arts degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She has worked as a writer, but spent the majority of her professional life in insurance. She and her husband Larry and their son, Jonathan, moved to Virginia in 1991, and in 2001 Larry and Carol moved to Pennsylvania. Carol and Larry returned to Little Rock in December 2006. *A Cornish Christmas Carol* is a festive delight to enjoy with a hot cup of mulled wine, perfect for fans of Jenny Colgan and Karen Swan. Joy to the world? Not if Abigail Scorrier has anything to do with it. She's spent most of her adult life trying to avoid the festive frenzy. She loved Christmas as a child in Cornwall: the colourful stockings hanging above a crackling fire, the excitement of what will be waiting for her the next morning. But ever since her life took a heart-breaking turn, she's buried those memories and done everything she can to avoid her past, her family and most of all, the Christmas season. But on Christmas Eve, Abigail will have three visitors she can't ignore, and what they reveal about her past, present and future might just change her life - and mend her heart... Your favourite authors love *A Cornish Christmas Carol!* 'Lock yourself in, break out the mulled wine and mince pies and fall into this lovely Christmas story' Milly Johnson 'A magical, heartrending take on *A Christmas Carol*. I loved it!' Julia Williams 'This heart-warming festive tale is about the true meaning of Christmas: loved ones, family and coming home' Cathy Bramley 'Both heart-warming and poignant, a wonderful tale about the power of Christmas, and all that it means' Fiona Harper 'A moving Christmas story about love and redemption that would melt even Scrooge's heart' Phillipa Ashley Fourteen-year-old Sofia Wolfe has her fair share of problems, and she doesn't have anyone to talk to...until she finds "Dear Kate." The teen advice columnist provides Sofia with an anonymous outlet where she can express everything she's been holding in Carol Perkins and her husband, Methodist Minister Bill Perkins, raised four children, took in refugees, traveled extensively, and championed the equal rights of God's Children all over the world. Carol Jane continues her dedication to love and equality. *adventure and This biography of Carol Robinson (1889-1979) presents the life of a serious American pianist within the larger context of American intellectual life in the first decades of the twentieth century. An active participant in the avant-garde, Robinson established close ties with literati Margaret Anderson and Jane Heap of The Little Review; with artist Pavel Tchelichev and architect Frank Lloyd Wright; with dancers Elizabeth Delza and Henri; with composers George Antheil, Bohuslav Martinu, and Henry Cowell; and with the spiritual leader Georgi Gurdjieff. The author considers Robinson's life as a pianist and teacher as well as the larger issues raised by her choice of pianistic repertory, by her own compositions, and by the music manuscripts composers gave her (Antheil sent his Jazz Sonata; Martinu, the little gem Par T.S.F.; and Ives, his Sonata No.3 for Piano and Violin). The book is intended for those interested in America's intellectual life in the twentieth century and for scholars concerned with the dissemination of contemporary music literature. To that end, an appendix lists Robinson's extensive repertory with dates and places where each work was performed. Robinson's works in*

score are also included. Illustrated, with selected bibliography. Over 150 years after its original composition, Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol continues to delight readers. The figure of Ebenezer Scrooge has become a cultural icon, and Tiny Tim's "God Bless Us Every One" is as familiar as "Merry Christmas." It is not surprising that Dickens' "ghostly little book," as he called it, has proved popular with playwrights and screenwriters. In everything from elegant literary treatments to animated musicals, the role of Scrooge has been essayed by actors from George C. Scott to Mr. Magoo. This critical account of the story's history and its various adaptations examines first the original writing of the story, including its political, economic, and historical context. The major interpretations are analyzed within their various media: stage, magic lantern shows, silent film, talkies, and television. Dickens' other, lesser known Christmas stories, like "The Cricket on the Hearth," are also examined and compared to the immortal Carol. Finally, a complete annotated filmography of all film and television productions based on A Christmas Carol is included, with commentary on each version's loyalty to the original text. The book includes 25 previously unpublished photos as well as analysis of previously undocumented productions. The text includes a foreword by the distinguished film and literary scholar Edward Wagenknecht, a bibliography and an index. The bonds of family are tested in the wake of a profound tragedy, providing a look at the darker side of our society. DI Kate Young can't trust anybody. Not even herself. In the bleak countryside around Blithfield Reservoir, a serial murderer and rapist is leaving a trail of bloodshed. His savage calling card: the word 'MINE' carved into each of his victims. DI Kate Young struggles to get the case moving--even when one of the team's own investigators is found dead in a dumpster. But Kate is battling her own demons. Obsessed with exposing Superintendent John Dickson and convinced there's a conspiracy running deep in the force, she no longer knows who to trust. Kate's crusade has already cost her dearly. What will she lose next? When her stepsister spills a long-buried secret, Kate realises she's found the missing link--now she must prove it before the killer strikes again. With enemies closing in on all sides, she's prepared to do whatever it takes to bring them down. But time is running out, and Kate's past has pushed her to the very edge. Can she stop herself from falling? Nobody can get into the mind of an erratic killer--except an unpredictable detective. When a young man is found lying on a station platform with a hole in his head, DI Kate Young is called in to investigate the grisly murder. But the killing is no one-off. As bodies start to pile up, she is faced with what might be an impossible task--to hunt down a ruthless killer on a seemingly random rampage. Meanwhile, Kate has her own demons to battle as she struggles to come to terms with her husband's death. And she is hell-bent on exposing corruption within the force and bringing Superintendent John Dickson to justice. But with the trail of deception running deeper--and closer to home--than she could ever have imagined, she no longer knows who she can trust. With her grip on reality slipping, Kate realises that maybe she and the killer are not so different after all. But time is running out and Kate is low on options. Can she catch the killer before she loses everything? Explores fundamental philosophical and scientific questions about the nature of life, particularly in relation to the search for extraterrestrial life. Life is a circus. Is any balance possible? Identify the circus character-like the ringmaster or clown-that you're imitating to survive in your circus. Then, discover the secrets of the tightrope walker that allow you to live out your God-given uniqueness with joy and purpose. Carol Vorderman developed a detox diet with Ko Chohan, an expert on complimentary medicine. The diet was revealed in her 28 Day Detox Diet video. In this book, she reveals the secrets of the detox diet, and takes you through the diet plan. Carol Vorderman has fully revised and updated her guide to detox to include additional recipes, further case studies and more detailed information on essential topics such as eating at work, eating out and even detox dinner parties. In Life After Grace, the sequel to her best-selling Glimpses of Glory, much respected Christian writer Carol Bechtel offers a collection of thirty reflections based on her monthly column in Presbyterians Today. Each entry includes a scripture passage and questions for reflection, making Life After Grace ideal for private devotion, group or individual study, and sermon preparation. Improve your balance in just ten weeks without breaking a sweat As you age, stumbling blocks are everywhere: the bottom step, the roadside curb, and even the living room carpet. But you don't have to live in fear of falling. With Better Balance for Life, you will learn all-new, simple activities to help you build strength and increase flexibility to improve your balance! In this ten-week program, personal trainer Carol Clements shows you effortless moves to slide into your everyday routine. Already brushing your teeth? Try standing on one foot while touching the counter to build stability. Watching TV? Learn how to extend your toes and flex your ankle to develop more nimble feet--and greater mobility. With four new activities each week, building better balance is fun and easy. By the end, you, too, will be marching with your eyes closed! An uplifting and inspiring novel based on the true story of a librarian who created an underground shelter during World War II, perfect for readers of The Paris Library or The Last Bookshop in London. London, 1944: Clara Button is no ordinary librarian. While war ravages the city above her, Clara has risked everything she holds dear to turn the Bethnal Green tube station into the country's only underground library. Down here, a secret community thrives with thousands of bunk beds, a nursery, a café, and a theater--offering shelter, solace, and escape from the bombs that fall upon their city. Along with her glamorous best friend and assistant Ruby Munroe, Clara ensures the library is the beating heart of life underground. But as the war drags on, the women's determination to remain strong in the face of adversity is tested to the limits when it may come at the price of keeping those closest to them alive. Award-winning Canadian writer Carol Shields has garnered praise from scholars and an international audience of readers. Inspired by the quality and scope of Shields's work, Carol Shields, Narrative Hunger, and the Possibilities of Fiction addresses her creative exploration of postmodernism. As the first thorough examination of the Pulitzer Prize-winning author, this collection of essays establishes the groundwork for future studies of her oeuvre. The collection begins with a significant new essay from Shields herself, 'Narrative Hunger and the Overflowing Cupboard,' perhaps her most substantial commentary upon her own aims as a writer. In addition, scholars from Canada, England, the United States, and Australia explore the complexity of Shields's work and her contributions to the genre of the novel. These lively essays reflect Shields's verve and her playful approach to today's sophisticated critical thinking. Among the topics are Shields's use of biography and autobiography, metafiction, popular romance, and symbolism. While the essays foreground the unreliability of language, and hence our inability to know one another or even ourselves, the contributors argue that Shields has taken a step beyond postmodernism by suggesting that we can transcend the limitations of its epistemology. Containing several essays on Swann and The Stone Diaries, Shields's most popular works, and the most extensive annotated bibliography available of works by and about Shields, this collection will appeal widely to scholars, students, and readers of Carol Shields and Canadian fiction. Carol McGiffin has been on Loose Women almost since it started over a decade ago, and she is known and adored by their millions of viewers as one of the most-loved presenters on the show. She's brimming with brilliantly funny anecdotes and controversial opinions, and says all the things everyone thinks but would never dream of saying. Carol is a natural storyteller and over the last few months she's been in virtual hibernation - turning down invitations, neglecting her lovely fiancé Mark and spending weeks on end sitting in a wonderful sort of overgrown baby grow known as a Slanket® - and all this so she could knuckle down and write the story of her life so far; all for you, dear reader, so you can enjoy the magical mystery tour that is The Life and Times of Carol McGiffin, aka Oh, Carol! And she's lived quite a life! It wasn't an easy start - growing up on a council estate; struggling to make ends meet; an early criminal career shoplifting mouth organs from Woolworths... It wasn't all doom and gloom though - Carol discovered her talent for making people laugh early on and she's been getting into trouble ever since! She will open up about her tempestuous marriage to Chris Evans, and will reveal all about why it eventually broke down; she'll also talk about her infamous seven years of celibacy and why she's never been frightened of being single. She's now found happiness with Mark and she'll share her secrets for looking fabulous after 40. It's not how old you are that counts, it's your outlook on life that keeps you young. As uniquely entertaining, funny and completely outrageous as the lady herself, Oh, Carol! is a must-read for woman everywhere. Change Happens. Some of us turn our head in denial. Others welcome new opportunities and horizons. Regardless, change comes to us all ... in our careers, our relationships, and throughout life. Carol Vecchio has helped thousands of people navigate these periods of ambiguity for over 30 years. From assisting students at New York University to creating the successful Centerpoint Institute for Life and Career Renewal in her beloved Seattle, Carol clears the fog hovering around change, so we can listen, learn, and direct our own transitions. "Uncertainty is a quality to be cherished, therefore-if not for it, who would dare to undertake anything?" -August de Villiers de L'Isle-Adam With warmth, humor, and sincerity, Carol Vecchio provides a clear understanding of the natural cycles of change and guides us in defining our distinct needs and wants. Carol candidly shares her own personal experiences, and the many "a-ha" moments of those who have chosen Centerpoint Institute over the years. Her words resonate and inspire reflection, passion, and creativity-they provide the much needed comfort to navigate our own "Time Between Dreams." "Carol's warmth, excitement and insights experienced within her trainings fill each chapter to help us reimagine our choices while designing a life. The Time Between Dreams accelerates movement, honors our differences, and provides essential insights to help us live with passion, purpose and kindness. A must read for those seeking and promoting how to embrace our life's seasons, and our career cycles while fitting our jobs into days which support our lives " Rich Feller Ph.D, President of the National Career Development Association, and University Distinguished Teaching Scholar, Colorado State University "Carol Vecchio has created the kind of book I'll turn to time and again, whenever life or work signals that something is about to shift. If change is the one constant, this book should be your constant companion." Marci Alboher, VP of Encore.org and author of The Encore Career Handbook: How to Make a Living and a Difference in the Second Half of Life (Workman Publishing 2013) The world often falls short of how we'd like it to be, and our ability to make even just a little difference can seem limited. Sometimes it feels like you need to be a super-hero to achieve anything meaningful. But what if by re-conceiving what you do, you could change the world for the better? In THE REGENERATIVE LIFE, Carol Sanford shows you how to fundamentally change the roles you play in society, enabling you to do more than you ever believed possible; grow yourself and others, provide astounding innovations for your clients, children and students, generate extraordinary social returns, become more creative, and bring new life and opportunity to everything around you. THE REGENERATIVE LIFE teaches you to see your roles differently: stripping away all preconceptions of how it should be done, understanding what your role is at its core, and building yourself back up to become something new; something so grounded, inspiring, and resilient, it can change the world. From the internationally bestselling and prize-winning author of The Song of Achilles and Circe, an enchanting short story that boldly reimagines the myth of Galatea and Pygmalion. **A small hardback edition featuring a new afterword by Madeline Miller** In Ancient Greece, a skilled marble sculptor has been blessed by a goddess who has given his masterpiece - the most beautiful woman the town has ever seen - the gift of life. Now his wife, he expects Galatea to please him, to be obedience and humility personified. But she has desires of her own, and yearns for independence. In a desperate bid by her obsessive husband to keep her under control, she is locked away under the constant supervision of doctors and nurses. But with a daughter to rescue, she is determined to break free, whatever the cost... _____ Praise for CIRCE 'A thrilling tour de force of imagination' Mail on Sunday 'A bold and subversive retelling' New York Times 'A novel to be gobbled greedily in one sitting' Observer 'A remarkable achievement' Sunday Times "A painful truth of family life: the most tender emotions can change in an instant. You think your parents love you but is it you they love, or the child who is theirs?" -- Joyce Carol Oates, My Life as a Rat Which should prevail: loyalty to family or loyalty to the truth? Is telling the truth ever a mistake and is lying for one's family ever justified? Can one do the right thing, but bitterly regret it? My Life as a Rat follows Violet Rue Kerrigan, a young woman who looks back upon her life in exile from her family following her testimony, at age twelve, concerning what she knew to be the racist murder of an African-American boy by her older brothers. In a succession of vividly recalled episodes Violet contemplates the circumstances of her life as the initially beloved youngest child of seven Kerrigan children who inadvertently "informs" on her brothers, setting into motion their arrests and convictions and her own long estrangement. Arresting and poignant, My Life as a Rat traces a life of banishment from a family--banishment from parents, siblings, and the Church--that forces Violet to discover her own identity, to break the powerful spell of family, and to emerge from her long exile as a "rat" into a transformed life. SOON TO BE A MAJOR NETFLIX FILM, STARRING ANA DE ARMAS, ADRIEN BRODY, BOBBY CANNAVALE AND JULIANNE NICHOLSON, DIRECTED BY ANDREW DOMINIK 'A torrentially imaginative, compulsively readable tour de force' Sunday Telegraph 'A fabulous reinvention of the life of a fabulous reinvention, and a cracking page-turner to boot' Evening Standard Blonde is a mesmerising novel about the most enduring and evocative cultural icon of the 20th century: the woman who became Marilyn Monroe. A fragile and gifted young woman, Norma Jeane Baker makes and remakes her identity: she is the orphan whose mother is declared mad; the woman who changes her name to be an actress; the fated celebrity, lover and muse. Told in her voice, Blonde shows a culture hypnotised by its own myths, and the devastating effects it had on Hollywood's greatest star. 'This masterpiece about Marilyn Monroe's life is audacious, gripping and clever' Rose Tremain 'If you haven't read Joyce Carol Oates before, start here, and now' Independent The author draws the reader into the secret life of Kathleen Hennessy, a nurse's aide who, as both martyr and avenging angel, is a memorable portrait of one of the 'insulted and injured' of American society. Set in the underside of working-class Detroit of the '60s and '70s, this short, lyric novel sketches Kathleen's violent childhood-shattered by a broken home, child-beating, and murder-and follows her into her early adult years as a hospital health-care worker. Overworked, underpaid, and quietly overzealous, Kathleen falls in love with a young doctor, whose exploitation of her sets the course of the remainder of her life, in which her passivity masks a deep fury and secret resolve to take revenge. My husband died, my life collapsed. For more than a decade, Carol Smart has been at the forefront of debates about the sociology of the family. Yet she has become frustrated by the fixation of many commentators with the supposed decline of commitment, and even the decline of the possibility of family life. In this exciting new book, she puts forward a new way of understanding families and relationships. Breaking with conventional wisdom, her book offers a fresh conceptual approach to understanding personal life, which realigns empirical research with theoretical analysis. She gives emphasis to ideas of connectedness, relationality and embeddedness, rejecting many of the assumptions found in theories of individualisation and de-traditionalisation by authors such as Beck and Beck-Gernsheim, Bauman and Giddens. Instead, her approach prioritises the bonds between people, the importance of memory and cultural heritage, the significance of emotions (both positive and negative), how family secrets work and change over time, and the underestimated importance of things such as shared possessions or homes in the maintenance and memory of relationships. This ground-breaking text will be essential reading for anyone who cares about the future of families and personal relationships, and who wants to understand this most intimate area of social life.

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