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## Middle Age A Romance Joyce Carol Oates

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The Music Shop St. Martin's Paperbacks  
With the end of summer closing in and a steamy Labor Day weekend looming in the town of Holton Mills, New Hampshire, lonely, friendless thirteen-year-old Henry spends most of his time watching television, reading, and daydreaming with only his emotionally fragile, long-divorced mother for company. But everything changes on the Thursday before the holiday weekend when a mysterious bleeding man named Frank asks Henry for a hand. Over the next five days, Henry will learn some of life's most valuable lessons, about the breathless pain of jealousy, the power of betrayal, and the importance of putting those we care about above ourselves—and that real love is worth waiting for. From acclaimed author Joyce Maynard comes a beautiful, poignant tale of love, sex, adolescence,

and devastating treachery as seen through the eyes of a young teenager—and the man he later becomes.

A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man  
Vintage

From the author of *To Die For* comes this poignant, stirring, and occasionally hilarious story of a woman's attempt to remake her life after a searing divorce. Maynard's novel captures love as one approaches middle age in contemporary America.

**Babysitter** Random House Trade Paperbacks  
From the author of *Minor Characters*, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award – an “intricate and compelling” (*O, The Oprah Magazine*) memoir that chronicles her childhood and her two ill-fated marriages Joyce Johnson’s classic memoir of growing up female in the 1950s, *Minor Characters*, was one of the initiators of an important new genre:

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the personal story of a minor player on history's stage. In *Missing Men*, a memoir that tells her mother's story as well as her own, Johnson constructs an equally unique self-portrait as she examines, from a woman's perspective, the far-reaching reverberations of fatherlessness. Telling a story that has "shaped itself around absences," *Missing Men* presents us with the arc and flavor of a unique New York life—from the author's adventures as a Broadway stage child to her fateful encounters with the two fatherless artists she marries. Joyce Johnson's voice has never been more compelling.

[The Aesthetics of Chaosmos](#) Astra Publishing House

World War II looms over the U.S. while fourteen-year-old Junior Bledsoe struggles with anger and identity after his father's death— " a must-have for historical fiction collections "

(School Library Journal) As World War II threatens the United States in 1941, Junior Bledsoe fights his own battles at home. He struggles with school and with anger—at his late father, his insufferable granddaddy, his neighbors, and himself—as he desperately tries to find his own aim in life. But he finds relief escaping to the quiet of the nearby woods and tinkering with cars, something he learned from his pop. And a fatherly neighbor provides much-needed guidance. This heartfelt and inspiring novel about a boy learning to accept the past and create his own future also includes an author's note and bibliography.

**THE DEAD (English Classics Series)**  
Harlequin

The National Book Award winning author of *Blonde* demonstrates her mastery of contemporary gothic horror in these 10

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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.

*Giacomo Joyce* HQN Books

From Joyce Carol Oates, the bestselling author of *We Were the Mulvaney*s, comes an epic family novel about the division between the permissible and the forbidden, between ordinary life and the secret places of the heart. Set in an industrial, working-class town in upstate New York, *You Must Remember This* is the story of the Stevicks: two parents trapped in a frustrating marriage; their idealistic, ambitious son, and fifteen-year-old Enid Maria, who becomes caught up in a secret sexual relationship with her uncle Felix, a professional boxer twice her age. A true and empathetic tale that merges love and violence, it is also a

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brilliant re-creation of a decade that worshiped conformity, one that tells of lives that break every convention in the search for meaning and fulfillment.

Middle Age: A Romance Harper Collins

The National Book Award finalist and national bestseller exploring the life and legend of Marilyn Monroe Soon to be a Netflix Film starring Ana de Armas, Adrien Brody, Bobby Cannavale and Julianne Nicholson In one of her most ambitious works, Joyce Carol Oates boldly reimagines the inner, poetic, and spiritual life of Norma Jeane Baker—the child, the woman, the fated celebrity, and idolized blonde the world came to know as Marilyn Monroe. In a voice startlingly intimate and rich, Norma Jeane tells her own story of an emblematic

American artist—intensely conflicted and driven—who had lost her way. A powerful portrait of Hollywood’s myth and an extraordinary woman’s heartbreaking reality, *Blonde* is a sweeping epic that pays tribute to the elusive magic and devastation behind the creation of the great 20th-century American star.

*We Were the Mulvaneys* Knopf

New York Times bestselling author Joyce Carol Oates’s strongest and 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

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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 Sadoovsky, with her lean, on-the-edge, icy beauty, whose nerve, muscle, hate, and hurt make her the spark of Foxfire: its guiding spirit, its 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. *You Must Remember This* E P Dutton

Considered as one of the greatest short stories in the Western Canon, James Joyce's complex narrative "The Dead", explores the intricate issues of identity and power through the lens of language, patriarchy, and imperialism. These issues are

directly tied to the longstanding political turmoil of his native Ireland and the social questions of his day. Joyce's story reveals that we often achieve what we tried to avoid by pretending to be what we are not. At 15,672 words *The Dead* is often considered a novella and the best of Joyce's shorter works. James Joyce (1882–1941) was an Irish novelist and poet, considered to be one of the most influential writers in the modernist avant-garde of the early 20th century. Joyce is best known for *Ulysses* (1922), a landmark work in which the episodes of Homer's *Odyssey* are paralleled in an array of contrasting literary styles, perhaps most prominent among these the stream of consciousness technique he perfected. Other major works are the short-story collection *Dubliners* (1914), and the novels *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (1916) and *Finnegans Wake* (1939). His complete oeuvre also includes three books of poetry, a play, occasional journalism, and his published letters.

[The Promise](#) Vintage

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WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE® IN LITERATURE 2013 Alice Munro, who received the National Book Critics Circle Award for her latest collection of stories, *The Love of a Good Woman*, is widely acknowledged as a modern master of the short story. In this earlier collection, she demonstrates all of those strengths that have won her so many literary accolades. A divorced woman returns to her childhood home where she confronts the memory of her parents' confounding yet deep bond. The accidental near-drowning of a child exposes the fragility of the trust between children and parents. A young man, remembering a terrifying childhood incident, wrestles with the responsibility he has always felt for his younger brother. In these and other stories Alice Munro proves once again a sensitive and compassionate chronicler of our

times. Drawing us into the most intimate corners of ordinary lives, she reveals much about ourselves, our choices, and our experiences of love.

*The Perfect Bride* Middle Age  
Middle Age HarperCollins UK

*Flirting with Fame* Universidad de Deusto  
A childhood trauma has left Lady Blanche Harrington incapable of all emotion, least of all love. Now circumstance demands she marry, and Blanche dreads choosing from her horde of fawning suitors. For one very eligible gentleman has not stepped forward.... A war hero and a recluse, Rex de Warenne has long admired Lady Blanche. Though fate and his own dark nature have robbed him of any hope for the kind of future such a lady deserves, Rex is determined to aid her—and keep his feelings to himself. But when their growing friendship leads to a night of shocking passion, Blanche's newfound memories threaten

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their fragile love...and Blanche's very life.

*Ulysses* Titan Books (US, CA)

“An unforgettable story of music, loss and hope. Fans of High Fidelity, meet your next quirky love story.”—People NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY THE TIMES (UK) AND THE WASHINGTON POST It is 1988. On a dead-end street in a run-down suburb there is a music shop that stands small and brightly lit, jam-packed with records of every kind. Like a beacon, the shop attracts the lonely, the sleepless, and the adrift; Frank, the shop’s owner, has a way of connecting his customers with just the piece of music they need. Then, one day, into his shop comes a beautiful young woman, Ilse Brauchmann, who asks Frank to teach her about music. Terrified of real closeness, Frank feels compelled to turn and run, yet he is drawn to this strangely still,

mysterious woman with eyes as black as vinyl. But Ilse is not what she seems, and Frank has old wounds that threaten to reopen, as well as a past it seems he will never leave behind. Can a man who is so in tune with other people’s needs be so incapable of connecting with the one person who might save him? The journey that these two quirky, wonderful characters make in order to overcome their emotional baggage speaks to the healing power of music—and love—in this poignant, ultimately joyful work of fiction. Praise for *The Music Shop* “Captures the sheer, transformative joy of romance.”—The Washington Post “Love, friendship, and especially the healing powers of music all rise together into a triumphant crescendo. . . . This lovely novel is as satisfying and enlightening as the music that suffuses its every page.”—The Boston Globe “Magnificent .



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. . If you love words, if you love music, if you love love, this [novel] will be without question one of the year's best."—BookPage (Top Pick in Fiction) "Joyce has a knack for quickly sketching characters in a way that makes them stick. [The Music Shop] will surprise you."—Minneapolis Star Tribune "Rachel Joyce has established a reputation for novels that celebrate the dignity and courage of ordinary people and the resilience of the human spirit. . . . But what really elevates The Music Shop is Joyce's detailed knowledge of—and passion for—music."—The Guardian

DUBLINERS Diamond Pocket Books Pvt Ltd

Joyce Carol Oates is one of the most provocative and prolific American writers of the post-World War II era. Her impressive body of work, which consists of

twenty three novels, fifteen short story collections, ten volumes of poetry, four plays, and literally hundreds of reviews, scholarly articles, essays, and journalistic pieces, is notable for much more than its sheer bulk. The range, depth and variety of her work, and especially its individuality, have earned her an exalted place in American letters. In this study, Joanne V. Creighton offers the first critical study focused on the middle period of Oates's career. A companion to Creighton's earlier Twayne study, *Joyce Carol Oates* (1979), this volume picks up where the previous one left off, considering the fifteen novels written between 1977 and 1990. Included in Creighton's analysis are Oates's pseudonymous mystery novels, published

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under the name Rosamond Smith. The author she wrote for The New York Times in her freshman year of college and sent her a letter that changed her life. Reviewers called her book "shameless" and "powerful" and its author was simultaneously reviled and cheered. With what some have viewed as shocking honesty, Maynard explores her coming of age in an alcoholic family, her mother's dream to mold her into a writer, her self-imposed exile from the world of her peers when she left Yale to live with Salinger, and her struggle to reclaim her sense of self in the crushing aftermath of his dismissal of her not long after her nineteenth birthday. A quarter of a century later—having become a writer, survived the end of her marriage and the deaths of her parents, and with an eighteen-year-old daughter of her

has benefited from Oates's own response to a first draft of this study, and has ably interpreted the complexities of Oates's work. Creighton's insightful analysis will appeal to all scholars and students of contemporary American literature.

**Empty Wardrobes** Platinum Spotlight Series

New York Times bestselling author of *Labor Day* With a New Preface When it was first published in 1998, *At Home in the World* set off a furor in the literary world and beyond. Joyce Maynard's memoir broke a silence concerning her relationship—at age eighteen—with J.D. Salinger, the famously reclusive author of *The Catcher in the Rye*, then age fifty-three, who had read a story

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own—Maynard pays a visit to the man who broke her heart. The story she tells—of the girl she was and the woman she became—is at once devastating, inspiring, and triumphant.

### Triumph of the Spider Monkey

HarperCollins UK

Brenda Joyce's New York Times best-selling novels have thrilled millions of readers. Now, in her latest Francesca Cahill novel, return to the lush mansions and teeming streets of New York City's Gilded Age, where intrigue and seduction lie on every corner... The year is 1902. The place is New York City. A famous stage actress has been found strangled in an artist's studio, and the artist herself has vanished. Francesca Cahill, the city's most

unconventional heiress and famous amateur sleuth, is once again on the case—for the murder victim is none other than her brother's mistress. And when the sole witness to the crime is also found strangled and only one clue is left behind—a silk stocking—it becomes evident that a madman is on the loose. Now more than ever, Francesca is determined to find The City Strangler and bring him to justice. But the trail is a twisted one, and she'll need the help of handsome, dynamic Police Commissioner, Rick Bragg—even though she must attempt to end their star-crossed romantic liaison. But now, she also finds herself fending off the advances of his notorious rival, his powerful half-brother, Calder Hart. Ruthlessly pursued by Hart,

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hopelessly enamored with Bragg, Francesca races against the clock before The City Strangler strikes again, never realizing the consequences that will come when danger and desire become one...

An Impossible Attraction Twayne Publishers

This is an intimate self-portrait of a young woman who comes of age in the most turbulent of American decades. Headstrong, passionate, occasionally obsessive, she is pitiless in exposing herself to her new life as she searches for a place in the world. Originally published: New York: Ecco, 2002.

Night. Sleep. Death. The Stars. Harper Collins  
Dubliners is a collection of 15 short stories by James Joyce, first published in 1914. They form a

naturalistic depiction of Irish middle class life in and around Dublin in the early years of the 20th century. The stories were written when Irish nationalism was at its peak, and a search for a national identity and purpose was raging; at a crossroads of history and culture, Ireland was jolted by various converging ideas and influences. They centre on Joyce's idea of an epiphany: a moment where a character experiences self-understanding or illumination. Many of the characters in Dubliners later appear in minor roles in Joyce's novel Ulysses. The initial stories in the collection are narrated by child protagonists, and as the stories continue, they deal with the lives and concerns of progressively older people. This is in line with Joyce's tripartite division of the collection into childhood, adolescence and maturity. James Augustine Aloysius Joyce (2 February 1882 – 13 January 1941) was an Irish novelist and poet, considered to be one of the most influential writers in the modernist avant-garde of the early 20th century.

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James Joyce Simon and Schuster

In Salthill-on-Hudson, a half-hour train ride from Manhattan, everyone is rich, beautiful, and -- though they look much younger -- middle-aged. But when Adam Berendt, a charismatic, mysterious sculptor, dies suddenly in a brash act of heroism, shock waves rock the town. But who was Adam Berendt? Was he in fact a hero, or someone more flawed and human?

**Baby Love** Bloomsbury Publishing

From one of America's most renowned storytellers—the best-selling author of *Blonde*—comes a novel about love and deceit, and lust and redemption, against a backdrop of shocking murders in the affluent suburbs of Detroit. “Unsettling, mysterious, deft, sinister, eerily plausible.” —Margaret Atwood, best-

selling author of *The Handmaid's Tale* and *The Testaments*, via Twitter In the waning days of the turbulent 1970s, in the wake of unsolved child-killings that have shocked Detroit, the lives of several residents are drawn together with tragic consequences. There is Hannah, wife of a prominent local businessman, who has begun an affair with a darkly charismatic stranger whose identity remains elusive; Mikey, a canny street hustler who finds himself on a chilling mission to rectify injustice; and the serial killer known as *Babysitter*, an enigmatic and terrifying figure at the periphery of elite Detroit. As *Babysitter* continues his rampage of abductions and killings, these individuals intersect with one another in startling and unexpected ways. Suspenseful, brilliantly orchestrated, and engrossing, *Babysitter* is a starkly narrated exploration of the riskiness of

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pursuing alternate lives, calling into question how far we are willing to go to protect those whom we cherish most. In its scathing indictment of corrupt politics, unexamined racism, and the enabling of sexual predation in America, *Babysitter* is a thrilling work of contemporary fiction.