I Am No One You Know - Stories

I Am No One You Know contains nineteen startling stories that bear witness to the remarkably varied lives of Americans of our time. In "Fire," a troubled young wife discovers a rare, radiant happiness in an adulterous relationship. In "Curly Red," a girl makes a decision to reveal a family secret, and changes her life irrevocably. In "The Girl with the Blackened Eye," selected for The Best American Mystery Stories 2001, a girl pushed to an even greater extreme of courage and desperation manages to survive her abduction by a serial killer. And in "Three Girls," two adventuresome NYU undergraduates seal their secret love by following, and protecting, Marilyn Monroe in disguise at Strand Used Books on a snowy evening in 1956. These vividly rendered portraits of women, men, and children testify to Oates's compassion for the mysterious and luminous resources of the human spirit.

I'll Take You There - A Novel

"Anellia" is a young student who, though gifted with a penetrating intelligence, is drastically inclined to obsession. Funny, mordant, and compulsive, she falls passionately in love with a brilliant yet elusive black philosophy student. But she is tested most severely by a figure out of her past she'd long believed dead. Astonishingly intimate and unsparing, and pitiless in exposing the follies of the time, I'll Take You There is a dramatic revelation of the risks—and curious rewards—of the obsessive personality as well as a testament to the stubborn strength of a certain type of contemporary female intellectual.

Blonde - A Novel

In this ambitious book, 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 startling, intimate, and rich, Norma Jeane tells her own story, that of an emblematic American artist—intensely conflicted and driven—who has 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 twentieth-century American star.

Beautiful Days - Stories

A new collection of thirteen mesmerizing stories by American master Joyce Carol Oates, including the 2017 Pushcart Prize–winning "Undocumented Alien" The diverse stories of Beautiful Days, Joyce Carol Oates explore the most secret, intimate, and unacknowledged interior lives of characters not unlike ourselves, who assert their independence in acts of bold and often irrevocable defiance. "Fleuve Bleu" exemplifies the rich sensuousness of Oates’s prose as lovers married to other persons vow to establish, in their intimacy, a ruthlessly honest, truth-telling authenticity missing elsewhere in their complicated lives, with unexpected results. In
“Big Burnt,” set on lushly rendered Lake George, in the Adirondacks, a cunningly manipulative university professor exploits a too-trusting woman in a way she could never have anticipated. “The Nice Girl” depicts a young woman who has been, through her life, infuriatingly “nice,” until she is forced to come to terms with the raw desperation of her deepest self. In a more experimental but no less intimate mode, “Les beaux jours” examines the ambiguities of an intensely erotic, exploitative relationship between a “master” artist and his adoring young female model. And the tragic “Undocumented Alien” depicts a young African student enrolled in an American university who is suddenly stripped of his student visa and forced to undergo a terrifying test of courage. In these stories, as elsewhere in her fiction, Joyce Carol Oates exhibits her fascination with the social, psychological, and moral boundaries that govern our behavior—until the hour when they do not.

**Black Water**

The Pulitzer Prize-nominated novel from the author of the New York Times bestselling novel We Were the Mulvaneys “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.

**Dear Husband - Stories**

 “[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.

**Give Me Your Heart - Tales of Mystery and Suspense**

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.

**Small Avalanches and Other Stories**

"The Sky Ball Blue", "Life After High School", and ten other short stories are presented in a compilation for young adults, including three O. Henry Award winners.

**I Am No One You Know - And Other Stories**

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**My Life as a Rat - A Novel**

“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.
Welcome to CNN's Book Chat with special guest, author Joyce Carol Oates ... the one who finds Muffin and brings him home. Question: I am curious about your pseudonym - I didn't know you had ... 

Prolific writer Joyce Carol Oates apologises after ‘they’ pronoun tweet sparks controversy
Acclaimed writer Joyce Carol Oates has apologised after she suggested that the singular “they” pronoun will never become “part of general usage”. On Wednesday (6 October), Oates tweeted a ... 

Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?
Type out all lyrics, even if it’s a chorus that’s repeated throughout the song The Section Header button breaks up song sections. Highlight the text then click the link Use Bold and Italics ... 

Terror on Trial: Journey to Terre Haute: From cradle to grave
I am wrong about Pendleton, of course. It has more to its credit or blame than McVeigh. Joyce Carol Oates once lived here, for one ... know what will happen to them if they commit those crimes ... 

Psychology Today
Can we learn to not identify with the critic that lives in our heads? In the first blog in this series, we quoted this passage from Joyce Carol Oates' novel, Unholy Loves: Making love with him in the ... 

Wisssot: Confessions of an obsessive-compulsive-disordered mind
On one level I know ... I hope you understand that I have been making fun in this column of my own nuttiness and not people suffering from very serious mental illnesses like PTSD, bipolarism and ... 

Writing the Other America
Material squalor was matched by cultural deprivation (no ... you know. Fatty Patty never did it with her husband, Igor, never did it with anyone.” Joyce Carol Oates once wrote, “Only the writer who ... 

The next chapter: books to watch for in 2014
We can expect new works from Salman Rushdie, Martin Amis, Ian McEwan, Joyce Carol Oates, Emma Donoghue ... but I don't know any more about them. One novel I do know about, because I've read ... 

Artist Spaces: Superior writer creates office under family's water tower tanks
“I know there's a really interesting metaphor about art and risk,” she added. There's no other space on their ... Her book shelf holds works by Joyce Carol Oates, Jesmyn Ward, Barbara ... 

Books of the month: From Jan Grue's I Live a Life Like Yours to Rose Tremain's Lilly: A Tale of Revenge
The result is an intriguing insight into the artistic process of one of the world's greatest songwriters ... In the books section, there are engrossing essays about John Updike, Joyce Carol Oates, ... 

i am no one you know joyce carol oates