
Alice Munro Walker Brothers Cowboy Text

Carried Away

Alice Munro: Writing Her Lives

The Progress of Love

Runaway

Space and Place in Alice Munro's Fiction

Lives of Girls and Women

Cane

The Inside of a Shell

The Other Country

The Optimist's Daughter

The Moons of Jupiter

Alice Munro

The Elephant Vanishes

Dear Life

The Hundred Years War

Lives of Girls and Women

Dance of the Sexes

Open Secrets

Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage: A Story

Dance of the Happy Shades

Alice Munro's Miraculous Art

Family Furnishings

Alice Munro

The Cambridge Companion to Alice Munro

Ten Lost Years, 1929-1939

The Love of a Good Woman

The View From Castle Rock
Friend of My Youth
What Is Remembered (Storycuts)
Female gender roles in the short story "Boys and Girls" by Alice Munro
The Office
The Beggar Maid
Too Much Happiness
Something I've Been Meaning to Tell You
A Study Guide for Alice Munro's "Walker Brothers Cowboy"
Alice Munro: Paradox and Parallel
Selected Stories
A Wilderness Station
The Cupcake Queen
Study Guide

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Text

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Carried Away Vintage

The Canadian author Alice Munro, recognized as one of the world's finest short story writers, published some seventeen books between 1968 and 2014, and was awarded the third Man Booker International Prize in 2009 and the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2013. This worldwide recognition of her career calls for a look back at her very first collection of short stories, *Dance of the Happy Shades*, published in 1968 and composed of fifteen stories written between 1953 and 1967. Some forty-five years after the publication of this first volume, worldwide specialists of

her work examine the first steps of a great writer, and offer new critical perspectives on a debut collection that already foreshadows some of the patterns and themes of later stories. Contributors adopt a variety of approaches from the fields of narratology, gender studies, psychoanalysis, and genetic criticism, amongst others, to illuminate the main stylistic features, narrative strategies, literary traditions, modes of writing and generic traits of the stories in *Dance of the Happy Shades*. *Alice Munro: Writing Her Lives* Vintage

In this study of Alice Munro's writing style, James Carscallen reveals a consistency to her works previously unsuspected, creating an unconscious thread throughout Munro's creations. Carscallen sets out his interpretive model as it applies to individual stories, and then shifts his emphasis from theory to

practice and extends his scope from individual stories to the groupings they make. He argues that Munro's work offers the reader the great human myths, but as half-concealed -- both from the characters themselves and from the reader -- behind a surface ordinariness that seems anything but mythical.

The Progress of Love University of Ottawa Press

WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE® IN LITERATURE 2013 In this series of interweaving stories, Munro recreates the evolving bond between two women in the course of almost forty years. One is Flo, practical, suspicious of other people's airs, at times dismayingly vulgar. the other is Rose, Flo's stepdaughter, a clumsy, shy girl who somehow leaves the small town she grew up in to achieve her own equivocal success in the larger world.

Runaway Infobase Publishing

A Study Guide for Alice Munro's "Walker Brothers Cowboy," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Short Stories for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust Short Stories for Students for all of your research needs.

Space and Place in Alice Munro's Fiction Cambridge University Press

A New York Times Editors' Choice Book Spanning almost thirty years and settings that range from big cities to small towns and farmsteads of rural Canada, this magnificent collection brings together twenty-eight stories by a writer of unparalleled wit, generosity, and emotional power. In *A Wilderness Station: Selected Stories, 1968-1994*, Alice Munro makes lives that seem small unfold until they are revealed to be as spacious as prairies

and locates the moments of love and betrayal, desire and forgiveness, that change those lives forever. A traveling salesman during the Depression takes his children with him on an impromptu visit to a former girlfriend. A poor girl steels herself to marry a rich fiancé she can't quite manage to love. An abandoned woman tries to choose between the opposing pleasures of seduction and solitude. To read these stories is to succumb to the spell of a true narrative sorcerer, a writer who enchants her readers utterly even as she restores them to their truest selves.

Lives of Girls and Women Vintage

All of these eight wonderful stories are about what people will do for love, and the unexpected routes their passion will force them to take. An old landlady in Vancouver who alarms the just-married narrator with her prim advice about married life -- and "the peculiar threat" of a china cabinet that must be washed once a month -- is shown to have conspired when young in a crime of passion. A young mother, at the mercy of the "radiant explosion" that comes when she thinks of her secret life, abandons her baby and four-year old to be with her lover in the story "The Children Stay." A gruff old country doctor in the 1960s is discovered by his daughter to be helping desperate women, his "special patients." An impetuous young woman meets a visiting Indian student and conceives on a train from Vancouver to Toronto because of "the fact that you couldn't get condoms around the Calgary station, not for love or money." An Ontario farm wife's affair drives her husband to commit a murder; its discovery, years later, will act as a negotiating point for a new, presumably satisfactory, marriage. The book is clear-eyed about

the imperfections of marriage, the clutter of our emotional lives, and the impermanence of love: “Not that that was the end. For we did make up. But we didn’t forgive each other.” Even the shared memories of earlier times prove to be a minefield, and many of the stories track the changes that time brings over generations to families, lovers, and even to friends who share old, intimate secrets about “the prostration of love.” As always these stories by Alice Munro are shot through with humour, and are as rich as novels. As always the characters in the stories are easily, sometimes uncomfortably, recognizable as people like us. One quote summarizes the delightful surprises that await the reader: “Did you ever think that people’s lives could be like that and end up like this? Well, they can.”

Cane Vintage

From the winner of the 2013 Nobel Prize in Literature—and one of our most beloved writers—a new selection of her peerless short fiction, gathered from the collections of the last two decades, a companion volume to *Selected Stories* (1968-1994). *Family Furnishings* brings us twenty-four of Alice Munro’s most accomplished, most powerfully affecting stories, many of them set in the territory she has so brilliantly made her own: the small towns and flatlands of southwestern Ontario. Subtly honed with her hallmark precision, grace, and compassion, these stories illuminate the quotidian yet extraordinary particularity in the lives of men and women, parents and children, friends and lovers as they discover sex, fall in love, part, quarrel, suffer defeat, set off into the unknown, or find a way to be in the world. Peopled with characters as real to us as we are to ourselves, Munro’s stories encompass the fullness of human experience—from the wild

exhilaration of first love, in “Passion,” to the lengths a once-straying husband will go to make his wife happy as her memory fades, in “The Bear Came Over the Mountain.” Other stories suggest the punishing consequences of leaving home (“Runaway”) or leaving a marriage (“The Children Stay”). The part romantic love plays in one’s existence is explored in “Too Much Happiness,” based on the life of the noted nineteenth-century mathematician, Sophia Kovalevsky. And in stories that Munro has described as “closer to the truth than usual”—“Dear Life,” “Working for a Living,” and “Home” among them—we glimpse the author’s own life. As the Nobel Prize presentation speech says in part: “Reading one of Alice Munro’s texts is like watching a cat walk across a laid dinner table. A brief short story can often cover decades, summarizing a life, as she moves deftly between different periods. No wonder Alice Munro is often able to say more in thirty pages than an ordinary novelist is capable of in three hundred. She is a virtuoso of the elliptical and the master of the contemporary short story.”

The Inside of a Shell Vintage

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 Other Country Vintage

Alice Munro is Canada's greatest short story writer. This book, the first full length study of her work published in Britain, explores the appeal of Munro's fictions of small-town Canadian life with their precise attention to social surfaces and their fascination with local gossip and scandal. This is a world of open secrets, and Howells highlights Munro's distinctive storytelling methods which combine the familiar and the unfamiliar, slipping between realism and fantasy to make visible what is usually hidden within everyday life. These are women's narratives, full of silent female knowledge--of female bodies, love stories and romantic fantasies as well as female casualties. Munro takes up the traditional subjects of women's fiction through her stories' significantly female plots, stories of entrapment and escape attempts, where secrecy and silence become strategies of resistance. Munro's enthusiasm for the work of other women writers from Emily Brontë and L. M. Montgomery to Eudora Welty is emphasized as Munro continues to experiment with the short story form, creating worlds which are both "touchable and mysterious."

The Optimist's Daughter Random House

Through the years, this Canadian writer has emerged as a master of the short story. The compressed and encapsulated energies of the form allow Alice Munro to peel away at the smooth and

mundane surfaces that contain her characters' lives to reveal harsher truths within. This acclaimed writer is profiled for the first time in this indispensable series through full-length critical essays that plumb the depths of her rich, fictive worlds. In this new work, a chronology of her life, a bibliography of Munro's work, and an index provide valuable information for student researchers.

The Moons of Jupiter Gale, Cengage Learning

WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE® IN LITERATURE 2013 In the thirteen stories in her remarkable second collection, Alice Munro demonstrates the precise observation, straightforward prose style, and masterful technique that led no less a critic than John Updike to compare her to Chekhov. The sisters, mothers and daughters, aunts, grandmothers, and friends in these stories shimmer with hope and love, anger and reconciliation, as they contend with their histories and their present, and what they can see of the future.

Alice Munro Random House

In the tales that make up *The Elephant Vanishes*, the imaginative genius that has made Haruki Murakami an international superstar is on full display. In these stories, a man sees his favorite elephant vanish into thin air; a newlywed couple suffers attacks of hunger that drive them to hold up a McDonald's in the middle of the night; and a young woman discovers that she has become irresistible to a little green monster who burrows up through her backyard. By turns haunting and hilarious, in *The Elephant Vanishes* Murakami crosses the border between separate realities—and comes back bearing remarkable treasures. Includes the story "Barn Burning," which is the basis for the major motion picture *Burning*.

The Elephant Vanishes Boydell & Brewer

WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE® IN LITERATURE 2013 In these fifteen short stories--her eighth collection of short stories in a long and distinguished career--Alice Munro conjures ordinary lives with an extraordinary vision, displaying the remarkable talent for which she is now widely celebrated. Set on farms, by river marshes, in the lonely towns and new suburbs of western Ontario, these tales are luminous acts of attention to those vivid moments when revelation emerges from the layers of experience that lie behind even the most everyday events and lives.

"Virtuosity, elemental command, incisive like a diamond, remarkable: all these descriptions fit Alice Munro."--Christian Science Monitor "How does one know when one is in the grip of art--of a major talent?...It is art that speaks from the pages of Alice Munro's stories."--Wall Street Journal

Dear Life Vintage

A Vintage Shorts "Short Story Month" Selection The solution came to the writer one evening: she should have an office. From Nobel Laureate Alice Munro, a brilliantly executed and revelatory story—one of the earliest published works of her career—in which simply finding a place to write turns out to be the hardest act of all. Alice Munro is the universally acclaimed master of the contemporary short story, the Chekhov of our time, and "The Office" sheds light on the process and growth of a beloved writer. A selection from *Dance of the Happy Shades*, Munro's first collection. An eBook short.

The Hundred Years War University of Alberta

This is the book about one of the world's great authors, Alice Munro, which shows how her life and her stories intertwine. For

almost thirty years Robert Thacker has been researching this book, steeping himself in Alice Munro's life and work, working with her co-operation to make it complete. The result is a feast of information for Alice Munro's admirers everywhere. By following "the parallel tracks" of Alice Munro's life and Alice Munro's texts, he gives a thorough and revealing account of both her life and work. "There is always a starting point in reality," she once said of her stories, and this book reveals just how often her stories spring from her life. The book is chronological, starting with her pioneer ancestors, but with special attention paid to her parents and to her early days growing up poor in Wingham. Then all of her life stages—the marriage to Jim Munro, the move to Vancouver, then to Victoria to start the bookstore, the three daughters, the divorce, the return to Huron County, and the new life with Gerry Fremlin—leading to the triumphs as, story by story, book by book, she gains fame around the world, until rumours of a Nobel Prize circulate . . .

Lives of Girls and Women McClelland & Stewart

Alice Munro's *Miraculous Art* is a collection of sixteen original essays on Nobel laureate Alice Munro's writings. The volume covers the entirety of Munro's career, from the first stories she published in the early 1950s as an undergraduate at the University of Western Ontario to her final books. It offers an enlightening range of approaches and interpretive strategies, and provides many new perspectives, reconsidered positions and analyses that will enhance the reading, teaching, and appreciation of Munro's remarkable—indeed miraculous—work. Following the editors' introduction—which surveys Munro's recurrent themes, explains the design of the book, and

summarizes each contribution—Munro biographer Robert Thacker contributes a substantial bio-critical introduction to her career. The book is then divided into three sections, focusing on Munro's characteristic forms, themes, and most notable literary effects.

Dance of the Sexes University of Alberta

This Pulitzer Prize-winning novel tells the story of Laurel McKelva Hand, a young woman who has left the South and returns, years later, to New Orleans, where her father is dying. After his death, she and her silly young stepmother go back still farther, to the small Mississippi town where she grew up. Along in the old house, Laurel finally comes to an understanding of the past, herself, and her parents.

Open Secrets Everyman's Library

Hundreds of ordinary Canadians tell their own stories in this book. They tell them in their own words, and the impact is astonishing. As page after page of unforgettable stories rolls by, it is easy to see why this book sold 300,000 copies and why a successful stage play that ran for years was based on them. The stories, and the 52 accompanying photographs, tell of an extraordinary time. One tells how a greedy Maritime landlord ho tried to raise a widow's rent was tarred and gravelled; another how rape by the boss was part of a waitress's job. Other stories show Saskatchewan families watching their farms turn into deserts and walking away from them; or freight-trains black with hoboes

clinging to them, criss-crossing the country in search of work; or a man stealing a wreath for his own wife's funeral. Throughout this portrait of the era before Canada had a social safety net, there are amazing stories of what Time magazine called "human tragedy and moral triumph during the hardest of times." In the end, this is an inspiring, uplifting book about bravery, one you will not forget.

Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage: A Story Penguin

When Penny moves to Hog's Hollow from New York City, her life changes drastically. Penny's mom now runs a cupcake bakery, and Penny is stuck helping out. But that isn't the worst of it. Not only did she leave her friends back home, but her dad stayed behind too. And then there's Charity, resident mean girl who's out to get Penny. With all this, Penny still finds some things to like: Tally and Blake...and Marcus - the cute, quiet boy who runs on the beach every night. But just when Penny begins to accept her new life, she's forced to make a choice that will change everything.

Dance of the Happy Shades Vintage

New essays engaging with the developing field of literary geography to devote attention to the regional settings of Munro's stories and how they affect her characters' development or stasis.