HOME > BOOKS

We Celebrate Author Joyce Carol Oates's Newest Releases With a Guide to Her Bestselling Books

MICHAEL GILTZ • SEP 3, 2022



David Livingston/Getty Images

Joyce Carol Oates is having a moment. The writer is a force on Twitter, where followers are treated to underappreciated Canadian painters and sharp political commentary. Her classic novel *Blonde*, the story of Marilyn Monroe, heads to Netflix Sept. 23 starring Ana de Armas. And last month, after releasing her crime and suspense anthology *Extenuating Circumstances* (\$40, The Mysterious Press), Oates published her latest novel, *Babysitter* (\$30, Knopf), a haunting story inspired by a real-life serial killer in 1970s Detroit. It features all the thrills of a crime novel, including an ignored trophy wife, an orphan and errand boy for criminals who is desperate to be loved and a serial killer (dubbed Babysitter by the press) on the hunt for children he considers "not loved and not deserved."

"A lot of the novel takes place in that breathless space between right now and what's waiting, which could be so awful that you almost can't think about it," says Oates, 84. "Is this really happening to me? Am I really having this experience? I try to get those experiences in my novel."

Realted: <u>Ana de Armas Channels Both Marilyn Monroe and Norma Jeane Baker in</u>

<u>Blonde Teaser</u>

here's our guide.

If you're wondering where to start in the author's long collection of bestselling books,

Related Stories The 101 Best Movies on Netflix Right Now Resident of Home Destroyed in Anne Heche's Car Accident Reacts to Actress's Death Related Stories Resident of Home See Meghan Markle's Stunning New Photoshoot and Intensely Private Revelations

an entirely ominous, gripping and timeless collection of short stories that will stick with you long after you finish reading," says author **Karin Slaughter**. The title story is dedicated to **Bob Dylan** and remains one of the most anthologized short stories in the modern era.

Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been? Stories of Young America (1974): "It's

Black Water (1992): This novella is a dark reimagining of the 1969 Chappaquiddick

Blonde (2000): A brilliant imagining of the inner life of actress Marilyn Monroe, it's one

Oates often recommends when asked where to start—and with good reason.

incident in which **Sen. Ted Kennedy** crashed a car, left the scene and lost any hope of ever becoming president when passenger **Mary Jo Kopechne** drowned.

The Wonderland Quartet: A series of books encompassing America (from rural poverty

to racial uprisings) with a scope rarely seen since John Dos Passos' U.S.A. trilogy.

Available in bookstores and online

Thrillers of All Time

Related: True Confessions! 32 Bestselling Authors Pick the Best Mysteries and

Trending Stories



Get Ready for Oktoberfest with New Beer Cheese Flavored Pretzels



The 15 Scariest Movies on Disney Plus Right Now



Cargo Pants Made From Chipotle Napkins Now Exist



Cruz Godoy Says Her Triumph Through Struggle Will Help Her Win



Watch This, Read That: What to Read Based on the Fall TV Shows You Love

Ghosts and Good Books!
Celebrate With These Spooky
Stories to Read on Halloween

About Post-Royal Life

16 Great Books About Mental Health for Empathy, Insight and So Much More

HEALTH & WELLNESS

BOOKS

On Her Shelf: 'Crime Junkie'
Host Ashley Flowers on Her
True Crime Book and the
Podcasts You Need to Know

'America's Got Talent' Magic Man Jon Dorenbos on Finding Forgiveness after Tragedy in 'Life is Magic'

'Alias Emma' Author on British Intelligence, the Spy Who Fooled Her and the Best Thriller She's Read Lately

SEE MORE



A Channel By

Parade