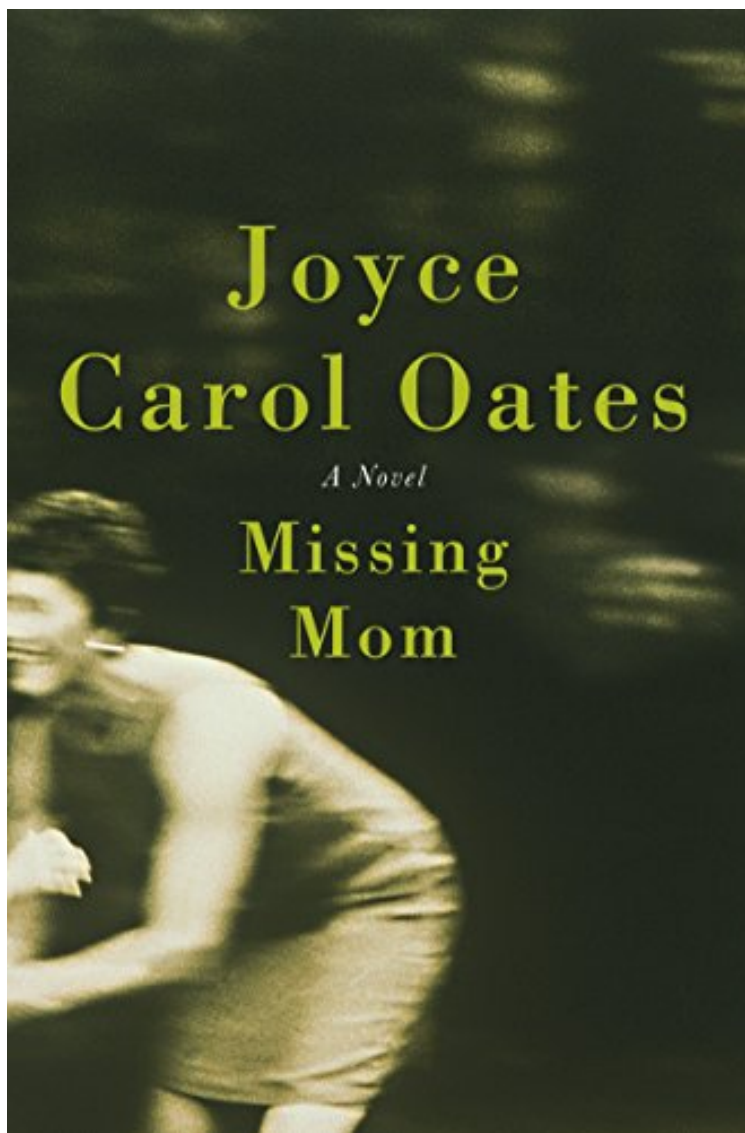


[Mobile ebook] Missing Mom: A Novel

Missing Mom: A Novel

Von Joyce Carol Oates
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Von Joyce Carol Oates : Missing Mom: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Missing Mom: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Read this!Von -Kunde_Missing Mom_ is a very powerful novel about a troubled woman who tries to find her place in life. Always having rebelled against her mother's way of life, she rethinks her attitude. Definitely a must read!

Kurzbeschreibung Nikki Eaton, single, thirty-one, sexually liberated, and economically self-supporting, has never particularly thought of herself as a daughter. Yet, following the unexpected loss of her mother, she undergoes a remarkable transformation during a tumultuous year that brings stunning horror, sorrow, illumination, wisdom, and even#8212from an unexpected source#8212a nurturing love. From Publishers Weekly Oates's latest returns to upstate New York's Mount Ephraim, the setting of *We Were the Mulvaney's*, Oates's 1996 novel a 2001 Oprah pick about one family's privilege and decay. This time, Oates turns to the middle class: narrator Nikki Eaton, 31, is a reporter for the small town Beacon and her family's black sheep. She's having an affair with a married DJ; she barely tolerates her widowed mother, Gwen, and her homemaker sister, Clare. As the novel opens, Nikki arrives at Gwen's Mother's Day party with newly spiked, "inky-maroon" hair and contempt for Gwen's cooking, one-story house and endless munificence to her ragtag guests. Two days later, Gwen is murdered by an ex-con. Chronicling Nikki's year following Gwen's death, the novel includes some wonderfully precise emotional observations. But more often the prose sags beneath the weight of banal information and a story line too redolent of pulp. Naturally, the "swarthy" police detective investigating Gwen's murder initially seems repulsive, and naturally, in the novel's final pages, Nikki thinks: "I had not noticed in the past how strong his profile was." There are no surprises, that's for sure. And yet the novel is so conventional and relentlessly detailed that it can't help showing its characters behaving in ways that resonate. (Oct.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Oates alternates between big, topical novels that reveal as much about society as about individuals, such as *The Falls* (2004), and more intensely focused psychological portraits, such as *I'll Take You There* (2002) and now this hypnotic tale of shock and mourning. The Eatons lived for several decades in a modest ranch house in the small town of Mt. Ephraim in western New York. Nikki, the hip, independent 31-year-old narrator, is a newspaper features writer given to flirty attire. She has now truly riled her do-gooder mother, the recently widowed Gwen, and her bossy sister, Clare, mother of two, by carrying on an affair with a married man. In spite of the friction, the women are close, until a violent tragedy hits like a boulder hurled into a pond. Oates tracks every ripple in her empathic drama as she meticulously charts the daunting and transforming process of missing a lost loved one. Nikki is smart, frank, and feeling, and the reader is right there with her as she struggles to cope with the absence of her mother and an unnerving torrent of painful revelations. Oates is at once erotic and scientific in her uncanny detailing of ordinary things experienced under extraordinary circumstances, from the contents of junk drawers to the making of a meal and the textures of skin and clothing. This almost hallucinatory precision, contrasted with high-voltage encounters with law officials and stricken neighbors and relatives, makes for a profoundly involving and haunting explication of grief, followed, finally, by a renewed embrace of life. Donna Seaman Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved