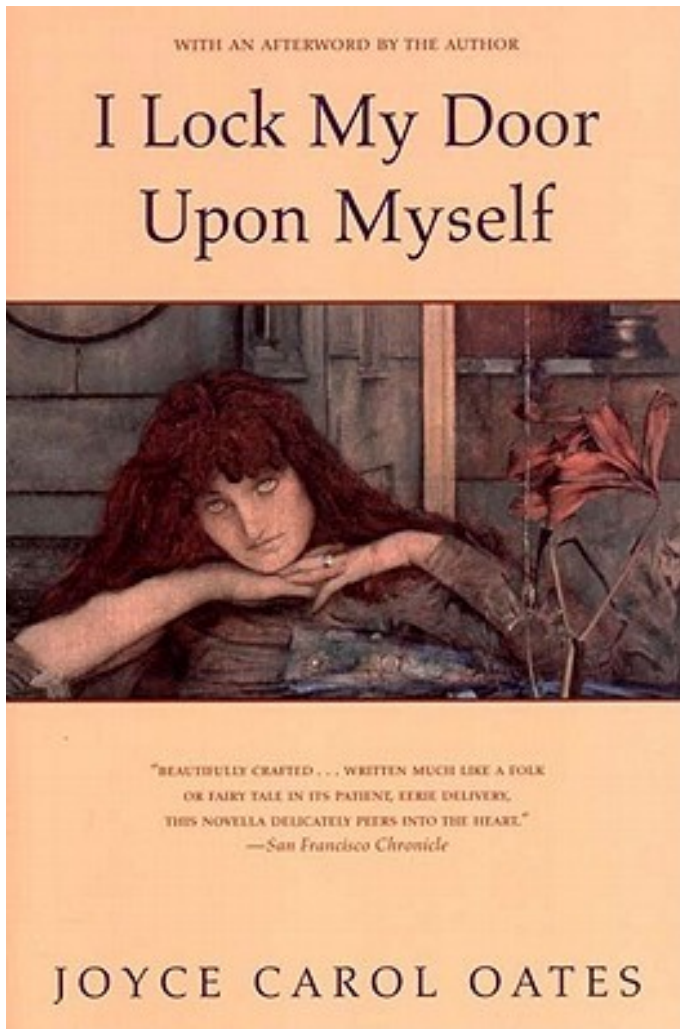

Joyce Carol Oates

I Lock My Door Upon Myself



Title: I Lock My Door Upon Myself

Author: Joyce Carol Oates

Format: Paperback

Language: English

Pages: 108

Publisher: , 0

ISBN: 0865381089

Format: PDF / Kindle / ePub

Size: 6.8 MB

Download: allowed

Description

Originally published in 1990, *I Lock My Door Upon Myself* is the story of Calla, a beautiful, flame-haired, willful girl living in rural upstate New York in the early years of the 20th century. At 17, Calla is married off to a coarse local farmer. Her chance encounter with an itinerant black water-dowser leads to a passionate, obsessive, and doomed love affair, from which she emerges a celibate recluse.

Insightful reviews

CJ: As usual, Ms Oates has blown me away with one of her novellas. I still need to read the rest of her *Wonderland Quartet*, but there are more short books of hers that I have to work through first. I may just have to renew my library copy and read it again a few more times... at 98 pages, it won't take too long. In a lot of ways, it reminded me of *Ethan Frome*, except the denouement was a little more tragic, and the ending (the follow-up with the main character) was in some ways, well... not happier, but more life-affirming. Bittersweet, perhaps.

Jessica: 1st reading 03/05 ****: Oates novella based on C. Rossetti's poem and (Froher?) painting. Story of strange Calla and her husband farmer and her lover, Terrelle the water diviner. Written in small sections and run on sentences, fast-paced, could not put it down. Somewhat confusing/ weird?

2nd reading 02/06 ***: Buzzed through it in about two hours. This time I was reading more for relationships, and those are pretty messed up. The details are there but not arresting. Its merits lie in its short chapters and terse sentences. Might try similar model for a novella.

Molly: not my favorite of JCO's, but compelling anyway.

Bebop2: Brilliant! a bit gem.

Adam: A feminist melodrama having a lot in universal with Thomas Hardy. The long, rhythmic sentences are interesting, however the characters listed here are dimensional--no pores and skin at the bones, not anything distinctive, purely utilitarian.

Karen Hogan: too unusual for my style

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