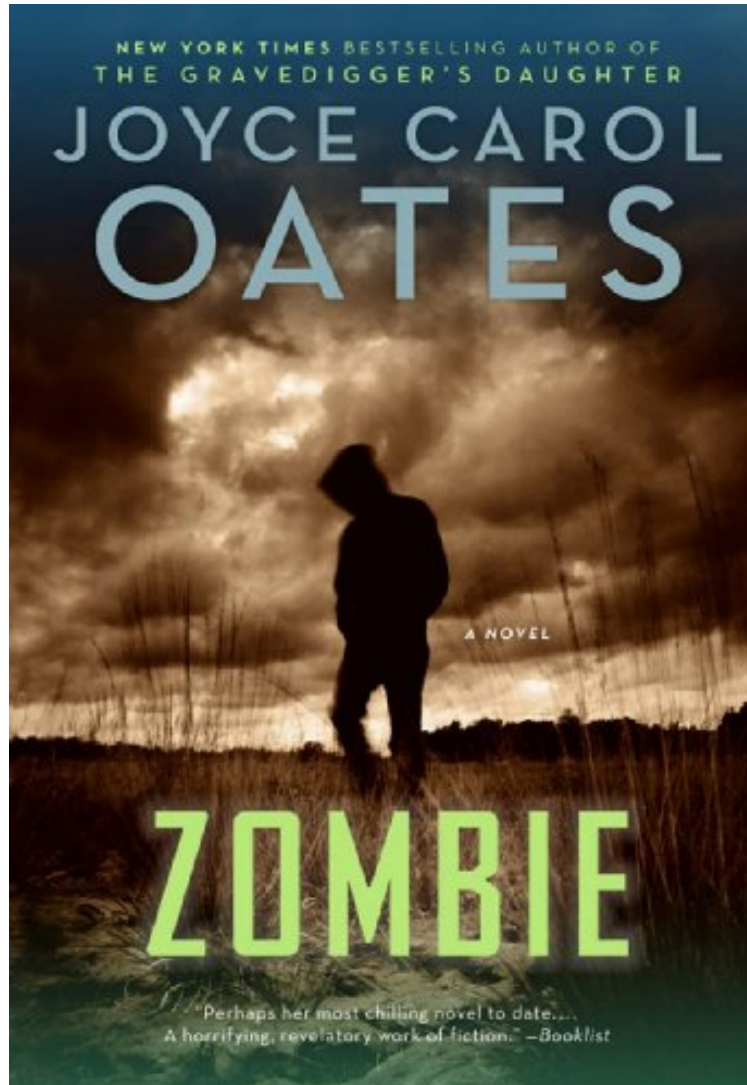


## Zombie: A Novel

Von Joyce Carol Oates

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

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. this was supposed to be deep?Von Ein KundeThe idea was good: getting the reader into a serial killer's mind. Not accomplished at all. When I bought the book I thought it would connect me with the killer as to even understand his thoughts and logic. Not the case. The book is short (thanks God) and the only thing you get from it is that the serial killer wants to find a sex slave. I always thought a serial killer's mind would be more complex. The story is nothing

you haven't seen on TV. Not deep at all. Besides, what's the point of using "" instead of "and" in every page? This is the first book by Joyce I read and it will be the last. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. an intelligent study of the disturbed Von Ein Kunde always the author who plunges into the darker aspects of middle-american life, Joyce Carol Oates chose Jeffrey Dahmer as the subject of her novel "Zombie." Her novels and short stories tend to sordidly dig into the dark psychological turmoils of those who live in a "normal" household. To Oates, Dahmer could not have been a better subject on which to base a novel. He was from a typical family and spent most of his childhood living in smaller Ohio towns. Oates manages to successfully show the transformation from troubled boy to serial killer. This is a superb book if anyone cares more to learn about the psychological churning inside a serial killer's mind than to learn about the tabloid details of Dahmer. Oates subtly shows America its own scars (particularly in the aspect of sexuality) in "Zombie." She attempts to show our poisons and how this can affect an unstable boy into becoming a man that we fear, a man one would label "a monster," as we tend to over-simplify. However, Oates makes it clear that there are no monsters, only products of a dying society. Definitely one of her better novels, "Zombie" urges the reader to re-think about the ways American society works. "Zombie" also helps him gain a better understanding of the progression from "innocent boy" to "monster." She does this with ease, as it is obvious that Oates researched psychological studies on serial killers in order to better write her novel. She understands many subtle keys which make QP (the character based on Dahmer) a believable serial killer. QP obsesses over "squirrel" (the code name he has given to a young boy), who, in turn, bears striking similarities to an old love of QP. (Many serial killers will stalk someone who reminds them of someone from the past. For example, Ted Bundy killed women who mostly resembled his fiancée.) QP's actions follow most other serial killer's M.O., down to Donald J. Sears' widely accepted 13 points of a serial killer. QP also seems to go through Joel Norris' seven phases through which serial killers pass as they murder. (For more information, I recommend "Serial Killers- The Insatiable Passion" by David Lester, PhD.) In order to retain artistic integrity and keep QP a believable character, Oates obviously did much research before penning her powerful novel, "Zombie." Written in Oates' trademark eloquently simple, yet eerily disturbing prose, "Zombie" is definitely worth reading. It is an especially complete package with the equally simple drawings QP has created for his reader, letting him fully understand his obsessions and tantalize him with his wit. What causes an unstable boy to become a serial killer? Oates outlines many points, from sexual abuse, a feeling of unwantedness, to an over-whelming feeling of guilt and unacceptance. Her character QP is believable and is not the typical paper-cut character one has grown to expect in modern novels. Using QP as her puppet, Oates manages to convey her theories on what psychologically induced Dahmer to attempt to create his perfect zombie. It is a unique serial killer study in that it is a work of fiction, yet tells more truth than most tabloid "accounts" of Dahmer. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Good Book and Easy Read Von Anon Though it did not start out as good as it ended, the short chapters (an average of two pages... the smallest chapter being two lines long) with large print on small pages makes it a quick and easy read. By the end of the book, the characterization has come full circle, and you really feel for the wantings of the protagonist (a psychopathic serial killer in want of free love). His last stated kill is his most powerful on the reader's emotions because it is such a major and built up element in the plot. I like the rambling style in which Oates wrote the book. This book manages to do something that so few other books can do to me, and that is to disturb me. The only thing I disliked about the book is that the serial killer was gay, and that many readers may be likely to stereotype all gay people as having the mindset or perversion of this killer (with no small credit to various Christian leaders and organizations, and the far right). My only hope is that Oates is not of that mindset herself and her character just happened to be gay for variety. I'm also hopeful Oates didn't use the character's sexuality to exploit society's general views for disturbingness factor of the book.

**Kurzbeschreibung** *Zombie* is a classic novel of dark obsession from the extraordinary Joyce Carol Oates. A brilliant, unflinching journey into the mind of a serial killer, *Zombie* views the world through the eyes of Quentin P., newly paroled sex offender, as he chillingly evolves from rapist to mass murderer. Joyce Carol Oates the prolific author of so many extraordinary bestsellers, including *The Gravedigger's Daughter*, *Blonde*, and *The Falls* demonstrates why she ranks among America's most respected and accomplished literary artists with this provocative, breathtaking, and disturbing masterwork. A hero who gets into the mind of a serial killer is a fixture of television crime shows, but such stories are usually disappointing, because the viewer knows it's just a gimmick. Not so with this unusual little novel, which *The New York Times* called a "note-perfect, horror-comic ventriloquization of a half-bright, infantile serial killer." Joyce Carol Oates has so convincingly written through the voice of a killer, you will feel nervous while reading at how familiar, how human, he is. Part of how she achieves the effect is through sparing use of bizarre capitalization (e.g., "MOON" and "FRAGMENT") and crude drawings done with a felt-tip pen. But the language is what makes it come alive, as in such weird statements as "My whole body is a numb tongue." This book was winner of the 1996 Bram Stoker Award for Best Novel. **Kurzbeschreibung** *Zombie* is a classic novel of dark obsession from the extraordinary Joyce Carol Oates. A brilliant, unflinching journey into the mind of a serial killer, *Zombie* views the

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