



Sexing the Cherry (Winterson, Jeanette)

By Jeanette Winterson

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In a fantastic world that is and is not seventeenth-century England, a baby is found floating in the Thames. The child, Jordan, is rescued by Dog Woman and grows up to travel the world like Gulliver, though he finds that the world's most curious oddities come from his own mind. Winterson leads the reader from discussions on the nature of time to Jordan's fascination with journeys concealed within other journeys, all with a dizzying speed that shoots the reader from epiphany to shimmering epiphany.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Evoking modern physics and antique metaphysics, Winterson's ambitiously eccentric narrative challenges her readers to rupture the boundaries of conventional perceptions and linear experience of time. Her narrative voices, alternating between a Rabelaisian giantess and her foundling son, collapse at times into one another and the characters plunge vertiginously through time and space. On the one hand reworking fairy tales, and on the other evoking the filth, squalor and exuberant bawdiness of 17th-century England in the throes of civil war, Winterson (*The Passion*) eventually locates her characters in present-day London. Graced with striking similes and poetic cadences, the author's prose is clean and strong, and the disjunctive elements of her narrative are integrated elegantly. But the novel's freakish characters and flights of surreal fancy are insufficient to redeem its overwrought artifice. The work is further limited by its stridently dogmatic feminism, which, contemptuously belittling all men as arrogantly stupid bullies who are vastly women's inferiors in maturity and moral fiber, vitiates its ostensible intent to transcend the narrowness of human perception.

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From Library Journal

Bizarre images and bawdy laughter galvanize this splendid English farce about a prodigious giantess and her explorer son in 17th-century London. Jordan fetches the first pineapple to the court of Charles II, while his mother, The Dog Woman, wreaks vengeance upon Puritans in a brothel. The plague; the flying princesses who defy laws of the courts and gravity; Jordan's travels to the floating city and the botanical wonders of the New World--the tale nips easily in and out of history and fantasy. The two characters eventually merge into the grievously polluted life of modern London. Metaphors abound with polemics on environmental concerns and politics of past and present. Not for the Jackie Collins set: readers need a background in surrealism to follow this story.

- Maurice Taylor, Brunswick Cty. Lib., Southport, N.C.

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Review

"Read it and marvel. Jeanette Winterson's voice is startlingly poetic and original, and her imaginative feats are utterly dazzling." —*Cosmopolitan*

"*Sexing the Cherry* is fun, challenging, often astonishing. I wholeheartedly recommend it." —*The Toronto Star*

"A life-enhancing, gratifying book. Winterson's use of language is superb.... She has a beautiful clear voice." —*Quill & Quire*

"Jeanette Winterson is a remarkable writer." —*The Bookseller*

"The most interesting young writer I have read in twenty years." —Gore Vidal

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"Reading Jeanette Winterson's *Sexing the Cherry* is like discovering a new dance. The rhythms and steps are innovative. The language often has a punch of a tabloid headline with the precision of poetry. And the idea of time — past, present and future — can turn on a dime." —*The Ottawa Citizen*

"It simply needs to be read and re-read." —*The Times*

"Simple prose shows the subtlest of minds behind it, swift, confident and dazzling." —*Financial Times*

"Winterson is a superb literary acrobat. She makes us believe, for the duration of her tall tales, in the power of imagination to change the way we perceive, and therefore live our lives." —*The Independent*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Alicia Hendrickson:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not experiencing tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition details. Even you love *Sexing the Cherry* (Winterson, Jeanette), it is possible to enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

Sarah Creamer:

Would you one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt when you are in the book store? Attempt to pick one book that you never know the inside because don't ascertain book by its protect may doesn't work this is difficult job because you are frightened that the inside maybe not because fantastic as in the outside search likes. Maybe you answer can be *Sexing the Cherry* (Winterson, Jeanette) why because the excellent cover that make you consider with regards to the content will not disappoint an individual. The inside or content is usually fantastic as the outside or cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly direct you to pick up this book.

Henry Stanton:

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Alicia Cain:

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