



The Days of Abandonment

By Elena Ferrante

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From the author of *My Brilliant Friend*

"She is among the greatest Italian authors of recent years."-*Corriere della Sera*

"Ferrante dissects the personal microcosm so well, and with awesome lucidity and precision shows us the meanderings of a woman's mind, the suffering that accompanies being abandoned, and the awful rumbling of time passing."-*El Mundo*

"Elena Ferrante has given us a startlingly beautiful novel of exceptional and bold strength."-*Il Manifesto*

"Severe and rigorously unsentimental, packed full of passages written with dizzying intensity at a rare and acute pitch. Ferrante is at her best when her writing holds tight to those nagging, niggling obsessions that make up our mental landscapes."-*La Stampa*

A national bestseller for almost an entire year, *The Days of Abandonment* shocked and captivated its Italian public when first published. It is the gripping story of a woman's descent into devastating emptiness after being abandoned by her husband with two young children to care for. When she finds herself literally trapped within the four walls of their high-rise apartment, she is forced to confront her ghosts, the potential loss of her own identity, and the possibility that life may never return to normal.

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The Days of Abandonment By Elena Ferrante Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Once an aspiring writer, Olga traded literary ambition for marriage and motherhood; when Mario dumps her after 15 years, she is utterly unprepared. Though she tells herself that she is a competent woman, nothing like the *poverella* (poor abandoned wife) that mothers whispered about in her childhood, Olga falls completely apart. Routine chores overwhelm her; she neglects her appearance and forgets her manners; she throws herself at the older musician downstairs; she sees the *poverella's* ghost. After months of self-pity, anger, doubt, fury, desperation and near madness, her acknowledgments of weaknesses in the marriage feel as earned as they are unsurprising. Smoothly translated by *New Yorker* editor Goldstein, this intelligent and darkly comic novel—which sat atop Italian bestseller lists for nearly a year, has been translated into 12 languages and adapted for an Italian film slated for 2006 release—conveys the resilience of a complex woman. Speculation about the identity of the pseudonymous Ferrante, whose previous novel is scheduled for 2006 release by Europa, has reached Pynchon-like proportions in Italy. (Sept.)

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From [The New Yorker](#)

In this deeply observed, excruciatingly blunt novel, Olga, a middle-aged wife and mother, is plunged into a breakdown after her husband leaves her for a younger woman. Her anguish is expressed through obscenity and violence, as she neglects her children and day-to-day responsibilities to obsess over what sexual acts her husband and his lover might be performing. Olga's rage and self-pity threaten to turn her into something of a monster; when she hears her daughter crying for her, she thinks, "But why should I hurry? I discovered with remorse that, if the child needed me, I felt no need of her." Still, Ferrante knows just when to let up, and the redemptive note struck by the ending is a welcome reprieve.

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From [Booklist](#)

A classic pop tune asks "What Becomes of the Broken Hearted?" Ferrante's answer in this novel of a woman betrayed and scorned might be the title of another, "I Fall to Pieces." Olga's husband, Mario, has left her and their two school-age children not for another *woman* but for Carla, a barely legal teenager he had once tutored. Despite having told Olga he was finished with Carla, Mario continued his secret affair with the girl until she became of age. And then he walked out on Olga. Olga goes from being a soft-spoken, meticulously groomed 38-year-old, who suppresses any kind of extreme emotion and prides herself on her spic-and-span housekeeping and excellent cuisine, to becoming a slovenly, wild-eyed creature who creates a brawl on a public street by ripping Mario's shirt from his back when she spots him with Carla. Readers may want to, but won't be able to, turn away from this gut-wrenching portrayal, including graphic scenes of animal-like suffering, of Olga's descent into madness and painful reconstruction of her life. *Whitney Scott*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Pauline Jefferson:

This *The Days of Abandonment* book is not really ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book is definitely information inside this guide incredible

fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This The Days of Abandonment without we comprehend teach the one who looking at it become critical in pondering and analyzing. Don't become worry The Days of Abandonment can bring if you are and not make your bag space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even phone. This The Days of Abandonment having good arrangement in word and layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

Lenore Ryan:

Information is provisions for those to get better life, information currently can get by anyone in everywhere. The information can be a understanding or any news even a problem. What people must be consider whenever those information which is inside the former life are challenging to be find than now could be taking seriously which one works to believe or which one often the resource are convinced. If you have the unstable resource then you get it as your main information you will have huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen in you if you take The Days of Abandonment as your daily resource information.

Mamie Esters:

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Randal Revilla:

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