



Innocents

By Cathy Coote

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Written when Cathy Coote was nineteen, *Innocents* is a taut, wickedly clever descent into the anatomy of an obsession, the debut of a precociously assured and provocative young literary voice. Forcing someone vulnerable and naive into a sexual relationship to satisfy a twisted desire is perverted, even evil. But when the perpetrator is a sixteen-year-old schoolgirl, is she culpable? And if the victim is her thirty-four-year-old teacher, shouldn't he have known better? When the nameless young narrator of *Innocents* decides to seduce her teacher, she immediately realizes that the power of her sexuality is greater than she ever imagined. She leaves the aunt and uncle who are her guardians and moves in with her teacher; together, they quickly embark on a journey into their darkest desires. Unforgettable, disturbing, and morally complex, *Innocents* permanently unsettles our notions of innocence, experience, and power, and suggests that we all are culpable.

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Innocents By Cathy Coote Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Was *Lolita* utterly cunning and "Humbert the innocent" seduced? In Australian writer Coote's provocative variation on a theme tackled many times before, the answer is a disturbing and (nearly) unequivocal yes. Coote's debut (written when she was 19) details a twisted love affair between a teenage student and teacher from the nymphets point of view. The story is written as a letter from the nameless, orphaned 16-year-old Catholic schoolgirl to her 34-year-old lover reviewing their affair and its consequences. The narrator, raised competently, albeit coldly, by her aunt and uncle, maintains a wholesome facade, behind which lies a devious imagination and utterly jaded view of human relations. With newly awakened sexual powers, she casts a spell over her defenseless unnamed teacher. I held all the aces—youth, beauty and cuteness. The narrator becomes increasingly calculating as she tangles him in her web of sexual manipulation. I had thought there could be no pleasure more exquisite than that of seducing a shy man. But this debauching of a decent one was more compelling than anything I had ever experienced. The girl's high-serious tone and overwrought language (Oh how can I begin to show you the contours of my perversion? Your exploration destroyed these lands, darling), while plausibly that of a teenager, becomes grating nonetheless, but Coote's brazen novel never falls into precocity or melodrama. The rejection of sentimentality and the carefully calibrated knowingness make this more than just another Nabokov knockoff, and mark Coote as a young writer to watch.

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About the Author

No Bio

No Bio

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Eula Hunter:

Do you have favorite book? In case you have, what is your favorite's book? Reserve is very important thing for us to find out everything in the world. Each book has different aim as well as goal; it means that book has different type. Some people really feel enjoy to spend their time and energy to read a book. They may be reading whatever they acquire because their hobby is reading a book. Think about the person who don't like examining a book? Sometime, man or woman feel need book if they found difficult problem or perhaps exercise. Well, probably you will want this *Innocents*.

Horace Godbolt:

Exactly why? Because this *Innocents* is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap that but latter it will distress you with the secret this inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such incredible way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining means but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of rewards than the

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