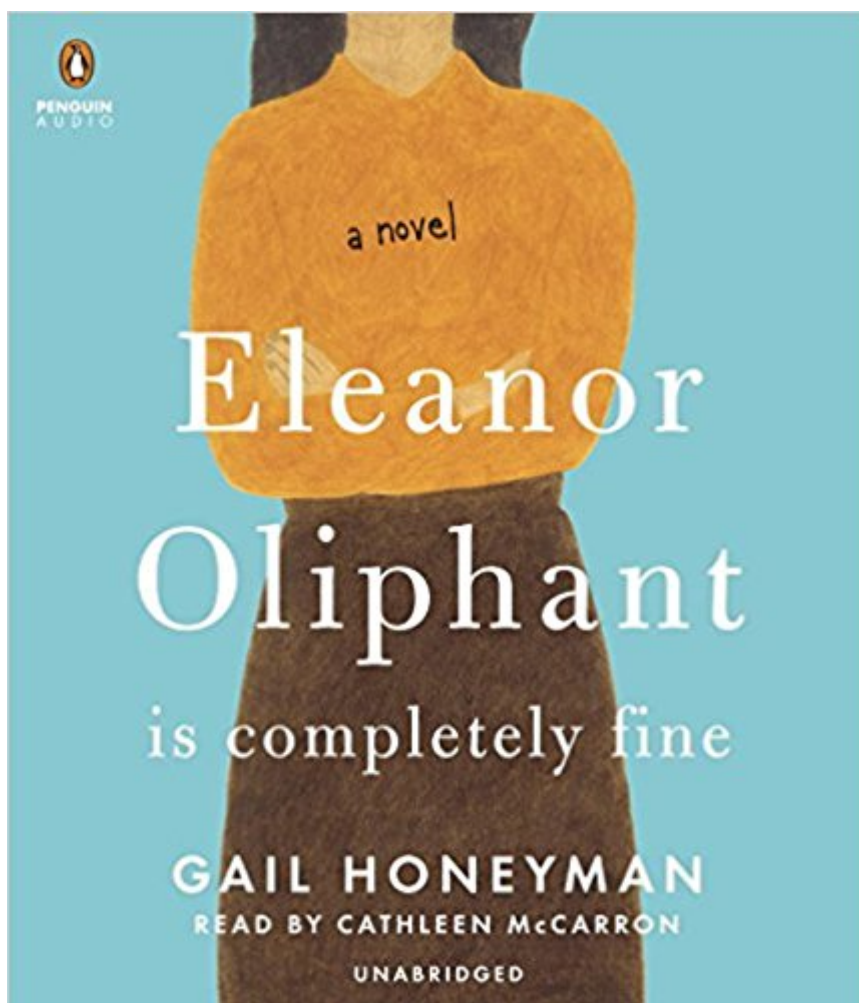


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# Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine: A Novel



## Synopsis

Soon to be a major motion picture produced by Reese Witherspoon. A charmer...satisfyingly quirky. "Janet Maslin, The New York Times Books to Breeze Through This Summer" "This wacky, charming novel...draws you in with humor, then turns out to contain both a suspenseful subplot and a sweet romance". "Hilarious and moving." "People No one's ever told Eleanor that life should be better than fine. Meet Eleanor Oliphant: She struggles with appropriate social skills and tends to say exactly what she's thinking. Nothing is missing in her carefully timetabled life of avoiding social interactions, where weekends are punctuated by frozen pizza, vodka, and phone chats with Mummy. But everything changes when Eleanor meets Raymond, the bumbling and deeply unhygienic IT guy from her office. When she and Raymond together save Sammy, an elderly gentleman who has fallen on the sidewalk, the three become the kinds of friends who rescue one another from the lives of isolation they have each been living. And it is Raymond's big heart that will ultimately help Eleanor find the way to repair her own profoundly damaged one. Smart, warm, uplifting, Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine is the story of an out-of-the-ordinary heroine whose deadpan weirdness and unconscious wit make for an irresistible journey as she realizes. . . The only way to survive is to open your heart."

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Simultaneously hilarious and heartbreaking. Eleanor Oliphant may be completely fine, but this book is completely wonderful." --PureWow "Eleanor Oliphant is a truly original literary creation: funny, touching, and unpredictable. Her journey out of dark shadows is expertly woven and

absolutely gripping." --Jojo Moyes, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Me Before You*"This wacky, charming novel...draws you in with humor, then turns out to contain both a suspenseful subplot and a sweet romance |.Hilarious and moving." --People "A charmer...satisfyingly quirky." --Janet Maslin, The New York Times "Books to Breeze Through This Summer" "Move over, Ove (in Fredrik Backman's *A Man Called Ove*) there's a new curmudgeon to love. . . Walking in Eleanor's practical black Velcro shoes is delightfully amusing, her prudish observations leavened with a privately puckish humor. But readers will also be drawn in by her tragic backstory, which slowly reveals how she came to be so entirely Eleanor. Witty, charming, and heartwarming, *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* is a remarkable debut about a singular woman. Readers will cheer Eleanor as she confronts her dark past and turns to a brighter future. Feel good without feeling smarmy." --Booklist (starred review)"Deeply compelling" --Vox "Eleanor Oliphant is endearing, [a] whip-smart read. . . Perfectly paced, odd, shocking and hilarious," *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* is a fascinating story about loneliness, hope, tragedy and humanity. Honeyman's delivery is wickedly good, and Eleanor won't leave you anytime soon." --Associated Press "Honeyman's endearing debut is part comic novel, part emotional thriller, and part love story. . . hilarious, deadpan, and irresistible." --Kirkus Reviews "[A] captivating debut. . . a feel-good story that will make readers laugh and cheer for Eleanor as she learns that the past doesn't dictate the future, and that happiness can be hers. This is a must-read for those who love characters with quirks." --BookPage "If you thought Fredrik Backman's *Ove* was a charming curmudgeon, you'll instantly fall for Eleanor." --Hello Giggles "The book is wonderfully, quirkily funny. You both ache for Eleanor. . . and laugh with her." --Seattle Times "That Eleanor's social awkwardness is extreme, sometimes painfully and often comically so, is far more apparent to the reader than it is to Eleanor herself" and that we get this through Eleanor's own narration is a credit to the author's cleverness and craft. . . A touching, funny novel." --Minneapolis Star Tribune "Debut author Honeyman expertly captures a woman whose inner pain is excruciating and whose face and heart are scarred, but who still holds the capacity to love and be loved. Eleanor's story will move readers." --Publishers Weekly "[Eleanor Oliphant] happens to be among the most compelling and complex characters drawn in recent memory, one who is always peculiar, often infuriating, but funny and utterly endearing." --The National (Scotland) "Gail Honeyman's wonderful debut novel hits the summer read sweet spot: an intelligent, complex, funny, heartbreaking book that you'll want to read in a single sitting." --The Irish Times "The human need for connection, initially scorned by Eleanor, is this heart-rending novel's central theme. Eleanor Oliphant is most

definitely not completely fine, but she is one of the most unusual and thought-provoking heroines of recent contemporary fiction. • --The Irish Times • Heart-wrenching yet humorous; dark yet full of life • "the debut novel from this Glasgow-based author is nothing short of extraordinary. This is a story • | that everyone will be talking about this summer. • --Hello Canada, June 2017 • Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine • is filled with laughter and hope, and has such faith in the power of love and friendship to rescue even the most damaged individuals. • --Georgia • Costal Illustrated • We are truly living in a golden age for new female writing. Among my favourite books of the year has been Gail Honeyman's debut, Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine. Eleanor • "30 going on 70, basically • "is not a character you • "I'll forget in a hurry. And Honeyman has managed a brilliant weaving of light and shade; black humour and crushing tragedy. Reese Witherspoon has already snapped up the film rights. • --The Independent (Ireland) • • "Another fantastic book about someone outside the norm • |. It • "s misery memoir meets Adrian Mole with a bit of The Office thrown in. What • "s not to like? • --The Mail on Sunday • "Like a contemporary Jane Eyre, Gail Honeyman's Eleanor Oliphant is a woman scarred by profound loneliness, and the shadow of a harrowing childhood she can't even bear to remember. Bit by bit, and with extraordinary courage, however, Eleanor begins peeling the layers of protective numbness, letting others near for the first time, and reaching for the life she hasn't believed she deserves. Deft, compassionate and deeply moving--Honeyman's debut will have you rooting for Eleanor with every turning page. I loved this story." --Paula McClain, New York Times bestselling author of The Paris Wife and Circling the Sun • "So powerful--I completely loved Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine." --Fiona Barton, New York Times bestselling author of The Widow • "Moving, hilarious, and intriguing, just like its unique, anti-social, anti-heroine. • " You will fall • " in love with Eleanor Oliphant." --J. Ryan Stradal, New York Times bestselling author of Kitchens of the Great Midwest • "Honeyman's debut is a stunner, as buoyant and charming as it is heartwrenching and emotionally sophisticated. Poor Eleanor Oliphant--often clueless, at times maddening, but always fascinating--walks right off the page and into the reader's heart. Not only is Eleanor Oliphant completely fine, she's a revelation." --Jonathan Evison, author of This Is Your Life, Harriet Chance • "Eleanor Oliphant endears herself to the reader with her cantankerous charm and her disarmingly inscrutable voice. A compulsive, irresistible narrative that arcs toward compassion and light. • " • --Mona Awad, author of 13 Ways of Looking at a Fat Girl • "Heart-wrenching and wonderful! • --Nina Stibbe, bestselling author of Paradise Lodge • "A Vogue Australia Book Club Pick, June 2017 --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Gail Honeyman • " is a graduate of the universities of Glasgow and Oxford. Eleanor Oliphant is

Completely Fine was short-listed for the Lucy Cavendish Fiction Prize as a work in progress and is Honeyman's debut novel. She lives in Glasgow, Scotland.

There has been a wonderful glut recently of captivating book titles featuring quirky characters (A MAN CALLED OVE, THE CURIOUS CHARM OF ARTHUR PEPPER, LILLIAN BOXFISH TAKES A WALK, BRITT MARIE WAS HERE), a lot of which are of a similar genre that I love. Now I can add Eleanor Oliphant to that list. Her name got my attention first but the story proved addictive. A 30 year old woman who faced terrible adversities up until her university graduation. She found a job and regulated her life in a way that allowed her to exist. But not live. She didn't know how. There is dialogue between characters but the most insightful parts are when we are reading Eleanor's thoughts and see how, as the plot unfolds, she is faced with decisions and choices that upend her very existence. I can't say more or I'll spoil it for you. It is endearing, sad, wry, funny. And so much more. A stunning first novel by Gail Honeyman.

Eleanor Oliphant is one of the most interesting characters that I have read in a while. She is blunt. Very blunt. She lacks social skills and tends to spout off facts to people just having conversations. She likes her routine. Every Friday, stop and buy pizza and vodka. And every Wednesday, she talks to her mother. Those are never very good for Eleanor. Her mother is mean and angry and leaves her feeling less than. Something happened to Eleanor when she was a child. Something that left her with a scar on her face and moving from foster home to foster home. Does she remember it all or is it her coping mechanism? Things start to change in her life when her company's IT guy, Raymond, and Eleanor help an old man who has passed out in the street. Family is the one thing that she has been missing. There is so much to Eleanor. In the beginning, I thought that I didn't care too much for her but as time went on and she opened up, well, I fell in love with her. I would venture to say that she is on the autism spectrum. What a sad story she had lived and what a wonderful world opening up for her. Beautifully written and just a lovely story, you will fall in love with Eleanor too.

Mostly charming and delightful, but not always believable. I liked Eleanor so much that I found myself overlooking the inconsistencies in her character and, at times, the clumsiness of the plot. (Minor spoilers ahead.) The author wasn't always too deft in revealing the back story. A social worker just happens to leak a few tantalizing bits of information: "Do you...you must miss her terribly..." I found it unbelievable that a character whose every intimate relationship

has resulted in extreme pain and trauma, a character who feels disgust at the sight and smells-- even the thought of physical contact--with most other human beings can at the same time have ordinary sexual and romantic feelings (even if they are a bit removed from reality). Normalcy came much too easy, and the ending seemed too pat and Hollywood-esque. Also, we've seen Mummy before (the Bates Motel maybe?) I'm not surprised that Reese Witherspoon, who has an eye for the potential blockbuster, optioned this story. But these are minor quibbles. The book is a little cliched, a little predictable, and the workmanship shows through, but the wonderful characters make up for a lot.

I loved this book. Completely different than I expected, but in a refreshing way. I hate reading reviews that give everything away, so as a heads up, there are no spoilers here. For whatever reason, even amidst all the rave reviews, I thought the book might be odd or boring; a whole book about a quirky woman, I thought how could this be so wonderful? However, it is so much more than that. It has in depth portrayal of a woman and her past and how she has come to be who she is. It details her struggles with a hurtful past, and as the story develops, so does our heroine. She begins to look at things in a new light, and grows into this beautiful strong and brave person. You want to applaud her in the end and give her a hug. This is an intelligent and beautifully written story, a definite page turner. I highly recommend.

Overall, I enjoyed the book. It's easy to read and entertaining. Also, for Americans it provides some interesting insights into life in Glasgow, customs, laws, realities of a workplace, etc. To me, those were the best parts of the book. I found the plot somewhat predictable and the characters a bit two dimensional. But a fun read nevertheless.

Loved this book. It was anything but predictable and the characters are unique and interesting. Eleanor Oliphant is a strange bird, unloved and seemingly unloveable at the start, whose good heart and indomitable spirit reveals itself bit by bit, like a flower blooming. Held my interest from start to finish. A deeply rewarding read.

I don't know what I was expecting really. I'd read some good reviews and decided to get the book (after a series of disappointing reads) to enjoy while traveling. When I started it, I was disconcerted, not sure where it was going but it pulled me in and it was great.

Fiction about a very socially awkward woman. At first she just seems weird and difficult, but over the course of the book she opens up and starts to change, to have friends. Throughout the book, we learn more of her past and just why she is the way she is.

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