



After Alice: A Novel

By Gregory Maguire

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From the multi-million-copy bestselling author of *Wicked* comes a magical new twist on *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, published to coincide with the 150th anniversary of Lewis's Carroll's beloved classic.

When Alice toppled down the rabbit-hole 150 years ago, she found a Wonderland as rife with inconsistent rules and abrasive egos as the world she left behind. But what of that world? How did 1860s Oxford react to Alice's disappearance?

In this brilliant work of fiction, Gregory Maguire turns his dazzling imagination to the question of underworlds, undergrounds, underpinnings—and understandings old and new, offering an inventive spin on Carroll's enduring tale. Ada, a friend of Alice's mentioned briefly in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, is off to visit her friend, but arrives a moment too late—and tumbles down the rabbit-hole herself.

Ada brings to Wonderland her own imperfect apprehension of cause and effect as she embarks on an odyssey to find Alice and see her safely home from this surreal world below the world. If Eurydice can ever be returned to the arms of Orpheus, or Lazarus can be raised from the tomb, perhaps Alice can be returned to life. Either way, everything that happens next is "After Alice."

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After Alice: A Novel By Gregory Maguire Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

The story of Lewis Carroll's Alice is turned upside down as Ada, a neighbor and friend, also falls down the rabbit hole into Wonderland. Afterwards, life progresses for those aboveground, some of whom start looking for both girls. Maguire creatively adapts the classic tale, mixing whimsy with science as he finds a way to work in Charles Darwin and his research on natural selection and an American abolitionist into the narrative. Teenagers will feel comfortable reading about well-known characters such as the Cheshire Cat, the Mad Hatter, and the Queen of Hearts. This sense of familiarity, along with the brisk pace of the novel, will help readers through the often challenging vocabulary. They may also enjoy references to literary works from Dante and Shakespeare to J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis. As in the source material, there is great language play and there is no shortage of clever riddles. The secondary characters are just as fun, and teens may identify with Lydia, the older sister who is happy to be rid of Alice for the day while mourning the loss of her mother. With an open ending, this could easily become another popular series opener like *Wicked* (HarperCollins, 1995). VERDICT Teens who enjoy reimagined tales, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, or any of Maguire's previous works will line up to read his newest creation.-Carrie Shaurette, Dwight-Englewood School, Englewood, Nø(c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Review

“Thoughtful and disconcertingly memorable...Ada, Alice’s best friend, also falls down a rabbit hole into a phantasmagorical realm where she too is tossed and bossed about by strange creatures who delight in clever, frustrating wordplay...A feast for the mind...readers will ruminate on it long after turning the last page.” (Publishers Weekly (starred review))

“Maguire firmly sets Wonderland in time and place and weaves an intricate web of symbolism and allegory...The novel is full of the magic, wonder, and fresh twists that his fans have come to expect, and Maguire-and Wonderland-lovers alike will enjoy this fantastic return.” (Booklist (starred review))

“Continuing his tradition of rewriting fairy tales with an arch eye and offbeat point of view, Maguire turns his attention to Lewis Carroll and Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland. . . . A brilliant and nicely off-kilter reading of the children’s classic, retrofitted for grown-ups—and a lot of fun.” (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))

“[Maguire’s] playful vocabulary may be Carroll-esque, but his keen wit is closer to Monty Python, with a fine, unforced sense of play... his erudition is a joy, his sense of fun infectious.” (Joe Hill, *New York Times Book Review*)

“In one vexing day, Ada, Lydia, and Miss Armstrong must adapt to deal with their circumstances and find new facets of themselves. Maguire fans should be pleased with his take, at turns clever and philosophical, on the Lewis Carroll classic.” (Library Journal)

“The author of *Wicked*, the beloved retelling of the *Wizard of Oz*, has done it again. In honor of Alice and Wonderland’s 150th anniversary, Gregory Maguire is offering a new perspective on the classic tale... We guarantee you’ve never imagined Alice and Wonderland quite like this.” (InStyle (Book Club Selection))

“Through means of jokes, puns, and slightly scandalous ditties, combined with the elevated vocabulary that

was very common in Victorian literature, Maguire evokes both the time period and Carroll himself... this book is a wonderful companion to Lewis Carroll's classic tales." (New York Journal of Books)

"AFTER ALICE will inspire readers to think anew about both historical realities and classic fantasies." (Bookreporter.com)

"Maguire plays with the ancient archetypes at work in Wonderland while injecting them with fresh perspective." (Entertainment Weekly)

"Maguire's style takes on an almost lyrical quality. In *After Alice* Maguire masterfully mimics the quick, witty, and often nonsensical dialogue of Carroll's original story." (Manhattan Book Review)

"[S]tunningly clever in its conflation of fairy tales, the mix and match of characters, woven throughout with references to philosophical ideas, the social issues of the day, and attitudes of the time...Maguire impressively channels Carroll's penchant for humorous wordplay, literary nonsense, and logic games." (Boston Globe)

"Gregory Maguire has done it again! Just as he did with *Wicked*, Maguire has turned the beloved children's tale *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* into an adult world with real problems and real rules yet still full of magnificent possibilities." (The Arched Doorway)

"This new expedition into Wonderland promises a bit of history, a touch of adventure and a dazzling amount of imagination." (Stuart Magazine)

From the Back Cover

Down the rabbit-hole, where adventures await . . .

When Alice toppled down the rabbit-hole 150 years ago, she found a Wonderland as rife with inconsistent rules and abrasive egos as the world she left behind. But what of that world? How did 1860s Oxford react to Alice's disappearance?

In this brilliant new work of fiction, Gregory Maguire turns his dazzling imagination to the question of underworlds, undergrounds, underpinnings—and understandings old and new, offering an inventive spin on Carroll's enduring tale. Ada, a friend of Alice's mentioned briefly in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, is off to visit her friend but arrives a moment too late—and tumbles down the rabbit-hole herself.

Ada brings to Wonderland her own imperfect apprehension of cause and effect as she embarks on an odyssey to find Alice and see her safely home from this surreal world below the world. The White Rabbit, the Cheshire Cat, the bloodthirsty Queen of Hearts—droll and imperious as always—interrupt their mad tea party to suggest a conundrum: If Eurydice can ever be returned to the arms of Orpheus, or if Lazarus can be raised from the tomb, perhaps Alice can be returned to life. In any case, everything that happens next is *After Alice*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Earl Austin:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book may be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the reserve untitled After Alice: A Novel can be great book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

Rose Slagle:

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent the entire day to reading a e-book. The book After Alice: A Novel it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book possesses high quality.

Stella Neal:

This After Alice: A Novel is great publication for you because the content and that is full of information for you who all always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it info accurately using great arrange word or we can point out no rambling sentences inside it. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole information in it. Doesn't mean it only offers you straight forward sentences but tough core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having After Alice: A Novel in your hand like finding the world in your arm, facts in it is not ridiculous a single. We can say that no guide that offer you world throughout ten or fifteen minute right but this reserve already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. occupied do you still doubt that?

Cheryl Edgerly:

Many people spending their time period by playing outside with friends, fun activity with family or just watching TV all day long. You can have new activity to shell out your whole day by reading a book. Ugh, do you think reading a book can really hard because you have to use the book everywhere? It ok you can have the e-book, having everywhere you want in your Smartphone. Like After Alice: A Novel which is obtaining the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's observe.

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