



What I Didn't See: and Other Stories

Karen Joy Fowler

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What I Didn't See: and Other Stories Karen Joy Fowler 2011 World Fantasy Award Winner for Best Collection

Praise for Karen Joy Fowler:

"No contemporary writer creates characters more appealing, or examines them with greater acuity and forgiveness."—Michael Chabon

"Fowler's witty writing is a joy to read."—USA Today

In her moving and elegant new collection, *New York Times* bestseller Karen Joy Fowler writes about John Wilkes Booth's younger brother, a one-winged man, a California cult, and a pair of twins, and she digs into our past, present, and future in the quiet, witty, and incisive way only she can.

The sinister and the magical are always lurking just below the surface: for a mother who invents a fairy-tale world for her son in "Halfway People"; for Edwin Booth in "Edwin's Ghost," haunted by his fame as "America's Hamlet" and his brother's terrible actions; for Norah, a rebellious teenager facing torture in "The Pelican Bar" as she confronts Mama Strong, the sadistic boss of a rehabilitation facility; for the narrator recounting her descent in "What I Didn't See."

With clear and insightful prose, Fowler's stories measure the human capacities for hope and despair, brutality and kindness. This collection, which includes two Nebula Award winners, is sure to delight readers, even as it pulls the rug out from underneath them.

Karen Joy Fowler (karenjoyfowler.com) is the author of five novels, including *Wit's End*, PEN/Faulkner finalist *Sister Noon*, and *New York Times* bestseller *The Jane Austen Book Club*. Her collection *Black Glass* won the World Fantasy Award. Fowler and her husband, who have two grown children, live in Santa Cruz, California.



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