

David Golder, The Ball, Snow in Autumn, The Courilof Affair (Everyman's Library Contemporary Classics Series)

By Irene Nemirovsky

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Readers everywhere were introduced to the work of Irène Némirovsky through the publication of her long-lost masterpiece, *Suite Française*. But *Suite Française* was only the coda to the brief yet remarkably prolific career of this nearly forgotten, magnificent novelist. Here in one volume are four of Némirovsky's other novels–all of them newly translated by the award-winning Sandra Smith, and all, except DAVID GOLDER, available in English for the first time.

DAVID GOLDER is the novel that established Néirovsky's reputation in France in 1929 when she was twenty-six. It is a novel about greed and lonliness, the story of a self-made business man, once wealthy, now suffering a breakdown as he nears the lonely end of his life. THE COURILOF AFFAIR tells the story of a Russian revolutionary living out his last days–and his recollections of his first infamous assassination. Also included are two short, gemlike novels: THE BALL, a pointed exploration of adolescence and the obsession with status among the bourgeoisie; and SNOW IN AUTUMN, an evocative tale of White Russian émigrés in Paris after the Russian Revolution.

Introduced by celebrated novelist Claire Messud, this collection of four spellbinding novels offers the same storytelling mastery, powerful clarity of language, and empathic grasp of human behavior that would give shape to *Suite Française*.

(Book Jacket Status: Jacketed)

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review
In 2006 English readers worldwide were introduced to Irène Némirovsky's rediscovered masterpiece, *Suite Française*, which topped just about every "best of" list that year, including our own. Thanks to the editors of the Everyman's Library 20th-Century Classics series, a second wave of the prolific author's writing has just hit our shores. In a single volume, readers can find four of Nemirovsky's gem-like early novellas--*David Golder*, *The Ball*, *Snow in Autumn*, and *The Courilof Affair*--with all the trimmings: a shrewd introduction by Claire Messud (*The Emperor's Children*) and a detailed chronology of the author's life and times. These first novellas demonstrate Némirovsky's genius for exposing an individual's virtues and flaws, much like a jeweler examining a diamond under a loupe. Potentially one-dimensional characters such as a greedy businessman or a spiteful teenager emerge from these stories as multi-faceted figures whose questionable beliefs and actions compel us to re-examine our own. Don't miss these short, but potent tales. --*Lauren Nemroff*

From Publishers Weekly
Through the 1920s and '30s Russian-Jewish émigré Némirovsky, author of the recently rediscovered and internationally bestselling *Suite Française*, was a popular and critically acclaimed novelist in her adopted France. These four short early novels reveal her clear-eyed view into the deeply compromised human heart. *David Golder*, her third novel and the only one in the volume previously available in English, is saturated with the despairing mood of its title character, an embittered Jewish business- and family man in ill health, left after the suicide of his bankrupt partner to question the value of the great petroleum fortune he has amassed. *The Courilof Affair* is narrated by Léon M., a dying Russian revolutionary: he recounts his relationship with Valerian Courilof, the minister of education in imperial Russia. Léon grew to like the decrepit, politically ruined Courilof, even as he was ordered to kill him. *The Ball* is a psychologically acute account of the relationship between a narcissistic French mother—married to her former boss, a rich German Jew—and their enraged adolescent daughter, Antoinette; the similarly brief *Snow in Autumn* is a tender portrait of an old, devoted Russian nanny who cannot adjust to life as an émigré in Paris. These four early works by Némirovsky reveal her impressive range, bitingly exact settings and insight into profoundly flawed and compromised characters. *(Jan.)*
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Review
“Stunning . . . [Némirovsky] wrote, for all to read at last, some of the greatest, most humane and incisive fiction that conflict has produced.”
—New York Times Book Review

“Némirovsky’s scope is like that of Tolstoy: she sees the fullness of humanity and its tenuous arrangements and manages to put them together with a tone that is affectionate, patient, and relentlessly honest.”
—O, The Oprah Magazine

“Extraordinary . . . Némirovsky achieve[s] her penetrating insights with Flaubertian objectivity.”
—The Washington Post Book World

“Brilliant . . . [Némirovsky wrote] with supreme lucidity [and] expressed with great emotional precision her understanding of the country that betrayed her.”

—*The Nation*

[Némirovsky had] an alert eye for self-deceit, a tender regard for the natural world, and a forlorn gift for describing the crumbling, sliding descent of an entire society into catastrophic disorder."
—*London Review of Books*

"Transcendent, astonishing . . . Like Anne Frank, Irène Némirovsky was unaware . . . that she might not survive. And still, she writes to us."
—*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

"A novelist of the very first order, perceptive and sly in her emotional restraint."
—*Evening Standard* (London)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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This David Golder, The Ball, Snow in Autumn, The Courilof Affair (Everyman's Library Contemporary Classics Series) book is absolutely not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book is actually information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get information which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This specific David Golder, The Ball, Snow in Autumn, The Courilof Affair (Everyman's Library Contemporary Classics Series) without we comprehend teach the one who examining it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't possibly be worry David Golder, The Ball, Snow in Autumn, The Courilof Affair (Everyman's Library Contemporary Classics Series) can bring if you are and not make your handbag space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even cell phone. This David Golder, The Ball, Snow in Autumn, The Courilof Affair (Everyman's Library Contemporary Classics Series) having excellent arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.

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