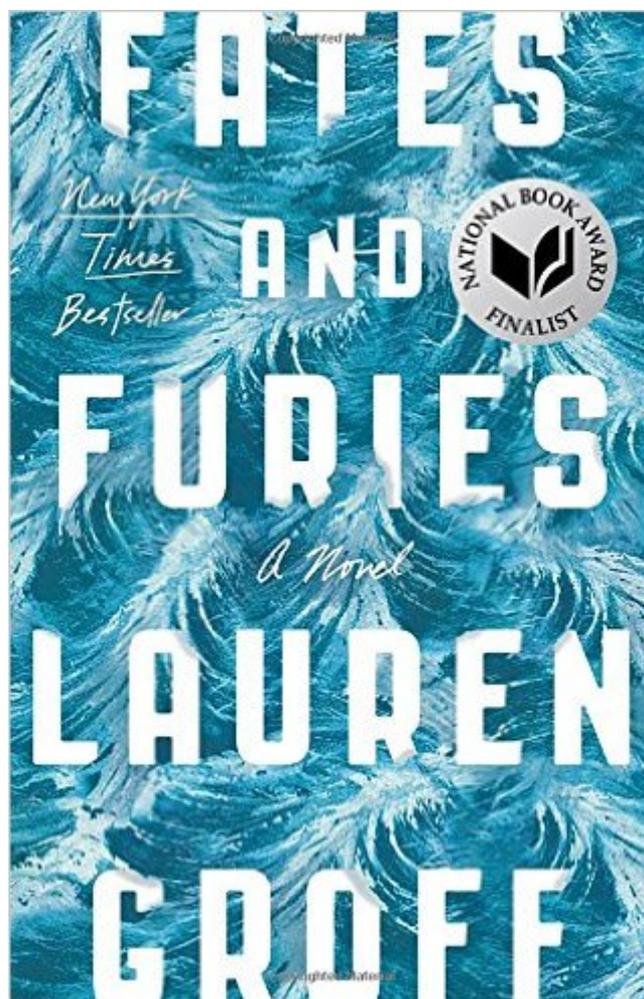


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# Fates And Furies: A Novel



## Synopsis

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER A FINALIST FOR THE 2015 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD NPR MORNING EDITION BOOK CLUB PICK NAMED A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR BY: THE WASHINGTON POST, NPR, TIME, THE SEATTLE TIMES, MINNEAPOLIS STAR-TRIBUNE, SLATE, LIBRARY JOURNAL, KIRKUS, AND MANY MORE • Lauren Groff is a writer of rare gifts, and *Fates and Furies* is an unabashedly ambitious novel that delivers “with comedy, tragedy, well-deployed erudition and unmistakable glimmers of brilliance throughout.”

“The New York Times Book Review (cover review) • Elaborate, sensual...a writer whose books are too exotic and unusual to be missed.” “The New York Times • *Fates and Furies* is a clear-the-ground triumph.” • “Ron Charles, The Washington Post From the award-winning, New York Times bestselling author of *The Monsters of Templeton* and *Arcadia*, one of the most anticipated books of the fall: an exhilarating novel about marriage, creativity, art, and perception. *Fates and Furies* is a literary masterpiece that defies expectation. A dazzling examination of a marriage, it is also a portrait of creative partnership written by one of the best writers of her generation. Every story has two sides. Every relationship has two perspectives. And sometimes, it turns out, the key to a great marriage is not its truths but its secrets. At the core of this rich, expansive, layered novel, Lauren Groff presents the story of one such marriage over the course of twenty-four years. At age twenty-two, Lotto and Mathilde are tall, glamorous, madly in love, and destined for greatness. A decade later, their marriage is still the envy of their friends, but with an electric thrill we understand that things are even more complicated and remarkable than they have seemed. With stunning revelations and multiple threads, and in prose that is vibrantly alive and original, Groff delivers a deeply satisfying novel about love, art, creativity, and power that is unlike anything that has come before it. Profound, surprising, propulsive, and emotionally riveting, it stirs both the mind and the heart. From the Hardcover edition.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (1,534 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #558 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Contemporary](#) #43 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Coming of Age](#) #50 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Women's Fiction > Domestic Life](#)

## Customer Reviews

Review by: Stacy Palm\*\*\* 3 out of 5 stars Release Date: 9/15/2015 First, let me clarify that my 3 star rating is a neutral rating. This is a very difficult book for me to review. I'll start with what I believe is the premise. This is a book about marriage, and about individual perspectives on the same situation. It's a book that brings to light that every person experiencing a situation, even if the situation seems mundane, brings with them their own prior knowledge, and their own view hinged upon all the information that they know that others may not. It is also a book about compromise and what that compromise is worth to a person. The reasons I enjoyed this novel and would recommend it. The character development is astounding, after reading this novel I know these characters, inside and out. Honestly, this book is relying heavily on the fact that the characters are the driving factor for you to turn the page because there isn't much else there. So they are lively, vivid, characters. These characters do seem to propel the story along so that you feel lost in their world. The beginning and younger years were by far my favorite chapters of the book. The reasons I didn't enjoy this novel. It is not a light read. It is a heavy, dense read, and often times over pretentious (a whole glimpse into a pseudo play-opera based on Antigone) that brought the whole flow of the book to a grinding halt. Simply because I found myself having to go back and re-read the zealously laden series of complex metaphors, but some readers live for that kind of thing, and if you're one of them, you will love this book. I personally found it a bit much and would have preferred Ms. Groff sacrifice the literature for a better tempo to the story, but that is just my opinion.

I received a complimentary copy of this book from the publisher (via Netgalley).  
Headline: The first section (Fates) was a 2 or 3 star slog, but the second section (Furies) is unquestionably a 5 star read. Overall, pushing through the beginning was worth it for me.  
Major Themes: Marriage, differing perspectives, secrets/betrayal  
What I Liked:- I love the overall theme of differing perspectives, particularly as it relates to a marriage. Groff deftly shows how one person's background can shape his/her perspective on events - sometimes ending up with a vastly different interpretation than others.- Lotto's version of his life with Mathilde (Fates) seems fairly normal and even uneventful, but things completely turn on their heads once you switch to Mathilde's perspective

(Furies). So many times, I was left astounded at what had really gone on.- Though it took me awhile to get there, I had a very hard time putting the book down by the end.- This is a book that has me thinking and pondering and I feel like it will stick with me for a long time.- The writing started out a bit terse and I initially had trouble getting into the flow. But, as the story moves along, the writing ends up being absolutely glorious. I was highlighting like crazy by the end."They handed over spider plants in terra-cotta, six-packs, books, bottles of wine. Yuppies in embryo, miming their parentsâ™ manners. In twenty years, theyâ™d have country houses and children with pretentious literary names and tennis lessons and ugly cars and liaisons with hot young interns. Hurricanes of entitlement, all swirl and noise and destruction, nothing at their centers."What I Didnâ™t Like:- This book started very slowly for me.

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