



# Foxfire: Confessions of a Girl Gang

By Joyce Carol Oates

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## Foxfire: Confessions of a Girl Gang By Joyce Carol Oates

The time is the 1950s. The place is a blue-collar town in upstate New York, where five high school girls are joined in a gang dedicated to pride, power, and vengeance on a world that seems made to denigrate and destroy them. **Foxfire** is Joyce Carol Oates's strongest and most unsparing novel yet—an always engrossing, often shocking evocation of female rage, gallantry, and grit. Here is the secret history of a sisterhood of blood, a haven from a world of male oppressors, marked by a liberating fury that burns too hot to last. Above all, it is the story of Legs Sadovsky, with her lean, on-the-edge, icy beauty, whose nerve, muscle, hate, and hurt make her the spark of Foxfire, its guiding spirit, its burning core. At once brutal and lyrical, this is a careening joyride of a novel—charged with outlaw energy and lit by intense emotion. Amid scenes of violence and vengeance lies this novel's greatest power: the exquisite, astonishing rendering of the bonds that link the Foxfire girls together. Foxfire reaffirms Joyce Carol Oates's place at the very summit of American writing.

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Oates depicts a gang of five adolescent girls growing up amidst violence and frustration in upstate New York during the 1950s.

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From Library Journal

\$21. F Oates, one of America's most distinguished and prolific writers, has triumphed again with this deftly crafted, highly imaginative novel about a girl gang called Foxfire and its leader, Legs Sadovsky. Legs is many things: a female Robin Hood, a Marxist revolutionary, a highly intelligent naif, an incredibly bold, indestructible heroine. Legs, who is wise beyond her years, dominates Foxfire with her superiority. But Legs is not a writer; that responsibility she delegates to Maddy Wirtz, who becomes the official chronicler of Foxfire's history. Later in life, in search of elusive truth, Maddy returns to her notebooks and relives her Foxfire days of the 1950s, a decade she and her female contemporaries (of all ages) experienced through violence, fear, and oppression. The forces that gave rise to Foxfire and the bonds that kept it together raise many interesting questions about gender, social status, and sexuality. As in any Oates novel, these multiple themes intertwine to create a richly textured piece. Highly recommended.

- Janet Wilson Reit, *Univ. of Vermont Lib., Burlington*

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Review

"Brilliant ... **Foxfire** burns brightly ... exhilarating."

— **New York Times Book Review**

"Wonderful, beautiful, a vivid novel."

— **Washington Post**

"Profound ... a riveting whirlwind of a novel."

— **Los Angeles Times**

## Users Review

From reader reviews:

**Eva Byrd:**

Information is provisions for people to get better life, information today can get by anyone at everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even a concern. What people must be consider if those information which is in the former life are challenging be find than now is taking seriously which one is acceptable to believe or which one the particular resource are convinced. If you find the unstable resource then you have it as your main information we will see huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen in you if you take Foxfire: Confessions of a Girl Gang as your daily resource information.

**Raymond Hernandez:**

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