



# Death and Other Holidays

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## **Death and Other Holidays** Marci Vogel

The 2017 Miami Book Fair/de Groot Prize winner, this debut fiction introduces a distinctive new American voice.

Funny, tender, and wholly original, *Death & Other Holidays* is a year in the life of a young woman coming to terms with the death of her beloved stepfather, while attempting to find love in LA. We are introduced to her friends and family, as she struggles to launch herself out into the world, to take the risks of love—the one constancy in all the change.

Told with a great good humor and underlying affection for all her characters, *Death and Other Holidays* announces a brilliant and assured new voice in American fiction.

## **Death and Other Holidays Details**

Date : Published November 13th 2018 by Melville House

ISBN :

Author : Marci Vogel

Format : 112 pages

Genre : Fiction, Literary Fiction, Relationships, Contemporary, Novella, Adult Fiction

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## **From Reader Review Death and Other Holidays for online ebook**

### **Stephanie says**

Short sweet and original. Vignettes about love life loss and depression. Argos Victor Hugo. Meditation on finding your place in the world.

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### **Janet says**

The quiet everyday beauty of this little book bowled me over. A loosely linked year of tiny stories, divided into sections by season, of a young woman dealing with the deaths of men--her stepfather, recently, and her father--by suicide--years before, how one death opens up the entire subject you think was closed, the central story interwoven with her interactions with the world and with men in her dating life. While the men in her life seem to move in a steady flow, her best friend is a pillar--almost a Greek chorus of one--weighing in on the protagonist's situation.

Each story is told with such a light touch, it's like watching a feather on your fingertip, and yet it deals with the difficulties of growing up, the difficulties and strangeness of other people, the lingering absence death leaves. Vogel is a poet, and handles these small moments of living so beautifully... it's like watching someone make an omelette or wash dishes, and then suddenly take a pirouette, arabesque, and go back to washing dishes. I look forward to rereading this novella-in-stories for years to come. Note, it's published by Melville House--a publisher I always watch for, which specializes in novella-length work. Always handsome editions, and this is no exception.

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### **Ruba says**

Lyrical, short chapters about a year of grief and love. Beautifully expressed.

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### **Evanne Lindley says**

This little book really won my heart. It's short and simple but full of amazing prose and dialogue. Sure, the characters aren't as fleshed out as they might be in a full novel, but you have enough information to fill in the blanks. The themes are strong (death, depression, family, love) and the love story is simple and sweet - one of the best I've read in a while. I was thoroughly won over. Plus you really could read it in one sitting!

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### **Molly says**

Like listening to a friend tell a story. I was all in until the literal last page took me out.

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## **James says**

Perceptive and quietly charming, Marci Vogel's first novel is the unassuming but sneakily profound story of a year in the life of a young woman grieving the death of her loved stepfather. A friend's marriage, a new relationship, depression and an old dog are the foci around which the story moves, capturing the beauty and awkwardness of life. Not a word is wasted, and Vogel manages the neat trick of making reading about the experience of grief, an inherently boring thing, fascinating and even funny.

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## **Latkins says**

Set in 1998 and 1999, this novella tells the story of a year in the life of its narrator, April. At the beginning, in the spring, her stepfather Wilson has just died, and she is grieving for him. Her father and mother split up when she was a child and her father committed suicide when she was a teenager. Now in her late 20s, she's living alone after her roommate Libby has moved out to live with her fiance Hugo. The story takes us through the year in short chapters, highlighting a moment from her present or her past as she come to terms with Wilson's death and goes through several relationships. Life and death in miniature, somehow made more profound with the ordinary details of the everyday. A short but memorable novel.

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## **Rachel says**

This was an interesting, though hard to describe, little book of vignettes following 20-something April through a year of grieving over her step-father, falling in love, and trying to figure out what to do with her life.

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## **Salt344 says**

Mercifully short.

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## **Michelle says**

This is like looking into a life of a diary. The pieces of details about the death of her beloved stepfather, the unwritten details of her father's death and how she deals with these are just enough information to see what she is feeling. Her fear of falling in love with someone who may take his life, like her father. Her questions of will love really last, is it real. These small details is what made this work of art believable.

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## **Ardent says**

I have no idea what to make of the last paragraph, but I loved the book overall.

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**Sarah says**

A charming story of loss and discovery told by a young woman mourning the loss of her father. The author's deft prose and light touch make this a pleasure to read.

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**Doria says**

A novella written in a style I had never read.  
This author has great possibilities.  
132 pages. Just innovative and quirky good.

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**Alan says**

Interestingly good.

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**Naomi says**

A quick read, lovely writing, intriguing..fun! Short essays - sometimes closely connected, sometimes not.

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