



Can't Wait to Get to Heaven: A Novel (Ballantine Reader's Circle)

By Fannie Flagg

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Combining southern warmth with unabashed emotion and side-splitting hilarity, Fannie Flagg takes readers back to Elmwood Springs, Missouri, where the most unlikely and surprising experiences of a high-spirited octogenarian inspire a town to ponder the age-old question: Why are we here?

Life is the strangest thing. One minute, Mrs. Elner Shimfissle is up in her tree, picking figs, and the next thing she knows, she is off on an adventure she never dreamed of, running into people she never in a million years expected to meet. Meanwhile, back home, Elner's nervous, high-strung niece Norma faints and winds up in bed with a cold rag on her head; Elner's neighbor Verbena rushes immediately to the Bible; her truck driver friend, Luther Griggs, runs his eighteen-wheeler into a ditch—and the entire town is thrown for a loop and left wondering, “What is life all about, anyway?” Except for Tot Whoooten, who owns Tot’s Tell It Like It Is Beauty Shop. Her main concern is that the end of the world might come before she can collect her social security.

In this comedy-mystery, those near and dear to Elner discover something wonderful: Heaven is actually right here, right now, with people you love, neighbors you help, friendships you keep. *Can't Wait to Get to Heaven* is proof once more that Fannie Flagg “was put on this earth to write” (Southern Living), spinning tales as sweet and refreshing as iced tea on a summer day, with a little extra kick thrown in.

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. The only thing more enjoyable than reading a Fannie Flagg novel is having Flagg read it aloud herself. A born storyteller, Flagg is a marvelous reader with a warm, welcoming Alabama accent. She immediately puts listeners at ease, priming them for an engrossing yarn that will mix laugh-out-loud hilarity with unabashed sentiment in a novel as thoughtful as it is delightful. Returning to Elmwood Springs, Miss. (the setting of two previous novels), Flagg focuses on a handful of days following octogenarian Elner Shimfissle's fatal fall from a tree. As listeners check in on various residents in town to see how they're reacting to the news and remembering how their lives were touched by the old woman, Flagg alternates bite-size chapters detailing Elner's journey to the afterlife. Flagg completely embodies her delightful characters, adapting a slight vocal scratch for eternally optimistic Elner, a flatter drawl for the ever-complaining hairdresser Tot and a sweet innocence as Elner's hilariously nervous niece, Norma. An uplifting delight.

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Review

Fannie Flagg began writing and producing television specials at age nineteen and went on to distinguish herself as an actress and writer in television, films, and the theatre. She is the author of the *New York Times* bestsellers *Daisy Fay and the Miracle Man*, *Welcome to the World, Baby Girl!*, *Standing in the Rainbow*, *A Redbird Christmas* and *I Still Dream About You*. Flagg's script for *Fried Green Tomatoes* was nominated for both the Academy and Writers Guild of America awards and won the highly regarded Scripters Award.

About the Author

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From the Hardcover edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Paul Greenblatt:

In this 21st hundred years, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive now, people have do something to make these survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated it for a while is reading. Yeah, by reading a reserve your ability to survive boost then having chance to stay than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading some sort of book, we give you this particular *Can't Wait to Get to Heaven: A Novel (Ballantine Reader's Circle)* book as nice and daily reading guide. Why, because this book is

usually more than just a book.

Kenny Grant:

The e-book untitled Can't Wait to Get to Heaven: A Novel (Ballantine Reader's Circle) is the guide that recommended to you you just read. You can see the quality of the reserve content that will be shown to an individual. The language that writer use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The copy writer was did a lot of exploration when write the book, hence the information that they share for your requirements is absolutely accurate. You also can get the e-book of Can't Wait to Get to Heaven: A Novel (Ballantine Reader's Circle) from the publisher to make you much more enjoy free time.

Timothy Holeman:

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