



Tully

By Paullina Simons



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The astonishing debut novel from international number one bestselling author Paullina Simons, beautifully repackaged

Tully Makker is a tough young woman from the wrong side of the tracks and she is not always easy to like. But if Tully gives friendship and loyalty, she gives them for good, and she forms an enduring bond with Jennifer and Julie, schoolfriends from very different backgrounds.

As they grow into the world of the seventies and eighties, the lives of the three best friends are changed forever by two young men, Robin and Jack, and a tragedy which engulfs them all.

Against the odds, Tully emerges into young womanhood, marriage and a career. At last Tully Makker has life under control. And then life strikes back in the most unexpected way of all...

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Tully By Paullina Simons Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Esteemed editor Bob Wyatt's initial book for his new imprint, this much ballyhooed first novel is not notable for literary merit but for the melodramatic story it tells. Set during the last two decades in Topeka, Kans., and centering on a tough kid named Tully who oddly resembles skater Tonya Harding in looks and deportment, the narrative chronicles Tully's wild struggle against her lower-class origins, circumstances and fate (not to mention her genes) without any redeeming growth or insights achieved by any of the central characters until at the end Tully belatedly realizes the error of her ways. It's an emotionally crude coming-of-age story in which Tully, her two best girlfriends and the two men she loves never seem to rise above adolescent emotions and behavior. The story has the no-holds-barred, cranked-out quality of 19th-century penny novels, with an abundance of cheap thrills and hair-raising scenes. We tag along as Tully endures abandonment, incest, abortion, child and spousal abuse, passion, promiscuity, marriage, motherhood, infidelity, terrible nightmares, midnight graveyard scenes, tortured partings with lovers and more. The most interesting character is the villain, Hedda Makker, Tully's mother, whose chief pleasure in life is beating the living daylights out of Tully. Though billed as "a big Russian novel" about mothers and daughters, much of the narrative has a breathless, awkward oral texture, although long patches of exposition have an evenness and clarity that suggest Simons's potential. Despite all the wailing, sighing and bloodletting--or perhaps because of it--the story is engrossing as tabloid features often are: not believable or artful, but fascinating in a macabre way. 165,000 first printing; \$150,000 ad/promo; BOMC selection .

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From Library Journal

In this beautifully written first novel, Simons captures the lives and loves of Tully and her friends Julie and Jennifer in Topeka, Kansas. After her father and brother disappear, Tully's childhood is shaped by an abusive mother. Her wild adolescence culminates when Jennifer commits suicide. Unable to accept the death or admit to grief, Tully seeks consolation at the gravesite, where years later she meets Jack, a former lover of Jennifer. Although married to Robin, she begins an affair with Jack, despite the warnings of her friend Shakee, also one of his former lovers. When Jack wants her to move to California, a lifelong dream of both Jennifer and Tully, this survivor in life must come to grips with past griefs to make a decision. A strong story line with great characterization makes this book hard to put down. A potential best seller, it is highly recommended for public libraries. [BOMC and Quality Paperback selections.]-Heather Blenkinsopp, Mercy Coll. Lib., Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.

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From [Booklist](#)

The publishing industry has cranked into high gear to promote this hefty first novel about heartache and craziness on the Great Plains. What, we wonder, is all the fuss about? Would you believe a feisty, troubled, graceful, and gray-eyed gal named Tully? Simons, Russian-born and American-raised, has set her melodramatic, slow-as-molasses, seventies novel in Topeka, Kansas, a location emblematic both of what is most trying and most meaningful in life. It is a place of meteorological extremes and a subtle beauty that either grows on you or drives you mad. Tully is the same way: extreme, unconventionally attractive, and simply maddening. Raped by an uncle and beaten and abused by her mentally ill mother, Tully barely survives her wretched adolescence. Just when she seems to be healing, her best friend commits suicide, and Tully is hurled back into the abyss. Such physical and emotional battery is bound to make love a tricky endeavor, and Tully makes quite a mess of it, tormenting the kind and generous men who finally earn her

trust. There's rock-steady Robin, poetic Jeremy, and Jack the sun god. Our girl Tully manages to devastate each in her own monumentally self-absorbed way, but to Simons' credit, Tully's behavior is wholly comprehensible and oddly forgivable. Paced as sluggishly as a TV soap, it will be hailed as a provocative entertainment and condemned as a particularly viscous form of quicksand. Either way, *Tully* is a wallow, and sometimes, doggone it, that's just what the doctor orders. *Donna Seaman*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jenny Dill:

The event that you get from Tully is the more deep you rooting the information that hide within the words the more you get enthusiastic about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to know but Tully giving you buzz feeling of reading. The writer conveys their point in particular way that can be understood by simply anyone who read the idea because the author of this publication is well-known enough. That book also makes your current vocabulary increase well. It is therefore easy to understand then can go with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We recommend you for having this Tully instantly.

Phyllis Callahan:

This book untitled Tully to be one of several books that best seller in this year, here is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit on it. You will easily to buy this specific book in the book retail store or you can order it through online. The publisher in this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, since you can read this book in your Cell phone. So there is no reason for your requirements to past this e-book from your list.

William Rocha:

As a scholar exactly feel bored to reading. If their teacher asked them to go to the library or make summary for some book, they are complained. Just very little students that has reading's heart and soul or real their passion. They just do what the instructor want, like asked to the library. They go to presently there but nothing reading critically. Any students feel that studying is not important, boring as well as can't see colorful photographs on there. Yeah, it is to become complicated. Book is very important to suit your needs. As we know that on this period of time, many ways to get whatever we would like. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. So , this Tully can make you really feel more interested to read.

Raymond Albanese:

What is your hobby? Have you heard in which question when you got scholars? We believe that that query was given by teacher to their students. Many kinds of hobby, Everybody has different hobby. And you know that little person just like reading or as examining become their hobby. You have to know that reading is very important in addition to book as to be the matter. Book is important thing to incorporate you knowledge, except your personal teacher or lecturer. You get good news or update about something by book. Many kinds of books that can you choose to use be your object. One of them is Tully.

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