

Tessa Hadley

Author

Tessa Hadley has published eight novels - including *The Past*, *Late in the Day*, and *Free Love* - and four collections of short stories. Her novella, *The Party*, was published in 2024. She has short stories regularly in the *New Yorker*, and reviews for the *Guardian* and the *London Review of Books*; she was awarded a Windham Campbell prize for Fiction and the Hawthornden Prize in 2016, and has won the Edge Hill Prize twice: in 2018, for *Bad Dreams*, and in 2024, for *After The Funeral*.



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Publications

Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
THE PARTY 2024 Jonathan Cape	On a winter Saturday night in post-war Bristol, sisters Moira and Evelyn, on the cusp of adulthood, go to an art students' party in a dockside pub; there they meet two men, Paul and Sinden, whose air of worldliness and sophistication both intrigues and repels them. Sinden calls a few days later to invite them over to the grand suburban mansion Paul shares with his brother and sister, and Moira accepts despite Evelyn's misgivings. As the night unfolds in this unfamiliar, glamorous new setting, the sisters learn things about themselves and each other that shock them, and release them into a new phase of their lives.

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FREE LOVE 2023 Jonathan Cape	1967. While London comes alive with the new youth revolution, the suburban Fischer family seems to belong to an older world of conventional stability: pretty, dutiful homemaker Phyllis is married to Roger, a devoted father with a career in the Foreign Office. Their children are Colette, a bookish teenager, and Hugh, the golden boy. But when the twenty-something son of an old friend pays the Fischers a visit one hot summer evening, and kisses Phyllis in the dark garden after dinner, something in her catches fire. Newly awake to the world, Phyllis makes a choice that defies all expectations of her as a wife and a mother. Nothing in these ordinary lives is so ordinary after all, it turns out, as the family's upheaval mirrors the dramatic transformation of the society around them.
LATE IN THE DAY 2019 Jonathan Cape	Alexandr and Christine and Zachary and Lydia have been close friends since they first met in their twenties. Thirty years later, when profound loss strikes them, instead of bringing them closer the three discover over the following months that it warps their relationships, as old entanglements and grievances rise from the past, and love and sorrow give way to anger and bitterness.
BAD DREAMS 2017 Jonathan Cape	In these gripping and unsettling stories, the ordinary is made extraordinary and the real things that happen to people turn out to be every bit as mysterious as their dreams.
THE PAST 2015 Jonathan Cape	Four siblings meet up in their grandparents' old house for three long, hot summer weeks. But under the idyllic surface lie shattering tensions. Over the course of the holiday, a familiar way of life falls apart forever.
CLEVER GIRL 2013 Jonathan Cape	Clever Girl follows the story of Stella, from her childhood as the daughter of a single mother in a Bristol bedsit in the 1960s into the mysterious shallows of her middle age. The story is full of drama – violent deaths, an abrupt end to Stella's schooldays, two sons by different fathers who aren't around to see the boys grow up – but as ever it is her observation of ordinary lives, of the way men and women think and feel and relate to one another, that dazzles. Yes, you think. This is how it is.
MARRIED LOVE 2012 Jonathan Cape	A collection of short stories showcasing all of Tessa Hadley's skill in depicting personal relationships and scenes of domesticity in a powerful and new way.
THE LONDON TRAIN 2011 Jonathan Cape	A novel in two parts, separate but wound together around a single moment, examining in vivid detail two lives stretched between two cities.
THE MASTER BEDROOM 2007 Jonathan Cape	This intricate, graceful novel explores the tangled web of connections between parents and children, lovers and friends.

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SUNSTROKE AND OTHER STORIES 2007 Jonathan Cape	Everyday life in these stories crackles with the electricity sparking between men and women, between parents and children, between friends.
EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT 2004 Jonathan Cape	This book firmly establishes Tessa Hadley among the great contemporary observers of the human mind and heart.
ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME 2002 Jonathan Cape	At the centre of Tessa Hadley's extraordinary first novel is Clare, a young mother of three, who finds that marriage to a good man no longer satisfies her and embarks headlong on a disastrous affair.