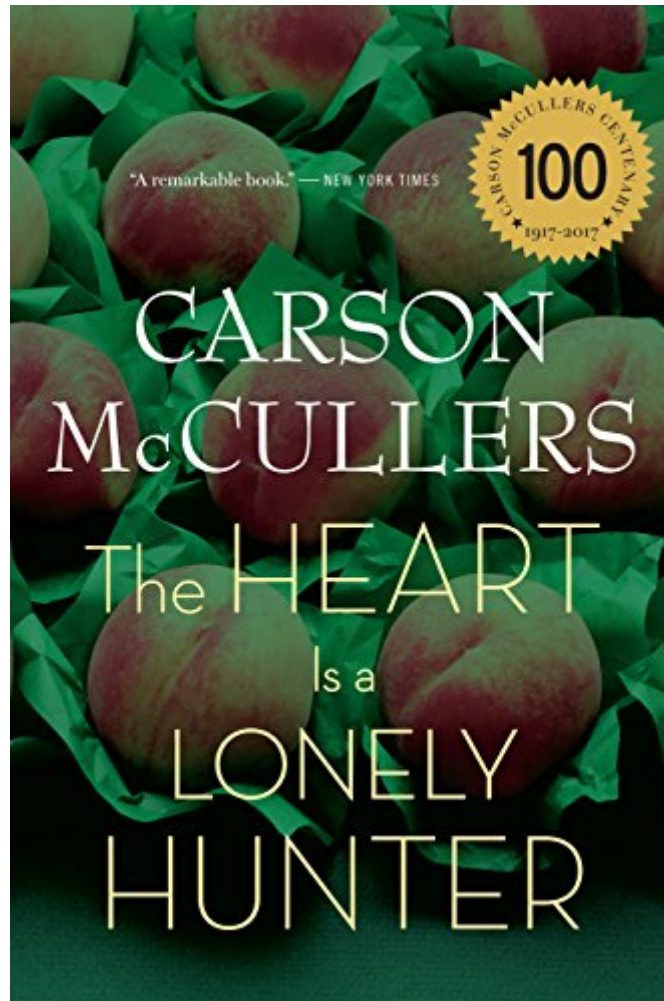




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# The Heart Is A Lonely Hunter



## Synopsis

With the publication of her first novel, *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*, Carson McCullers, all of twenty-three, became a literary sensation. With its profound sense of moral isolation and its compassionate glimpses into its characters' inner lives, the novel is considered McCullers' finest work, an enduring masterpiece first published by Houghton Mifflin in 1940. At its center is the deaf-mute John Singer, who becomes the confidant for various types of misfits in a Georgia mill town during the 1930s. Each one yearns for escape from small town life. When Singer's mute companion goes insane, Singer moves into the Kelly house, where Mick Kelly, the book's heroine (and loosely based on McCullers), finds solace in her music. Wonderfully attuned to the spiritual isolation that underlies the human condition, and with a deft sense for racial tensions in the South, McCullers spins a haunting, unforgettable story that gives voice to the rejected, the forgotten, and the mistreated—and, through Mick Kelly, gives voice to the quiet, intensely personal search for beauty. Richard Wright praised Carson McCullers for her ability "to rise above the pressures of her environment and embrace white and black humanity in one sweep of apprehension and tenderness." She writes "with a sweep and certainty that are overwhelming," said the *New York Times*. McCullers became an overnight literary sensation, but her novel has endured, just as timely and powerful today as when it was first published. *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* is Carson McCullers at her most compassionate, endearing best.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Some books one hears about all one's life, but never reads until older than 65. I just finished this remarkable book; I am glad I waited. The riches of simple, compelling language and realities of life....still true now...are powerful. Grateful for such literature!

This book was just not for me, I suppose. I can't really point to any particular 'flaw' other than to say that I never felt invested in the story. Obviously, your experience may be completely different. My wife, for example, LOVES this book.

Although very thoughtfully planned out and extremely well written with great character development, this book was too depressing for me. For those who like dark and dreary stories it would definitely deserve 4 or 5 stars but, not my cup of tea. Read it for book club. Glad I did but would not recommend.

It does say on the posting that this is from the first edition library, which I just didn't attend to when making the purchase and didn't realize until I received the book that it was in fact published much later than I had initially expected. I noticed that some of the postings are similarly priced to the book I purchased, but do not clearly indicate that the book is not an actual first edition so be mindful of that. If you want an actual first edition book, make sure that it does NOT specify "library" or inquire about the copyright date. Otherwise, this book is lovely; it's beautiful reproduction of the first edition. And the story is a true classic.

You want to learn how to write? A must read!

An examination of the ugliness of human life and the irony that is love. How crushing, the realization of adult life. Read this if you liked any classic on human nature. Amazed I've never read this before, immediately in my top ten with The Good Earth, The Pearl, Tortilla Flats, etc. Found myself relating to an array of well developed characters.

Not a book to read for pleasure. This is a book for compassionate readers with courage to look into the experiences of people passed over by the culture of their time. Unique in presenting characters as persons -- rather than as members of a particular race or station.

Amazing insight into Southern small town race relations given the year in which it was written.

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