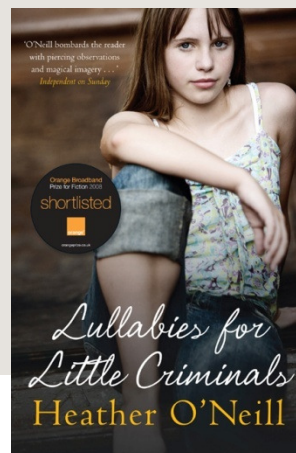


Title	Lullabies For Little Criminals
Author	Heather O'Neill
ISBN	9781847243935
Imprint	Quercus
Binding	B format paperback
Extent	380 pages
Dimensions	198 x 129mm
RRP	\$22.95
Release Date	February 2009



Description

Baby is twelve. Her mother died soon after she was born so she lives with her father and his heroin addiction. She's grown up in Montreal's red-light district, never staying anywhere long enough to call it home, and now Baby is losing the only constant in her life; her father. He's been sent to hospital and she's been forced into foster care. She longs for his return; other people's families are no substitute for her own. Starved of affection, Baby is attracted to all the wrong people. And when her father betrays her and she is sent to a juvenile detention centre, she is more at risk than ever.

Baby's survival rests on her gift for spinning stories and for cherishing the small crumbs of happiness which fall into her lap. Poised on the threshold between childhood and adult life, she is bright, funny, observant and ultimately wise enough to realise that salvation rests in her hands alone.

Sales Points

- *Lullabies For Little Criminals* was shortlisted for the 2008 Orange Prize for Fiction and won Canada Reads 2007 (the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's annual literature competition)
- 'O'Neill's vivid prose owes a debt to Donna Tartt's *The Little Friend* ... Baby's precocious introspection feels pitch perfect ... Tear-jerkingly effective' – *Publishers Weekly*
- 'A moving and blackly comic coming-of-age story' – *The Age*
- 'Told with shafts of wit and a lightness of touch which few novels on such themes achieve. Baby, like Holden Caulfield in *Catcher in the Rye*, is totally believable ... Everyone can identify with her feelings, on the threshold of adolescence longing for stability and recognition' – *The Time Literary Supplement*
- 'An enchanting tale of imagination and survival' – *Dublin Evening Herald*
- Includes an interview with the author, who drew heavily on her own childhood experiences in writing this novel

Author Profile

Heather O'Neill is a contributor to *This American Life* and her work has appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*. Her childhood was divided between Virginia with her mother and Montreal with her father. She now lives in Montreal with her family. *Lullabies for Little Criminals* is her first novel.