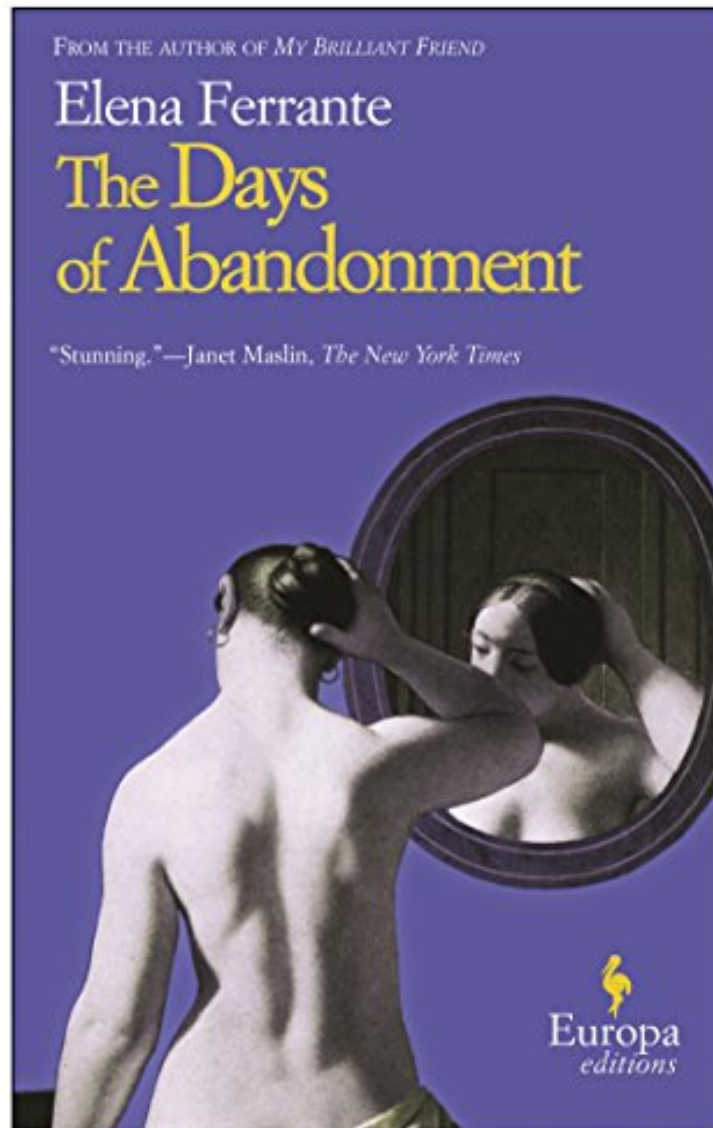


(Read now) The Days of Abandonment

## The Days of Abandonment

Von Elena Ferrante

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**Von Elena Ferrante : The Days of Abandonment** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Days of Abandonment:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A harrowing tale of dementiaVon HORAK"The Days of Abandonment" begins with Mario walking out on Olga, his wife of fifteen years, and their two children. It's an act which devastates Olga, who narrates this account of her 'days of

abandonment.' At first the absurdity of the situation is something to preoccupy her, the question of 'Why?' It's not the first time that Mario has been tempted to leave Olga but this time there is another woman, and it's not quite as out of nowhere as she had first thought. "The Days of Abandonment" is a detailed, personal account of Olga's now shattered life. Her mind wanders, she snaps at her children and at the people she encounters and her life becomes a mess. The author uses a number of devices, such as the difficulty of establishing communication but the story is presented convincingly: it reads as thoroughly authentic. "The Days of Abandonment" is harrowing because Olga is not a very good mother, she does not act very nicely to almost anyone she deals with. In particular, the ups and downs Olga experiences show that the author has a sound knowledge of the human psyche. 1 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Genial! Von CustomerWert zu lesen, wenn man (Frau) Ihre eifersichtige / verlassene Freundinnen nicht wirklich versteht... ich konnte dessen Schmerz spüren! Und ja, irgendwann und irgendwie geht das Leben ohne Mann dann schon weiter...

Kurzbeschreibung "She is among the greatest Italian authors of recent years." -Corriere della Sera "Ferrante dissects the personal microcosm so well, and with awesome lucidity and precision shows us the meanderings of a woman's mind, the suffering that accompanies being abandoned, and the awful rumbling of time passing." -El Mundo "Elena Ferrante has given us a startlingly beautiful novel of exceptional and bold strength." -Il Manifesto "Severe and rigorously unsentimental, packed full of passages written with dizzying intensity at a rare and acute pitch. Ferrante is at her best when her writing holds tight to those nagging, niggling obsessions that make up our mental landscapes." -La Stampa A national bestseller for almost an entire year, *The Days of Abandonment* shocked and captivated its Italian public when first published. It is the gripping story of a woman's descent into devastating emptiness after being abandoned by her husband with two young children to care for. When she finds herself literally trapped within the four walls of their high-rise apartment, she is forced to confront her ghosts, the potential loss of her own identity, and the possibility that life may never return to normal. From Publishers Weekly Once an aspiring writer, Olga traded literary ambition for marriage and motherhood; when Mario dumps her after 15 years, she is utterly unprepared. Though she tells herself that she is a competent woman, nothing like the *poverella* (poor abandoned wife) that mothers whispered about in her childhood, Olga falls completely apart. Routine chores overwhelm her; she neglects her appearance and forgets her manners; she throws herself at the older musician downstairs; she sees the *poverella*'s ghost. After months of self-pity, anger, doubt, fury, desperation and near madness, her acknowledgments of weaknesses in the marriage feel as earned as they are unsurprising. Smoothly translated by New Yorker editor Goldstein, this intelligent and darkly comic novel which sat atop Italian bestseller lists for nearly a year, has been translated into 12 languages and adapted for an Italian film slated for 2006 release conveys the resilience of a complex woman. Speculation about the identity of the pseudonymous Ferrante, whose previous novel is scheduled for 2006 release by Europa, has reached Pynchon-like proportions in Italy. (Sept.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist A classic pop tune asks "What Becomes of the Broken Hearted?" Ferrante's answer in this novel of a woman betrayed and scorned might be the title of another, "I Fall to Pieces." Olga's husband, Mario, has left her and their two school-age children not for another woman but for Carla, a barely legal teenager he had once tutored. Despite having told Olga he was finished with Carla, Mario continued his secret affair with the girl until she became of age. And then he walked out on Olga. Olga goes from being a soft-spoken, meticulously groomed 38-year-old, who suppresses any kind of extreme emotion and prides herself on her spic-and-span housekeeping and excellent cuisine, to becoming a slovenly, wild-eyed creature who creates a brawl on a public street by ripping Mario's shirt from his back when she spots him with Carla. Readers may want to, but won't be able to, turn away from this gut-wrenching portrayal, including graphic scenes of animal-like suffering, of Olga's descent into madness and painful reconstruction of her life. Whitney Scott Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved