



The End of the Story: A Novel

By Lydia Davis

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Mislabeled boxes, problems with visiting nurses, confusing notes, an outing to the county fair--such are the obstacles in the way of the unnamed narrator of *The End of the Story* as she attempts to organize her memories of a love affair into a novel. With compassion, wit, and what appears to be candor, she seeks to determine what she actually knows about herself and her past, but we begin to suspect, along with her, that given the elusiveness of memory and understanding, any tale retrieved from the past must be fiction.

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The End of the Story: A Novel By Lydia Davis Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Davis's first novel offers a highly introspective account of the aftermath of a short-lived love affair.

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From Library Journal

The narrator of this novel, who never reveals her name, is writing a novel about an obsessive relationship she had with a younger man. Although the woman did not seem totally committed while the couple was together, she became completely obsessed with her former partner after they separated. This first-person remembrance, with events imprecisely defined and sometimes out of sequence, is self-conscious and introspective. The narration is highly descriptive, and there is no dialog. The narrator comments that "my thoughts are not orderly—one is interrupted by another, or one contradicts another, and in addition to that, my memories are quite often false, confused, abbreviated, or collapsed into one another." A more apt description of the style would be hard to imagine. For anyone who has had a failed intimate relationship, this book could be uncomfortable reading. From the author of *Break It Down* (Farrar, 1986), a short story collection.

Kimberly G. Allen, MCI Corporate Information Resources Ctr., Washington, D.C.

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From [Booklist](#)

Admirers of *Break It Down*, a magnetic collection of stories, will not be disappointed by Davis' novel. While attempting to piece together the details of her affair with a much younger man, a college professor writes in retrospect; her words are imbued with an arresting self-consciousness. Even though the tale's conclusion has been disclosed from the outset, an odd force propels the narrative forward. Simultaneously with relating her affair, the narrator ponders the path the novel at hand is taking and the process of writing itself. Constructed in brutally perceptive and dazzlingly revelatory prose, this is a stunning work. *Alice Joyce*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Diana Castillo:

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Paul Henson:

The actual book The End of the Story: A Novel has a lot of information on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of help. The book was written by the very famous author. The author makes some research ahead of write this book. This specific book very easy to read you may get the point easily after

scanning this book.

Sylvia Silva:

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Jaime Friend:

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