



# Tully

By Paullina Simons

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The astonishing debut novel from international number one bestselling author Paullina Simons, beautifully repackaged Tully Makker is a tough young woman from the wrong side of the tracks and she is not always easy to like. But if Tully gives friendship and loyalty, she gives them for good, and she forms an enduring bond with Jennifer and Julie, school friends from very different backgrounds. As they grow into the world of the seventies and eighties, the lives of the three best friends are changed forever by two young men, Robin and Jack, and a tragedy which engulfs them all. Against the odds, Tully emerges into young womanhood, marriage and a career. At last Tully Makker has life under control. And then life strikes back in the most unexpected way of all...

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## **Tully** By Paullina Simons Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Esteemed editor Bob Wyatt's initial book for his new imprint, this much ballyhooed first novel is not notable for literary merit but for the melodramatic story it tells. Set during the last two decades in Topeka, Kans., and centering on a tough kid named Tully who oddly resembles skater Tonya Harding in looks and deportment, the narrative chronicles Tully's wild struggle against her lower-class origins, circumstances and fate (not to mention her genes) without any redeeming growth or insights achieved by any of the central characters until at the end Tully belatedly realizes the error of her ways. It's an emotionally crude coming-of-age story in which Tully, her two best girlfriends and the two men she loves never seem to rise above adolescent emotions and behavior. The story has the no-holds-barred, cranked-out quality of 19th-century penny novels, with an abundance of cheap thrills and hair-raising scenes. We tag along as Tully endures abandonment, incest, abortion, child and spousal abuse, passion, promiscuity, marriage, motherhood, infidelity, terrible nightmares, midnight graveyard scenes, tortured partings with lovers and more. The most interesting character is the villain, Hedda Makker, Tully's mother, whose chief pleasure in life is beating the living daylights out of Tully. Though billed as "a big Russian novel" about mothers and daughters, much of the narrative has a breathless, awkward oral texture, although long patches of exposition have an evenness and clarity that suggest Simons's potential. Despite all the wailing, sighing and bloodletting--or perhaps because of it--the story is engrossing as tabloid features often are: not believable or artful, but fascinating in a macabre way. 165,000 first printing; \$150,000 ad/promo; BOMC selection .

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From Library Journal

In this beautifully written first novel, Simons captures the lives and loves of Tully and her friends Julie and Jennifer in Topeka, Kansas. After her father and brother disappear, Tully's childhood is shaped by an abusive mother. Her wild adolescence culminates when Jennifer commits suicide. Unable to accept the death or admit to grief, Tully seeks consolation at the gravesite, where years later she meets Jack, a former lover of Jennifer. Although married to Robin, she begins an affair with Jack, despite the warnings of her friend Shakee, also one of his former lovers. When Jack wants her to move to California, a lifelong dream of both Jennifer and Tully, this survivor in life must come to grips with past griefs to make a decision. A strong story line with great characterization makes this book hard to put down. A potential best seller, it is highly recommended for public libraries. [BOMC and Quality Paperback selections.]-Heather Blenkinsopp, Mercy Coll. Lib., Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.

--Heather Blenkinsopp, Mercy Coll. Lib., Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.

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From [Booklist](#)

The publishing industry has cranked into high gear to promote this hefty first novel about heartache and craziness on the Great Plains. What, we wonder, is all the fuss about? Would you believe a feisty, troubled, graceful, and gray-eyed gal named Tully? Simons, Russian-born and American-raised, has set her melodramatic, slow-as-molasses, seventies novel in Topeka, Kansas, a location emblematic both of what is most trying and most meaningful in life. It is a place of meteorological extremes and a subtle beauty that either grows on you or drives you mad. Tully is the same way: extreme, unconventionally attractive, and simply maddening. Raped by an uncle and beaten and abused by her mentally ill mother, Tully barely survives her wretched adolescence. Just when she seems to be healing, her best friend commits suicide, and Tully is hurled back into the abyss. Such physical and emotional battery is bound to make love a tricky endeavor, and Tully makes quite a mess of it, tormenting the kind and generous men who finally earn her

trust. There's rock-steady Robin, poetic Jeremy, and Jack the sun god. Our girl Tully manages to devastate each in her own monumentally self-absorbed way, but to Simons' credit, Tully's behavior is wholly comprehensible and oddly forgivable. Paced as sluggishly as a TV soap, it will be hailed as a provocative entertainment and condemned as a particularly viscous form of quicksand. Either way, *Tully* is a wallow, and sometimes, doggone it, that's just what the doctor orders. *Donna Seaman*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Charles Jones:**

The book Tully can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. So why must we leave the best thing like a book Tully? A number of you have a different opinion about book. But one aim in which book can give many information for us. It is absolutely suitable. Right now, try to closer using your book. Knowledge or data that you take for that, you may give for each other; you may share all of these. Book Tully has simple shape however, you know: it has great and large function for you. You can search the enormous world by available and read a reserve. So it is very wonderful.

#### **Stephen Rael:**

Information is provisions for folks to get better life, information these days can get by anyone on everywhere. The information can be a expertise or any news even a huge concern. What people must be consider while those information which is in the former life are hard to be find than now is taking seriously which one is acceptable to believe or which one typically the resource are convinced. If you obtain the unstable resource then you get it as your main information it will have huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen within you if you take Tully as the daily resource information.

#### **Mary Cox:**

The actual book Tully will bring someone to the new experience of reading any book. The author style to explain the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book to see, this book very suitable to you. The book Tully is much recommended to you to see. You can also get the e-book from your official web site, so you can quicker to read the book.

#### **Mary Gonzalez:**

Your reading sixth sense will not betray an individual, why because this Tully publication written by well-known writer who knows well how to make book that may be understand by anyone who else read the book. Written throughout good manner for you, leaking every ideas and publishing skill only for eliminate your current hunger then you still doubt Tully as good book not just by the cover but also from the content. This is one book that can break don't ascertain book by its include, so do you still needing one more sixth sense to pick that!?! Oh come on your reading through sixth sense already said so why you have to listening to yet another sixth sense.

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