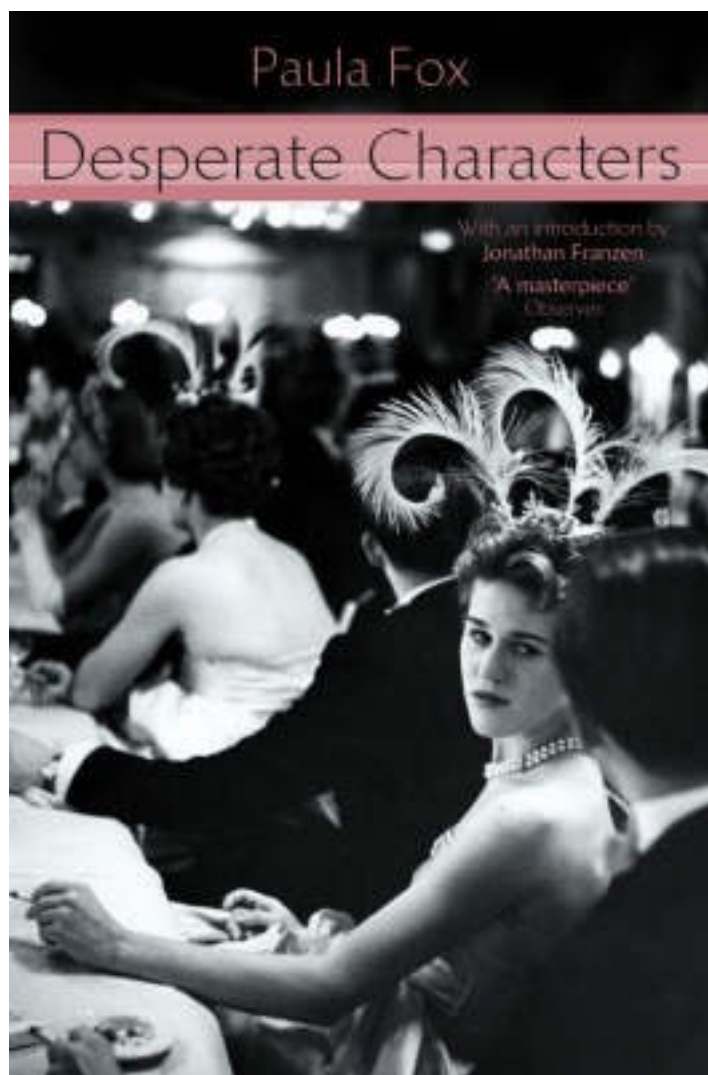


# Desperate Characters



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A Great American Novel -- from the author of Borrowed Finery. 'A masterpiece.' Observer 'Inarguably great. Desperate Characters soars above every other work of American realist fiction since the Second World War.' JONATHAN FRANZEN Otto and Sophie Bentwood live childless in a renovated Brooklyn brownstone. The complete works of Goethe line their bookshelf, their stainless steel kitchen is newly installed, and their Mercedes is parked outside. After Sophie is bitten on the hand while trying to feed a half-starved neighbourhood cat, a series of small and ominous disasters begin to plague their lives, revealing the faultlines and fractures in a marriage - and a society - wrenching itself apart. \* A scorching portrait of a 1960s New York marriage which opens out into a brilliant examination of the paradoxes of civilisation. \* A classic of American literature from a writer championed and brought back into print by many contemporary greats of American lit - Jonathan Franzen, David Foster Wallace, Andrea Barrett etc. \* A Paperback Original \* From the author of the memoir, Borrowed Finery, one of the NY Times Best Books of 2001 (only 9 chosen in total!) \* Published alongside The Widow's Children, a novel which closely mirrors the events in Borrowed Finery.

作者介绍:

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