



Why They Run the Way They Do: Stories

Susan Perabo

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“Darkly beautiful stories about love and loss and every gradation between. Each one is suffused with astonishing wit and tenderness. Well worth the wait!” —Jenny Offill, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Department of Speculation*

“Reminiscent of George Saunders...These ingenious and lovable stories crack open the world.”
—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

From the celebrated author of *Who I Was Supposed to Be* comes twelve beautiful short stories celebrating the everyday truths of people facing unusual or challenging situations...often of their own making.

In *Why They Run the Way They Do*, critically acclaimed author Susan Perabo illustrates the triumphs and tragedies of daily life. Perfectly distilled into moments of sharp humor and poignancy, her latest collection features ordinary people in sometimes extraordinary circumstances. Two young students try their hand at blackmail upon learning an illicit secret; a woman grapples with feelings of betrayal after discovering her spinster sister's pregnancy test; the ghost of a couple's past comes back to haunt them in the form of their toddler's stuffed toy.

Weaving the banal and bizarre together, “Perabo’s clear, wry sentences meld a prose style that's reminiscent of Raymond Carver’s with a sensibility that's informed by *People*” (*The New York Times*). Here, this “literary talent” (*The Boston Globe*) captures the human condition through struggles that are quiet and grand; dark and provocative. Brilliantly crafted, *Why They Run the Way They Do* is ultimately an homage to the philosophy that life without humor is no life at all.

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From reader reviews:

Holly Silva:

Reading can called head hangout, why? Because while you are reading a book particularly book entitled Why They Run the Way They Do: Stories the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every single aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely will become your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a e-book then become one type conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get before. The Why They Run the Way They Do: Stories giving you another experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful details for your better life in this era. So now let us present to you the relaxing pattern here is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished studying it, like winning an activity. Do you want to try this extraordinary spending spare time activity?

Lawrence Elam:

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