



# Flight Behavior: A Novel

By Barbara Kingsolver

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## Flight Behavior: A Novel By Barbara Kingsolver

"Kingsolver is a gifted magician of words."

—*Time*

The extraordinary *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Lacuna* (winner of the Orange Prize), *The Poisonwood Bible* (nominated for the Pulitzer Prize), and *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle*, Barbara Kingsolver returns with a truly stunning and unforgettable work. *Flight Behavior* is a brilliant and suspenseful novel set in present day Appalachia; a breathtaking parable of catastrophe and denial that explores how the complexities we inevitably encounter in life lead us to believe in our particular chosen truths. Kingsolver's riveting story concerns a young wife and mother on a failing farm in rural Tennessee who experiences something she cannot explain, and how her discovery energizes various competing factions—religious leaders, climate scientists, environmentalists, politicians—trapping her in the center of the conflict and ultimately opening up her world. *Flight Behavior* is arguably Kingsolver's most thrilling and accessible novel to date, and like so many other of her acclaimed works, represents contemporary American fiction at its finest.

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## Flight Behavior: A Novel By Barbara Kingsolver Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

### Amazon.com Review

**Amazon Best Books of the Month, November 2012:** In what may be the first novel to realistically imagine the near-term impact of “global weirding,” Barbara Kingsolver sets her latest story in rural Appalachia. In fictional Feathertown, Tennessee, Dellarobia Turnbow--on the run from her stifling life--charges up the mountain above her husband’s family farm and stumbles onto a “valley of fire” filled with millions of monarch butterflies. This vision is deemed miraculous by the town’s parishioners, then the international media. But when Ovid, a scientist who studies monarch behavior, sets up a lab on the Turnbow farm, he learns that the butterflies’ presence signals systemic disorder--and Dellarobia's in-laws’ logging plans won’t help. Readers who bristle at politics made personal may be turned off by the strength of Kingsolver’s convictions, but she never reduces her characters to mouthpieces, giving equal weight to climate science and human need, to forces both biological and biblical. Her concept of family encompasses all living beings, however ephemeral, and *Flight Behavior* gracefully, urgently contributes to the dialogue of survival on this swiftly tilting planet. --*Mari Malcolm*

### Review

“Drawing on both her Appalachian roots and her background in biology, Kingsolver delivers a passionate novel on the effects of global warming.” (Booklist, Starred Review)

“With her powerful new novel, Kingsolver delivers literary fiction that conveys an urgent social message... a clarion call about climate change, too lucid and vivid for even skeptics to ignore.” (Publishers Weekly, Starred Review)

“...Enthralling...Dellarobia is appealingly complex as a smart, curious, warmhearted woman desperate to-no resisting the metaphor here-trade her cocoon for wings.” (Oprah.com)

“A dazzling page-turner” (Elle)

“Kingsolver has written one of the more thoughtful novels about the scientific, financial and psychological intricacies of climate change. And her ability to put these silent, breathtakingly beautiful butterflies at the center of this calamitous and noisy debate is nothing short of brilliant.” (Ron Charles, Washington Post)

“Dellarobia is a smart, fierce, messy woman, and one can’t help rooting for her to find her wings.” (Entertainment Weekly)

“Dellarobia is appealingly complex as a smart, curious, warmhearted woman desperate to-no resisting the metaphor here-trade her cocoon for wings.” (O, the Oprah Magazine)

“One of the gifts of a Kingsolver novel is the resplendence of her prose. She takes palpable pleasure in the craft of writing, creating images that stay with the reader long after her story is done...(a) majestic and brave new novel.” (New York Times Book Review)

“Kingsolver has constructed a deeply affecting microcosm of a phenomenon that is manifesting in many different tragic ways, in communities and ecosystems all around the globe. This is a fine and complex novel.” (Seattle Times)

“So captivating is this grand, suspenseful plot and the many subplots rising and falling beneath it that it takes some time before we realize what this story is really about -- climate change.” (Minneapolis Star Tribune)

“Spirituality, a troubled marriage, global warming...Kingsolver’s latest is a bold mélange, but it works.” (People)

“Kingsolver is a storyteller first and foremost, as sensitive to human interactions and family dynamics as she is to ecological ones.” (NPR)

“a delicate symbiosis between the sacred and the scientific in this richly rewarding novel that will both entertain and incite its readers.” (BookPage)

“FLIGHT BEHAVIOR is a book worth reading twice? first for the intricacies of character, second for the dense, beautiful language Kingsolver puts on the page. She’s a keen observer of the messiness and unexpected beauty of the quotidian.” (Cleveland Plain Dealer)

“By the end of FLIGHT BEHAVIOR, it’s clear that Kingsolver’s passionate voice and her ability to portray the fragility of the natural world, and why we should care about it, are as strong as ever.” (San Francisco Chronicle)

“Novelists like Kingsolver have a particular knack for making us empathize with lives that may bear little resemblance to our own...What lifts FLIGHT BEHAVIOR...is not just Kingsolver’s nuanced and funny prose; it’s Dellarobia’s awakening to the possibilities around her.” (Julia Ingalls, Salon)

“FLIGHT BEHAVIOR is a terrifically entertaining read about a spirited young woman you’ll miss the minute you reach the last page.” (USA Today)

“Marvelous...This is fiction rich in empathy, wit and science. Like the butterflies that astonish Feathertown, Kingsolvian gifts are ‘fierce and wondrous,’ ‘colors moving around like fire.’” (New York Times)

“[Kingsolver’s] keen grasp of delicate ecosystems-both social and natural-keeps the story convincing and compelling.” (The New Yorker)

From the Back Cover

*New York Times* Notable Book

*Washington Post*

Best Book Of The Year

Amazon's Top 100: Editor's Choice

*Usa Today* Best Book Of The Year

Dellarobia Turnbow is a restless farm wife who gave up her own plans when she accidentally became pregnant at seventeen. Now, after a decade of domestic disharmony on a failing farm, she seeks momentary escape through an obsessive flirtation with a younger man.

She hikes up a mountain road behind her house toward a secret tryst, but instead encounters a shocking sight: a silent, forested valley filled with what looks like a lake of fire. She can only understand it as a cautionary

miracle, but it sparks a raft of other explanations from scientists, religious leaders, and the media. The bewildering emergency draws rural farmers into unexpected acquaintance with urbane journalists, opportunists, sightseers, and a striking biologist with his own stake in the outcome.

As the community lines up to judge the woman and her miracle, Dellarobia confronts her family, her church, her town, and a larger world, in a flight toward truth that could undo all she has ever believed.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Aaron Covington:**

Reading can called brain hangout, why? Because when you find yourself reading a book specifically book entitled Flight Behavior: A Novel your head will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each aspect that maybe unknown for but surely can become your mind friends. Imaging every single word written in a book then become one contact form conclusion and explanation which maybe you never get prior to. The Flight Behavior: A Novel giving you another experience more than blown away the mind but also giving you useful info for your better life on this era. So now let us present to you the relaxing pattern is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary spending spare time activity?

#### **David Rivera:**

Your reading sixth sense will not betray a person, why because this Flight Behavior: A Novel book written by well-known writer whose to say well how to make book that can be understand by anyone who read the book. Written within good manner for you, still dripping wet every ideas and writing skill only for eliminate your hunger then you still skepticism Flight Behavior: A Novel as good book not simply by the cover but also from the content. This is one publication that can break don't determine book by its cover, so do you still needing an additional sixth sense to pick this particular!? Oh come on your reading sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to an additional sixth sense.

#### **Sheila Dickerson:**

Beside this kind of Flight Behavior: A Novel in your phone, it can give you a way to get more close to the new knowledge or info. The information and the knowledge you might got here is fresh through the oven so don't be worry if you feel like an previous people live in narrow town. It is good thing to have Flight Behavior: A Novel because this book offers to you readable information. Do you often have book but you don't get what it's all about. Oh come on, that won't happen if you have this in your hand. The Enjoyable set up here cannot be questionable, including treasuring beautiful island. So do you still want to miss that? Find this book and also read it from today!

#### **Andre Smith:**

Is it a person who having spare time subsequently spend it whole day simply by watching television

programs or just laying on the bed? Do you need something new? This Flight Behavior: A Novel can be the answer, oh how comes? A book you know. You are thus out of date, spending your time by reading in this completely new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these books have than the others?

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