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NOS4A2: A Novel

By Joe Hill



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NOS4A2: A Novel By Joe Hill

NOS4A2 is a spine-tingling novel of supernatural suspense from master of horror Joe Hill, the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Heart-Shaped Box* and *Horns*.

Victoria McQueen has a secret gift for finding things: a misplaced bracelet, a missing photograph, answers to unanswerable questions. On her Raleigh Tuff Burner bike, she makes her way to a rickety covered bridge that, within moments, takes her wherever she needs to go, whether it's across Massachusetts or across the country.

Charles Talent Manx has a way with children. He likes to take them for rides in his 1938 Rolls-Royce Wraith with the NOS4A2 vanity plate. With his old car, he can slip right out of the everyday world, and onto the hidden roads that transport them to an astonishing – and terrifying – playground of amusements he calls “Christmasland.”

Then, one day, Vic goes looking for trouble—and finds Manx. That was a lifetime ago. Now Vic, the only kid to ever escape Manx's unmitigated evil, is all grown up and desperate to forget. But Charlie Manx never stopped thinking about Victoria McQueen. He's on the road again and he's picked up a new passenger: Vic's own son.



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NOS4A2: A Novel By Joe Hill Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review In *Heart-Shaped Box* (2007) and *Horns* (2010), Hill showed hints of an enlarging literary toolbox. With this 700-page opus, the tool set is complete, and Hill has indeed built something very big. The story follows Vic, from 8-year-old girl to troubled teen to embattled mother, as she struggles to survive as a “strong creative”—one who has access (in her case, via a ramshackle bridge) to an alternate universe constructed from imagination. Problem is, a chief attraction of this other America is Christmasland, a snowy Neverland carnival controlled by cheery, ageless child-abductor Charlie Manx (think Bentley Little’s *Mailman* or Stephen King’s *Pennywise*). Manx tries to take Vic to Christmasland as a kid, and years later, in the book’s central conflict, he tries to take her son. Hill doesn’t spend much time in reality before careening deliriously off into a la-la land of horrifying absurdism (a bottomless Scrabble bag, a mouth full of fish-hook teeth). This engenders inelegance; at times, the parts are more than the whole. But Hill is omnivorous in his appetite for story and character, and here he has created his best: Lou, Vic’s obese, warm-hearted lover; Bing, Manx’s demented chief elf; and gutsy, heartbreaking Vic. Occasional drawings by Hill’s Locke & Key conspirator, Gabriel Rodriguez, add one more element to this vast and gangly but undeniably readable work. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** What isn’t being done for horror fiction’s heir apparent? Big advertising, big author tour, big e-book teasers, big videos—even the advance reading copies are gorgeously produced. -- Daniel Kraus

Review

“Quite simply the best horror writer of our generation, Joe Hill’s masterful storytelling is on full display in *NOS4A2*. It is by turns terrifying and hilarious, horrifying and full of heart, and relentlessly compelling.” (Michael Koryta, New York Times bestselling author of *The Prophet* on *NOS4A2*)

“Fascinating and utterly engaging, this novel is sure to leave readers wanting more. One thing is for certain, however. After reading this book, readers will never hear Christmas carols in quite the same way again.” (Library Journal (starred review) on *NOS4A2*)

“[A] new take on the fantasy-horror genre...Highly recommended.” (The Sun Herald (Sydney, Australia))

“[A] lovely, earnest collection of short fiction.” (Village Voice)

“[An] inventive collection . . . brave and astute.” (New York Times Book Review (Editor's Choice))

“[A]stounding . . . Though most of the stories have elements of horror, the overall mood of the collection is one of heartbreaking wonderment . . . Highly recommended .” (Library Journal (starred review))

“[An] undeniably readable work.” (Booklist (starred review) on *NOS4A2*)

“*NOS4A2* is a brilliant exploration of classic and modern monsters and dark fantasies, all cut up, restitched and retooled...With this novel, riveting from beginning to end, Joe Hill has become a master of his craft.” (Publishers Weekly on *NOS4A2*)

“Fascinating and utterly engaging, this novel is sure to leave readers wanting more. One thing is certain, however. After reading this book, readers will never hear Christmas carols in quite the same way again.” (Library Journal (starred review) on *NOS4A2*)

“Hill is so skillful that we don’t know till the very end whether he’ll get away with it. . . Hill’s story is quite original and, for horror fans of a certain ironic bent, it’s an unqualified delight.” (Kirkus Reviews (starred review) on NOS4A2)

“NOS4A2 will pull you in from the first pages, and draw you away from your other responsibilities.” (Cleveland Plain Dealer)

“Read it with the lights on and your children locked in a closet.” (BookRiot.com on NOS4A2)

“Hill’s imagination is...far-ranging....NOS4A2 is full of chills and cliffhangers.” (New York Times on NOS4A2)

“[Hill’s] sentences crackle with wit and understated craftsmanship – the kind so skillful it is only visible if you’re paying attention.” (The Globe and Mail on NOS4A2)

“Joe Hills NOS4A2 is one of the creepiest books I’ve read in a long time--and I mean that in a good way.” (Tampa Bay Times on NOS4A2)

“Hill’s well-stocked bag of narrative tricks keeps the pages moving at a steady clip, and his characters are sufficiently melodramatic to make the book’s scale feel both intimate and operatic. In fact, if you’re an impressionable reader, stick to reading ‘NOS4A2’ during the day.” (Richmond Times-Dispatch on NOS4A2)

“Words of warning for those who pick up this hefty, 704-page saga: You’ll never listen to Christmas carols the same way. Or sleep with the lights off.” (Fort Worth Star-Telegram on NOS4A2)

“Like any good novel, no matter the genre, NOS4A2 zips down the streets of its mesmerizing story line not just in the Wraith but also, and more importantly, on the backs of high-octane characters...Hill imbues the pitter-patter of little feet with a terror you won’t soon forget.” (USA Today, 4 stars)

“NOS4A2 is a masterwork of horror.” (Lev Grossman, Time magazine)

“NOS4A2 and its story of a heroic biker chic going up against an old vampire should grab you by the lapels and give you a few good shakes before setting its hooks in--and deep....Hill...puts together a riveting tale.” (St Louis Today on NOS4A2)

“Joe Hill can terrify. he can humor. He can sadden. He can shock. His characters are deep and vibrant, his plots mesmerizing, his prose genuine. Simply put, he’s a damn good writer.” (Writer's Digest on NOS4A2)

“NOS4A2 is [Hill’s] longest and most ambitious work yet. . . utterly absorbing.” (Seattle Times)

From the Back Cover

Joe Hill, the acclaimed, award-winning author of the *New York Times* bestsellers *Heart-Shaped Box* and *Horns*, plunges you into the dark side of imagination with a thrilling novel of supernatural suspense that will have you flinching at shadows and checking the rearview mirror *again and again*. . . .

NOS4A2

Don't slow down

Victoria McQueen has an uncanny knack for finding things: a misplaced bracelet, a missing photograph, answers to unanswerable questions. When she rides her bicycle over the rickety old covered bridge in the woods near her house, she always emerges in the places she needs to be. Vic doesn't tell anyone about her unusual ability, because she knows no one will believe her. She has trouble understanding it herself.

Charles Talent Manx has a gift of his own. He likes to take children for rides in his 1938 Rolls-Royce Wraith with the vanity plate NOS4A2. In the Wraith, he and his innocent guests can slip out of the everyday world and onto hidden roads that lead to an astonishing playground of amusements he calls Christmasland. Mile by mile, the journey across the highway of Charlie's twisted imagination transforms his precious passengers, leaving them as terrifying and unstoppable as their benefactor.

And then comes the day when Vic goes looking for trouble . . . and finds her way, inevitably, to Charlie.

That was a lifetime ago. Now, the only kid ever to escape Charlie's unmitigated evil is all grown up and desperate to forget.

But Charlie Manx hasn't stopped thinking about the exceptional Victoria McQueen. On the road again, he won't slow down until he's taken his revenge. He's after something very special—something Vic can never replace.

As a life-and-death battle of wills builds—*her* magic pitted against *his*—Vic McQueen prepares to destroy Charlie once and for all . . . or die trying. . . .

Joe Hill's acclaimed works of fiction, *Horns*, *Heart-Shaped Box*, and *20th Century Ghosts*, have already earned him international acclaim. With *NOS4A2*, this outstanding novelist—"one of America's finest horror writers" (*Time* magazine); "a major player in 21st-century fantastic fiction" (*Washington Post*)—crafts his finest work yet. Disturbing, mesmerizing, and full of twisting thrills, Hill's phantasmagoric, devilishly playful masterpiece is a terrifying high-octane ride.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ramiro Alvarez:

Book is to be different for each and every grade. Book for children until finally adult are different content. We all know that that book is very important for all of us. The book NOS4A2: A Novel was making you to know about other expertise and of course you can take more information. It is very advantages for you. The e-book NOS4A2: A Novel is not only giving you more new information but also being your friend when you feel bored. You can spend your spend time to read your book. Try to make relationship while using book NOS4A2: A Novel. You never experience lose out for everything in case you read some books.

Zandra Woods:

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anything. Third, you may share your knowledge to some others. When you read this NOS4A2: A Novel, you could tell your family, friends and soon about your e-book. Your knowledge can inspire different ones, make them reading a book.

Karl Wolfe:

Is it you who having spare time after that spend it whole day through watching television programs or just resting on the bed? Do you need something new? This NOS4A2: A Novel can be the respond to, oh how comes? A fresh book you know. You are so out of date, spending your free time by reading in this fresh era is common not a geek activity. So what these textbooks have than the others?

Nicholas Ko:

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