



Nobody's Fool

By Richard Russo

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This slyly funny, moving novel about a blue-collar town in upstate New York—and in the life of Sully, of one of its unluckiest citizens, who has been doing the wrong thing triumphantly for fifty years—is a classic American story.

Divorced from his own wife and carrying on halfheartedly with another man's, saddled with a bum knee and friends who make enemies redundant, Sully now has one new problem to cope with: a long-estranged son who is in imminent danger of following in his father's footsteps. With its uproarious humor and a heart that embraces humanity's follies as well as its triumphs, *Nobody's Fool*, from Pulitzer Prize-winning author, Richard Russo, is storytelling at its most generous.

Nobody's Fool was made into a movie starring Paul Newman, Bruce Willis, Jessica Tandy, and Melody Griffith.

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Nobody's Fool By Richard Russo Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #12883 in Books
- Brand: Vintage
- Published on: 1994-04-12
- Released on: 1994-04-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .90" w x 5.20" l, .89 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 549 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Set in the economically desperate ex-resort town of North Bath, N.Y., Russo's novel displays his characteristic verbal panache and biting wit.

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From Library Journal

Sixty-year-old Sully is "nobody's fool," except maybe his own. Out of work (undeclared-income work is what he does, when he can), down to his last few bucks, hampered by an arthritic broken knee, Sully is worried that he's started on a run of bad luck. And he has. The banker son of his octogenarian landlady wants him evicted; Sully's estranged son comes home for Thanksgiving only to have his wife split; Sully's own high-strung ex-wife seems headed for a nervous breakdown; and his longtime lover is blaming him for her daughter's winding up in the hospital with a busted jaw. But Sully's biggest problem is the memory of his own abusive father, a ghost who haunts his every day. As he demonstrated in *Mohawk* (Random, 1986) and *The Risk Pool* (Random, 1989), Russo knows the small towns of upstate New York and the people who inhabit them; he writes with humor and compassion. A delight. Previewed in Prepub Alert, LJ 2/1/93.

- *Charles Michaud, Turner Free Lib., Randolph, Mass.*

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Review

"Remarkable....A revelation of the human heart." -- *The Washington Post*

"Russo is a master craftsman....*Nobody's Fool* is a big, rambunctious novel with endless riffs and unstoppable human hopefulness." -- *The Boston Globe*

"Simple as family love, yet nearly as complicated, Richard Russo's confident, assured novel sweeps the reader up in the daily life of its characters." -- *San Francisco Chronicle*

Users Review

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Linda Poteat:

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