



**PLAIN
PLEASURES**

JANE BOWLES

FICTION

43,000 WORDS

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'I have long been an admirer of Jane Bowles's work . . . [of] the rare originality and considerable depth of her writing.' – Sybille Bedford

This collection of strikingly original and unsettling short stories combine bizarre characterization, sardonic wit and mastery of style.

Although Jane Bowles's output was small, it was of dazzlingly brilliant quality. The stories in *Plain Pleasures* provide a fascinating companion to her novel *Two Serious Ladies* and revolve around conflict, exploring people's hidden lives and the experience of sin and salvation. She writes so that we may eavesdrop on the conversations and meetings between characters, creating a collection that is both troubling and funny.

Plain Pleasures has previously been translated into Croatian, Dutch, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Greek, Polish, Spanish and Turkish

'Strange wit, thorny insights . . . one of the really original prose-stylists' – Truman Capote
'In the best of Jane Bowles's fiction her waspish style is not only illuminating but bizarrely entertaining and leaves no doubt of her originality. In *Plain Pleasures* she appears at her best . . . the stories show that she was a master of the form.'

– *Spectator*

'Clear prose, stark and unadorned . . . stories carved out on the far edge of sanity'

– *Guardian*

'A classic' – *Evening Standard*

A movie about Jane Bowles, *A Little Original Sin*, is shortly to go into production

JANE BOWLES was born in New York in 1917. In 1938 she married the writer and composer Paul Bowles and travelled with him to Europe, Central America, Mexico and Ceylon, before settling in Tangier, Morocco, in 1947. Her novel *Two Serious Ladies* is her best-known work, but the stories in *Plain Pleasures* and her play *In the Summer House* – which was performed on Broadway – are also highly acclaimed. Jane Bowles died in Malaga in 1973. Her work has been translated into many languages, securing her an international reputation.

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