



A Jest of God (Phoenix Fiction)

Margaret Laurence

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A thirty-four-year-old school teacher living with her mother, Rachel Cameron feels trapped in an environment of small-town deceit and pettiness—her own and that of others. She longs for contact with another human being who shares her rebellious spirit. Finally, by confronting both love and death, Rachel earns the freedom she desperately needs.

Winner of the Governor General's Literary Award, *A Jest of God* was also the basis of the movie *Rachel, Rachel*.

"Mrs. Laurence tells [her story] unsparingly, with absolute authority, using her thorough understanding of Rachel to draw us into her anguish. We know Rachel, sympathize with her, and in a sense, become Rachel, so authentic is her voice. . . . *A Jest of God* has extraordinary clarity, beautiful detail, as well as the emotional impact of honest confession."—Joan J. Hall, *Saturday Review*

"Laurence's rendition is close to faultless . . . reaffirming her ability to draw, without pathos, life-sized women. . . . Skillfully wrought and eloquently told."—Marilyn Gardner, *Christian Science Monitor*

One of Canada's most accomplished writers, Margaret Laurence(1926-1987) was the recipient of many awards, including the prestigious Governor General's Literary Award for *The Diviners* and *A Jest of God*.

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