

### A Mercy Design/Production

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#### **Citation Information**

Morrison, Toni. 1931-A Mercy Design/Production

1 folder

#### **Contact Information**

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Date Rendered: 2019-09-05 01:18:28 PM UTC Available Online at: <u>http://arks.princeton.edu/ark:/88435/zp38wj22t</u> Subject: [Fwd: couv Toni Morrison] From: Dominique Bourgois <dominique.bourgois2@wanadoo.fr> Date: Thu, 12 Mar 2009 08:32:33 +0100 To: Rene Boatman <boatman@Princeton.EDU>

Here it is merci Rene Dominique

#### Subject: couv Toni Morrison

From: Secrétariat <bourgois-editeur@wanadoo.fr><br/>Date: Wed, 11 Mar 2009 14:31:48 +0100<br/>To: <dominique.bourgois2@wanadoo.fr>

Voici la couverture de Un don.

Orange vous informe que cet e-mail a été contrôlé par l'anti-virus mail. Aucun virus connu à ce jour par nos services n'a été détecté.

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Subject: FW: Curriculum de Jordi Fibla From: Elizabeth Iveson <eiveson@curtisbrown.co.uk> Date: Tue, 29 Apr 2008 10:20:17 +0100 To: boatman@Princeton.EDU

Dear Rene, herewith the cv of the Spanish translator – the one Lumen propose to use for A MERCY. All best wishes, Liz

From: Querini, Silvia [mailto:squerini@rhm.es] Sent: Tuesday, April 29, 2008 8:50 AM To: Elizabeth Iveson Subject: RV: Curriculum de Jordi Fibla

Dear Liz,

Here you have Jordi Fibla, the translator for Love, curriculum. He is more than happy to translate the new book.

Also, tell Toni I will try to have her cover done by Oscar Astromujoff, the designer she likes.

Ciao ciao

silvia

De: Prieto, Anna Enviado el: martes, 29 de abril de 2008 8:59 Para: Querini, Silvia Asunto: Curriculum de Jordi Fibla

<<currículum Jordi Fibla.doc>>

	Content-Description: =?iso-8859-1?Q?curr=EDculum_Jordi_Fibla=2Ec	
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#### Currículum

## Jordi Fibla Feito Avenida 317, 12

08860 Castelldefels (Barcelona)

Nacido en Barcelona, en noviembre de 1946. El primer idioma extranjero que estudié fue el francés en el bachillerato. Seguí estudios de Filosofía y Letras (historia moderna y filología inglesa) en la Universidad de Barcelona y de japonés (Escuela Oficial de Idiomas de Barcelona y Academia Augusta). Estudios de inglés en la escuela Politécnica y la Berlitz de Barcelona. En 1974 asistí a un curso de inglés en Hillcrest School de Londres.

Trabajé en el campo de la edición durante los años 1964-1968 y 1971-1975 (editoriales Noguer y Plaza y Janés, como encargado de la correspondencia y redactor, respectivamente).

Entre 1972 y 1977, además de mi actividad en el campo editorial, me dediqué al periodismo *freelance*. Colaboré en *Triunfo* (mis artículos y reportajes pueden consultarse actualmente en "triunfodigital.com"), *Destino*, *Tele-Exprés*, *Serra d'Or*, *Avui, Gaceta Ilustrada* y otras publicaciones de la época también desaparecidas, como *Economía Mediterránea, Contrastes y Punto y coma*. En la revista *Quimera* publiqué un trabajo sobre la correspondencia que mantuve entre 1977 y 1978 con Henry Miller.

He impartido varios talleres de traducción en Tarazona, actuado como jurado del Premio Nacional de Traducción (1997), leído una ponencia sobre Arthur Miller en las Jornadas que sobre este dramaturgo tuvieron lugar en la Universidad de Sevilla en 2001. También he dado varias charlas organizadas por la Asociación de Traductores. En 2005 intervine en el programa «Las noches blancas» de Telemadrid y en Radio Nacional de España, acerca de la publicación en español del clásico japonés *La historia de Genji*, de Murasaki Shikibu, que había traducido del inglés. En 2006 di una conferencia sobre mis experiencias como traductor en la Facultad de Traducción de Interpretación de la Universidad de Vic (Barcelona). Desde 1977 he trabajado como traductor literario a dedicación plena.

Selección de obras traducidas

Literatura anglosajona

Aldiss, Brian W. Antrim, Donald

Barth, John Baxter, Charles

Beagle, Peter

Bellow, Saul Coetzee, J. M.

Connolly, Cyril

Vida en Occidente, Acervo, Barcelona, 1983
Los cien hermanos, Tusquets, Barcelona, 2000
El verificador, Tusquets, 2004
Sabático, Montesinos, Barcelona, 1988
Primera luz, RBA, Barcelona, 2006
Saul y Patsy, RBA, Barcelona, 2004
Un lugar agradable y tranquilo, Alcor, Barcelona, 1991
El hombre en suspenso, Debolsillo, Barcelona, 2005
Diario de un mal año, Random House Mondadori, Barcelona. 2007
En el fondo del estanque, Versal, Barcelona, 1990
Enemigos de la promesa, Versal, 1991 (reimpreso en Obra selecta, Lumen, Barcelona, 2005) Durrell, Lawrence

Ferris, Joshua Galgut, Damon Godshalk, C.S. Gordimer, Nadine

Guterson, David

Hedges, Peter

Hoban, Russell

Hollinghurst, Alan

Houston, Pam

Irving, John

Constance, Versal, 1985 Monsieur, Versal, 1986 Entonces llegamos al final, RBA, 2008 El buen doctor, RBA, Barcelona, 2005 Kalimantaan, Tusquets, Barcelona, 2001 Ocasión de amar, Versal, 1986 El último mundo burgués, Versal, 1987 Prólogo a la obra Ecos de Egipto, de Naguib Mafuz, Alcor, Barcelona, 1997 Mientras nieva sobre los cedros, Círculo de Lectores, Barcelona, 1996 ¿A quién ama Gilbert Grape?, Plaza y Janés, Barcelona, 1994 La frecuencia de Medusa, Versal, Barcelona, 1989 La biblioteca de la piscina, Anagrama, Barcelona, 1990 Mechas, relato publicado en la edición española la revista Granta

Los cowboys son mi debilidad y otros relatos, Tusquets, Barcelona, 1994 La novia imaginaria, Tusquets, Barcelona, 1997 Una mujer difícil, Tusquets, 1999 La cuarta mano, Tusquets, 2001 James, Henry

Jin, Ha

Kaniuk, Yoram Kennedy Toole, John Lawrence, D.H.

Lightman, Alan

Lurie, Alison

Malouf, David

Maxwell, William McCann, Colum

Miller, Arthur

Mis líos con el cine, Tusquets, 2000 Las normas de la casa de la sidra (guión de la película), Tusquets, 2000 El discípulo. Sin trampa ni cartón, Península, Barcelona, 1997 La espera, Tusquets, Barcelona, 2000 En el estangue, Tusquets, 2002 Sombras en el pasado, Tusquets, Barcelona, 2005 El buen árabe, Versal, Barcelona, 1988 La Biblia de neón, Anagrama, Barcelona, 1989 Mr. Noon, Versal, 1986 Apocalipsis, Montesinos, 1990 El hombre que amaba las islas, Atalanta, Girona, 2007 El universo de un joven científico, Tusquets, Barcelona, 1996 La verdad sobre Lorin Jones, Tusquets, Barcelona, 1990 Una vida imaginaria, Muchnik Editores, Barcelona, 2000 Adiós, hasta mañana, Versal, Barcelona, 1989 El bailarín, RBA, Barcelona, 2004 Zoli, RBA, Barcelona, 2008 Muerte de un viajante, Tusquets, Barcelona,

2000

Morrison, Toni Nabokov, Vladimir Parker, Dorothy Polidori, J.W., et al. Powers, Richard

Price, Richard Pynchon, Thomas

Queen, Ellery

Ray, Satyajit

Roth, Philip

Theroux, Paul

Udall) Brady

Updike, John

Al correr de los años, Tusquets, 2002 Ya no te necesito, Tusquets, 2003 Amor, Areté, Barcelona, 2004 Cosas transparentes, Versal, 1985 La soledad de las parejas, Versal, 1989 Fantasmagoriana, Península, 1998 El tiempo de nuestras canciones, Mondadori, Barcelona, 2005 El samaritano, RBA, Barcelona, 2004 Un lento aprendizaje, Tusquets, 1992 Mason y Dixon, 2000 Un caso difícil para el inspector Queen, Versal, 1988 Noche de índigo, Alcor, Barcelona, 1989

La lección de anatomía, Versal, 1987 Las vidas de Zuckerman, Versal, 1988 Engaño, Versal, 1990 Los hechos, Versal, 1989 El teatro de Sabbath, Alfaguara, Madrid, 1997 Pastoral Americana, Alfaguara, 1999 Me casé con un comunista, Alfaguara, 2000 La mancha humana, Alfaguara, 2001 El animal moribundo, Alfaguara, 2002 El pecho, Mondadori, Barcelona, 2006 Shields, Carol

Smiley, Jane Somerset Maugham, W. Sontag, Susan Tan, Amy

Theroux, Paul

Udall, Brady

Updike, John

La conjura contra América, Mondadori, Mondadori, Barcelona, 2005 Elegía, Mondadori, 2006 Deudas y dolores, Mondadori, 2007 Sale el espectro, Mondadori, 2008 La memoria de las piedras, Tusquets, 1996 El mundo de Larry, Tusquets, 1999 El secreto de Mary Swan, Tusquets, 1997 Dejarlo todo, Tusquets, 2003 Mu U., Tusquets, Barcelona, 1995 Lluvia, Alba, Barcelona, 1999 En América, Alfaguara, 2002 El Club de la Buena Estrella, Tusquets, Barcelona, 1990 La esposa del dios del fuego, Tusquets, 1991 Los cien sentidos secretos, Tusquets, 1996 Mi historia secreta, Tusquets, 1992 Millroy el Mago, Tusquets, 1995 La vida milagrosa de Edgar Mint, RBA, Barcelona, 2002 Corre, Conejo, Tusquets, 1990 La belleza de los lirios, Tusquets, 1998

Hacia el final del tiempo, Tusquets, 1999

Gertrudis y Claudio, Tusquets, 2000 Conejo en el recuerdo y otros relatos, Tusquets, 2003 Busca mi rostro, Tusquets, 2004 Madame de Treymes, Península, 1997

Sueño crepuscular, Tusquets, 2003

Ensayo

Becker, Jillian

Wharton, Edith

Bono, Edward de Charig, Alan

Dunn, John, et al. Fast, Julius y Barbara

Feffer, John

Foster, Hal et al.

Gardner, Martin

Goldhagen, D.J.

Goleman, Daniel

Los hijos de Hitler (historia de la banda terrorista Baader-Meinhof, Aymà, Barcelona, 1979 La felicidad como objetivo, Kairós, Barcelona, 1979 La verdadera historia de los dinosaurios, Salvat, Barcelona, 1985

Democracia, el viaje inacabado, Tusquets, 1995 Hablando entre líneas (ensayo de metacomunicación), Kairós, 1981

Corea del Norte, Corea del Sur, RBA, Barcelona, 2003

La posmodernidad, Kairós, Barcelona, 1985

Extravagancias y disparates, Alcor, Barcelona, 1993 Los verdugos voluntarios de Hitler, Taurus,

Madrid, 1997 Los caminos de la meditación, Kairós, Barcelona, Honoré, Carl Krishnamurti, Jiddu Lottman, Herbert Lynas, Mark Malan, Ryan

Morris, Ivan

Rashid, Ahmed Robin-Evans, Karyl

Roszak, Theodore

Russell, Bertrand

Sennet, Richard Shimon Halevi, Z'ev ben Singer, June

Sitwell, Edith

Elogio de la lentitud, RBA, Barcelona, 2005 Limpia tu mente, Martínez Roca, Barcelona, 1999 La caída de París, Tusquets, Barcelona, 1993 Marea alta, RBA, Barcelona, 2004 Mi corazón de traidor, Anagrama, Barcelona, 1992

El mundo del príncipe resplandeciente, traducción y prólogo, Atalanta, Girona, 2007 Los talibán, Península, 2001 Los dioses del sol en el exilio, Martínez Roca, Barcelona, 1983 Persona/Planeta (Hacia un nuevo paradigma cológico), Kairós, Barcelona, 1985

Sobre Dios y la religión, Alcor, Barcelona, 1992 Sobre la ética, el sexo y el matrimonio, Alcor, 1993

Respuestas a preguntas fundamentales, Península, 1997 Narcisismo y cultura moderna, Kairós, 1980 Cábala y psicología, Kairós, 1989 Energías del amor (Sexualidad y Nueva Era), Editorial Kairós, Barcelona, 1987 Ingleses excéntricos, Tusquets, Barcelona, 1989 Skinner, W.F. Thompson, Damian

Varios autores

Watts, Alan

La posmodernidad, Kairós, 1985

Disfrutar la vejez, Martínez Roca, Barcelona, 1986 El fin del tiempo, Taurus, Madrid, 1998 La «inferioridad natural» de la mujer, Alcor, Barcelona, 1993

El gurú tramposo, Kairós, 1987 La sabiduría de la inseguridad, Kairós, 1987

Obras japonesas (traducidas del inglés)

Daisetz R, Suzuki Nyogen Senzaki y Paul Reps Oe, Kenzaburo Okakura, Kakuzo Shikibu, Murasaki

Yoshikawa, Eiji

El ámbito del Zen, Kairós, Barcelona, 1981 101 relatos zen, Martínez Roca, Barcelona,1998 Un amor especial, Martínez Roca, 1998 El libro del té, Martínez Roca, 1999 La historia de Genji, Atalanta, Girona, 2 vols., 2006 Musashi, Martínez Roca, 1993-94, 5 vols.

Taiko, Martínez Roca, 1994-96, 5 vols.

Obras traducidas del japonés (En colaboración con Keiko Takahashi)

Mishima, Yukio Tanizaki, Junichiro *El rumor del oleaje*, Alianza Editorial, Madrid, 2003 *La llave*, Muchnik Editores, S.A., Barcelona, 2002 Otras obras orientales

Chee Soo

Lao-Tse

El Tao de la salud, Kairós, Barcelona,

1986

*Tao Te Ching* (traducido de una versión inglesa), Martínez Roca, Barcelona, 1999

Obras traducidas del francés

J. Attali et al.

G. Bateson et al. Domenach, Jean-Marie

Morin, Edgar

Rambaud, Patrick

Memorias

Abbott, Jack Henry

Breyten Breytenbach

Langer, Jo

Barcelona, 1980 La nueva comunicación, Editorial Kairós, 1982 Las ideas contemporáneas, Editorial Kairós, Barcelona, 1983 Para salir del siglo XX, Editorial Kairós, Barcelona, 1982

El mito del desarrollo, Editorial Kairós,

La batalla, Alcor, Barcelona, 1998

En el vientre de la bestia (cartas desde la prisión), Matínez Roca, Barcelona, 1982 Las confesiones verdaderas de un terrorista albino, Versal, Barcelona, 1986

Convicciones, Acervo, Barcelona, 1982

Colaboración en obras de varios traductores

Wyden, Peter

Varios autores

La guerra apasionada, Martínez Roca, Barcelona, 1983 Antología del cuento inglés, Círculo de Lectores, Barcelona, 2004 Varios autores Antología del cuento norteamericano, Galaxia Gutemberg, Barcelona, 2001

Libros de arte

Potterton, Homan

Brown, Charles T.

Nacional Gallery de Londres, Ediciones Océano Danae, Barcelona, 1980

La música U.S.A. Country & Western, Martínez Roca, Barcelona, 1987

Libros de viajes

Hansen, Eric

Leigh Fermor, Patrick

Sacks, Oliver

Un forastero en la selva, Península, Barcelona, 1999 El tiempo de los regalos, Península, Barcelona, 2001 Diario de Oaxaca, RBA, Barcelona, Waugh, Evelyn

Etiquetas, Península, Barcelona,

2002

#### Otras traducciones

En 2007 traduje el guión del DVD de *Ashes and Snow*, así como la novela epistolar del mismo título, obra de Gregory Colbert, fotógrafo canadiense cuya exposición *Ashes and Snow*, una visión poética del mundo natural en unos tiempos de múltiples peligros para numerosas especies, se ha presentado en Nueva York, Venecia, Tokyo y México.

Robbio Pather, Stephen Rent: 01 May 2008 13:28 Ren Serrupi, Alison Religient: A MERCY visuals

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#### 2002

Subject: FW: A MERCY visuals From: "Samuel, Alison" <ASamuel@randomhouse.co.uk> Date: Thu, 01 May 2008 14:04:09 +0100 To: Rene Boatman <boatman@Princeton.EDU> CC: "Rothbard, Sarah" <srothbard@randomhouse.com>

#### Dear Rene

Could you possibly show these jacket visuals to Toni for me? As you'll see, there are 2 versions, each showing front and back cover - and our sales people *love* both, though for my money the first one is the stronger. There's something darker and more immediate about it. I do hope that Toni will approve this approach, and even that she might like it as much as we do... I'd love to hear what she thinks.

I'm out of the office tomorrow and Monday, but would love to hear back next week.

All best wishes Alison

Alison Samuel Publishing Director Chatto & Windus Random House 20 Vauxhall Bridge Road London SW1V 2SA tel. 0044 (0)20 7840 8524 <u>asamuel@randomhouse.co.uk</u> fax.0044 (0)20 7233 6117

From: Parker, Stephen Sent: 01 May 2008 13:28 To: Samuel, Alison Subject: A MERCY visuals

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Subject: FW: A MERCY cover again From: "Samuel, Alison" <ASamuel@randomhouse.co.uk> Date: Fri, 06 Jun 2008 17:03:32 +0100 To: AUrban@icmtalent.com, Rene Boatman <boatman@Princeton.EDU>

Dear Toni and Binky

Attached are:

1. The original version of our cover with slightly larger lettering for the title (which makes it more emphatic, I think), plus

2. A second version with a *slightly* mistier and more atmospheric cast to it. (This one also has quotes added on the back, as you'll see, for layout but still with typos.)

I think they are both fabulous. Which gets your vote? Do please let me know.

#### Alison

p.s. Rene, I'm sending this to Toni via you because I know she can't open attachments like this, so could you be kind and ensure she gets to see both these.

Alison Samuel Publishing Director Chatto & Windus Random House 20 Vauxhall Bridge Road London SW1V 2SA tel. 0044 (0)20 7840 8524 <u>asamuel@randomhouse.co.uk</u> fax.0044 (0)20 7233 6117

From: Parker, Stephen Sent: 06 June 2008 16:26 To: Samuel, Alison Subject: A MERCY

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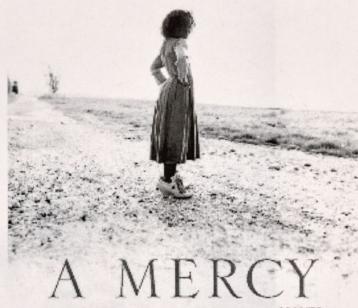
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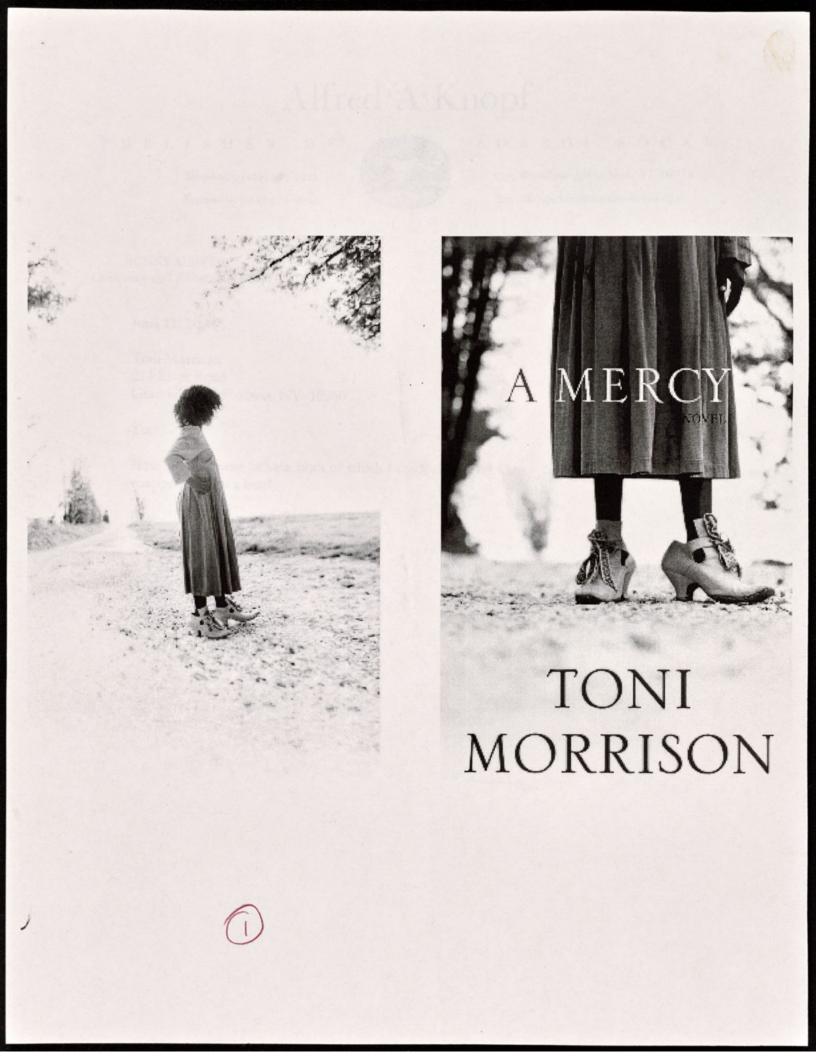


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SONNY MEHTA Chairman and Editor-in-Chief

June 11, 2008

Toni Morrison 224 River Road Grandview on Hudson, NY 10960

Toni,

Here are two more jackets, both of which I think are strong. One is beneath the other, wrapped around a book.

Best,

# A MERCY

# TONI Morriso

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## Toni Morrison A MERCY

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Toni Morrison is the Robert F. Goheen Professor of Humanities Emeritus at Princeton University. She has received the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Pulitzer Prize. In 1993 she was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature. She lives in Rockland County, New York, and Princeton, New Jersey.

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59

From: Rene Boatman <boatman@Princeton.EDU><br/>Subject: from Alison Samuel

Date: May 20, 2008 2:18:47 PM EDT

To: Toni Morrison <nidal@optonline.net>

#### Dear Toni

Thanks so much. Absolutely right to take out the mother/daughter 'discovery'

element... Though I have left one reference to Florens's mother, at the end of para 4, otherwise it seems to me that the final para comes too much out of the blue. Hard to take in that it's a story of a mother/daughter if we don't know she had a mother... I've edited to make it flow, and I've also run on new last line into my last line, which seems to work.

Anyway, attached is the re-revised version, with your cuts made and other changes in bold. I'll pass this to Design now, but there's plenty of time to amend and correct further if you feel the mother should come right out.

All very best Alison

#### A MERCY

#### Toni Morrison

Powerful tragedy distilled into a small masterpiece by the Nobel Prize winning author of /Beloved/ and, like a prelude to that story, set two centuries earlier.

In the 1680s the slave trade were still in its infancy. In the Americas, virulent religious and class division, prejudice and oppression were rife, providing the fertile soil in which slavery and race hatred were carefully planted and took root.

Jacob is an Anglo-Dutch trader and adventurer, with a smallholding in the harsh North. Despite his distaste for dealing in 'flesh', he takes a small slave girl, in part payment for a bad debt from a plantation owner in Catholic Maryland. This is Florens, 'with the hands of a slave and the feet of a Portuguese lady', who can read and write and might be useful on his farm\*. Florens is hungry for love,\* at first from Lina, an older servant woman at her new master's house; \*but later, when she's sixteen,\* from the handsome blacksmith, an African, never enslaved, who comes riding into all their lives...

\*And all of them have stories:\* Lina, the native American servant, whose tribe was decimated by smallpox; their mistress Rebekka, herself a victim of religious fervour back in England; young Sorrow, daughter of a sea captain who's spent too many years at sea to be quite... normal; \*and, finally, there's Florens's own mother back home in Maryland. \*

This is their plight – men and women inventing themselves in the wilderness. /A Mercy/ reveals what lies under the surface of slavery, and the opening chapter of the story of sugar, that great maw which was to eat up millions of lives. \*But at its heart, like / Beloved/, this is the ambivalent, disturbing story of a mother and a daughter in a violent ad-hoc world – a world where acts of mercy, like everything else, have unforeseen consequences.\*

Toni Morrison was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1993. She is the author of many novels, including /The Bluest Eye/, / Beloved/ (made into a major film), /Paradise/ and /Love/. She has also received the National Book Critics Circle Award and a Pulitzer Prize for her fiction. She is Robert F. Goheen Professor at Princeton University

Rene Boatman <boatman@princeton.edu> Assistant to Toni Morrison Princeton University 185 Nassau St. Princeton, NJ 08544 609-258-1071 Fax: 609-258-1454

#### A MERCY

#### **Toni Morrison**

Powerful tragedy distilled into a small masterpiece by the Nobel Prize winning author of /Beloved/ and, like a prelude to that story, set two centuries earlier.

In the 1680s the slave trade was still in its infancy. In the Americas, virulent religious and class division, prejudice and oppression were rife, providing the fertile soil in which slavery and race hatred were carefully planted and took root.

Jacob is an Anglo-Dutch trader and adventurer, with a smallholding in the harsh North. Despite his distaste for dealing in 'flesh', he takes a small slave girl in part payment for a bad debt from a plantation owner in Catholic Maryland. Her slave mother has urged him to take her. This is Florens, 'with the hands of a slave and the feet of a Portuguese lady', who can read and write and might be useful on his farm. Rejected by her mother, Florens looks for love, first from Lina, an older servant woman at her new master's house, but later from the handsome blacksmith, an African, never enslaved, who comes riding into their lives...

There are other voices: the native American Lina, whose tribe was decimated by smallpox; their mistress Rebekka, herself a victim of religious persecution back in England; and young Sorrow, daughter of a sea captain who's spent too many years at sea to be quite... normal; and finally the devastating voice of Florens's mother.

This is their plight - men and women inventing themselves in the wilderness. /A Mercy/ reveals what lies under the surface of slavery, and the opening chapter of the story of sugar, that great maw which was to eat up millions of lives. But at its heart, like / Beloved/, this is the ambivalent, disturbing story of a mother and a daughter - a mother who cuts off her daughter, to save her, and a daughter who may never exorcise that abandonment. in a violent ad hoc world,

Acts of mercy, like everything else, have unforeseen consequences.

Toni Morrison was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1993. She is the author of many novels, including The Bluest Eye, Beloved (made into a major film), Paradise and Love. She has also received the National Book Critics Circle Award and a Pulitzer Prize for her fiction.

Gervor

Florens falls duply in love - hardsome

From: Rene Boatman <boatman@Princeton.EDU> Subject: A MERCY catalog copy Date: May 16, 2008 11:11:42 AM EDT To: Toni Morrison <nidal@optonline.net>

Toni:

This may be what you are looking for. Rene

Rene

Toni asked me to send you this revised attachment.

All best wishes Alison

-----Original Message-----From: Samuel, Alison Sent: 27 February 2008 10:09 To: 'Toni Morrison' Subject: RE: Catalogue copy re: "A Mercy"

#### Dear Toni

Thank you SO much for your detailed critique and perfect rewrites. Not at all picky, in fact I feel mortified by my use of 'Indian' and freed slave, and can't think why I used the word plague for small pox when I it's perfectly clear (some kind of 'metaphorical' reading which ended up in my copy...)

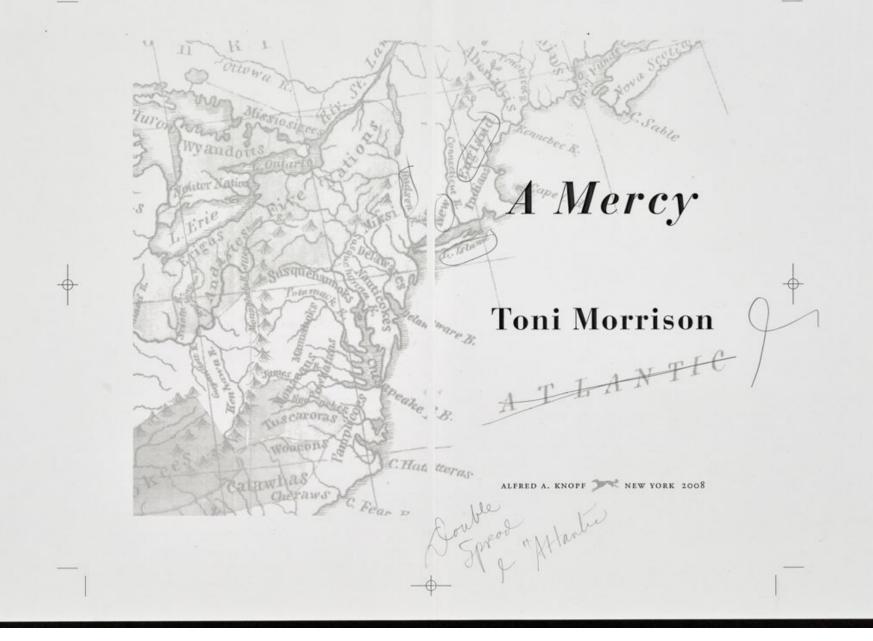
I thought of Florens as wild (early on at least) because her mother calls her that - those shoes and her 'prettify ways'. How to suggest her timid yet seductive ways? So I decided best to cut the description and keep simply your/Lina's words 'with the hands of a slave etc' which say it all. I love that her feet are finally hard as cypress - brilliant! Yet somehow her mother's final cry also gives me pause... had she really learned? But then perhaps none of us ever really does...

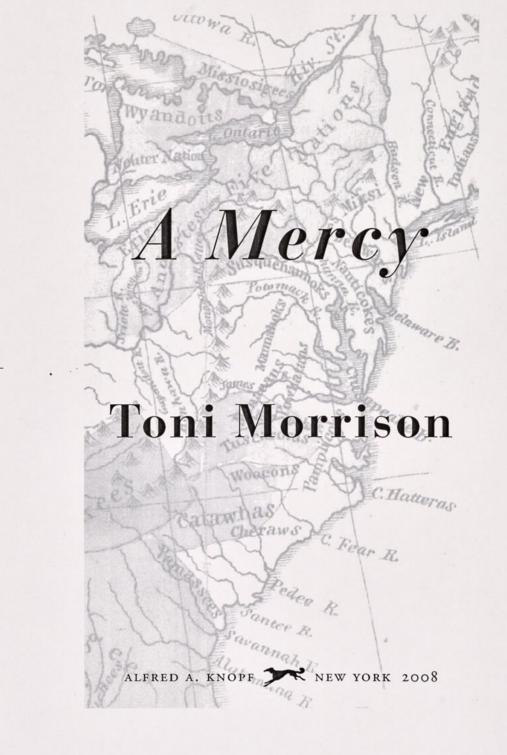
I love too the myth of American individualism growing out of the end of 'family'. There are so many layers to this novel that one can go on and on uncovering. It is dazzlingly brilliant!

I'm attaching the revised version for you. Do let me know if any other points strike you later.

Thank you, for this and for A Mercy! All best Alison

Alison Samuel Publishing Director Chatto & Windus Random House 20 Vauxhall Bridge Road London SW1V 2SA tel. 0044 (0)20 7840 8524 asamuel@randomhouse.co.uk fax.0044 (0)20 7233 6117





## Alfred · A· Knopf

#### PUBLISHER OF

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#### BORZOI BOOKS

1745 Broadway, New York, NY 10019 E-mail: smehta@randomhouse.com

SONNY MEHTA Chairman and Editor-in-Chief

June 19, 2008

Toni Morrison 224 River Road Grandview on Hudson, NY 10960

Dear Toni,

Here are two comps of what I think is a brilliant jacket: one shiny, one matte. Please choose one.

Yours,

2

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SONNY MEHTA Chairman and Editor-in-Chief

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Toni Morrison 224 River Road Grandview on Hudson, NY 10960

Dear Toni,

What about this one?

Yours ever,

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1745 Broadway, New York, NY 10019 E-mail: smehta@randomhouse.com

SONNY MEHTA Chairman and Editor-in-Chief

May 20, 2008

Toni Morrison 224 River Road Grandview on Hudson, NY 10960

Dear Toni,

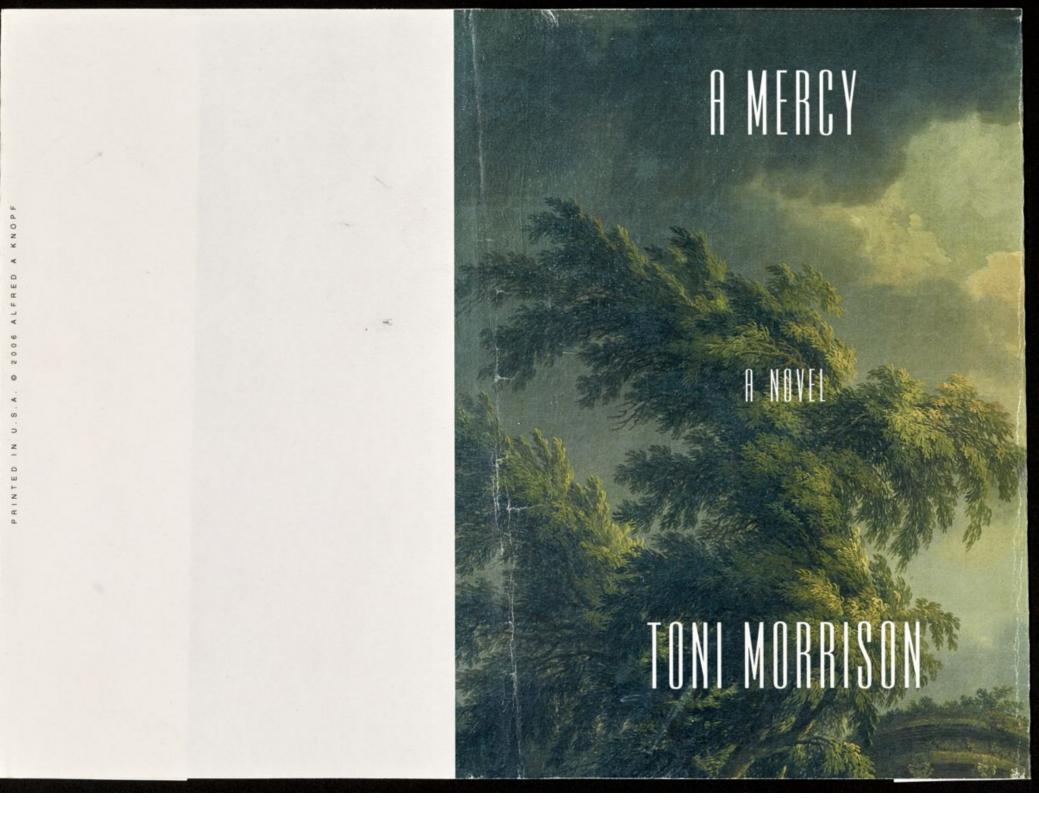
I've got two alternate jackets for you to consider. Call when you have a chance.

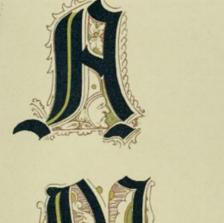
Yours ever,

# A MERCY

# TONI Morrison

A NOVEL







a novel

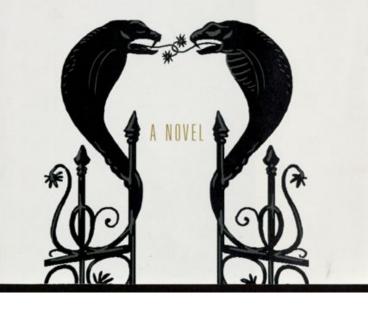


orrison

# TONI MORRISON

1

## A MERCY



### Alfred · A · Knopf

#### PUBLISHER OF

Telephone: (212) 782-9000



#### BORZOI BOOKS

1745 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10019 www.aaknopf.com

July 28, 2008

Ms. Toni Morrison 224 River Road Grandview, NY 10960

Dear Ms. Morrison,

Welcome back from South Carolina; I hope you had a good trip. I really enjoyed reading *The New York Times* piece about the ceremony.

I'm pleased to be sending you a revised version of the title page with the changes you'd requested; it will be in grays, as you see in this spread.

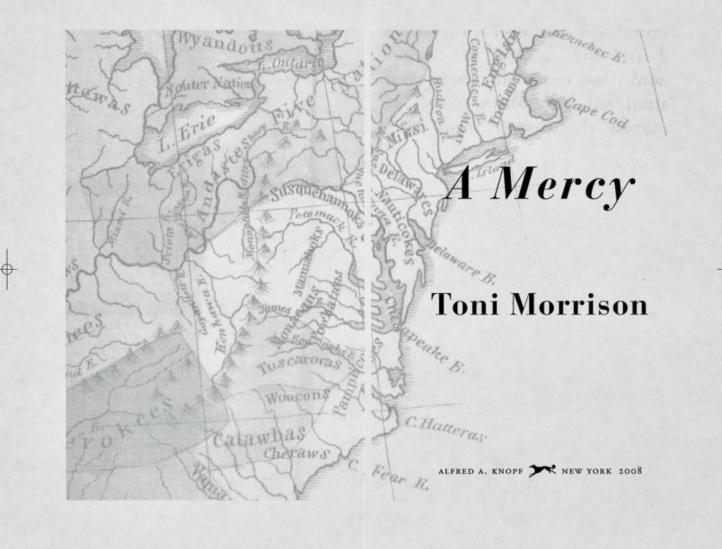
Might you let me know if this is all right, or if there are any further edits you'd like us to make?

Thank you very much.

Best,

Sarah 1

Sarah Rothbard Assistant to Robert Gottlieb

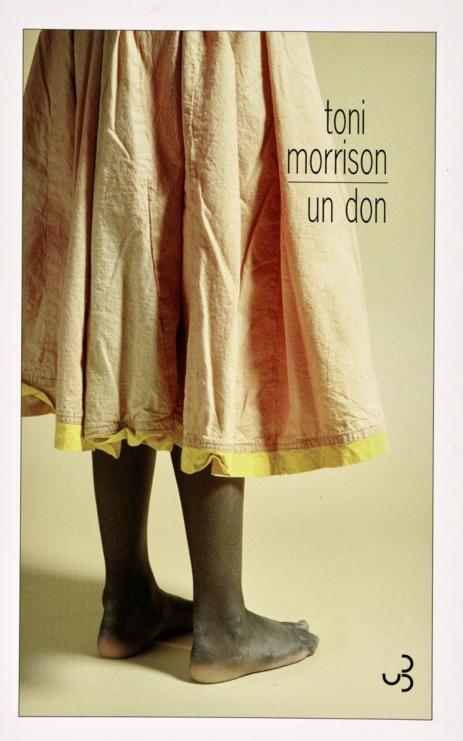


### CHRISTIAN BOURGOIS ÉDITEUR



Après *Beloved*, élu meilleur livre de l'année par le *Times* EN LIBRAIRIE LE 16 AVRIL

### CHRISTIAN BOURGOIS ÉDITEUR



Après *Beloved*, élu meilleur livre de l'année par le *Times* EN LIBRAIRIE LE 16 AVRIL

#### ALFRED A. KNOPF

#### Sarah Rothbard

5 September 2008

Dear Ms. Morrison, I'm enclosing jacket proofs of A MERCY for you-they look wonderful- and the look wonderful- and the pieces I sent you by e-mail as well (Kirkus + NY Magazine).

Besti farah

Toni Morrison is the Robert F. Goheen Professor of Humanities, Emerita, at Princeton University. She has received the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Pulitzer Prize. In 1993 she was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature. She lives in Rockland County, New York, and Princeton, New Jersey.

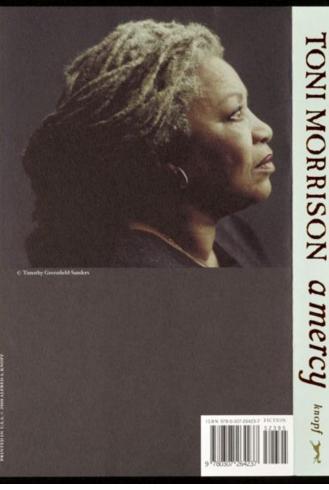
Toni Morrison's Beloved, The Bluest Eye, Jazz, Love, Playing in the Dark, Song of Solomon, Sula and Tar Baby are available in Vintage paperback

Also available from Random House Audio and in a Random House Large Print Edition

Jacket illustration: Morning in the Tropics by Frederic Edwin Church, 1877 (detail). The Gnanger Collection, New York Jacket design by Barbara de Wilde

J.A. Alfred A. Knopf, Publisher, New York

www.aaknopf.com



# TONI

a mercy

a novel

A powerful tragedy distilled into a jewel of a masterpiece by the Nobel Prize-winning author of *Beloved* and, almost like a prelude to that story, set two centuries earlier.

In the 1680s the slave trade was still in its infancy. In the Americas, virulent religious and class divisions, prejudice and oppression were rife, providing the fertile soil in which slavery and race hatred were planted and took root.

Jacob is an Anglo-Dutch trader and adventurer, with a small holding in the harsh north. Despite his distaste for dealing in "flesh," he takes a small slave girl in part payment for a bad debt from a plantation owner in Catholic Maryland. This is Florens, "with the hands of a slave and the feet of a Portuguese lady." Florens looks for love, first from Lina, an older servant woman at her new master's house, but later from a handsome blacksmith, an African, never enslaved.

There are other voices: Lina, whose tribe was decimated by smallpox; their mistress, Rebekka, herself a victim of religious intolerance back in England; Sorrow, a strange girl who's spent her early years at sea; and finally the devastating voice of Florens' mother. These are all men and women inventing themselves in the wilderness.

A Mercy reveals what lies beneath the surface of slavery. But at its heart it is the ambivalent, disturbing story of a mother who casts off her daughter in order to save her, and of a daughter who may never exorcise that abandonment.

Acts of mercy may have unforeseen consequences.

> A BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB MAIN SELECTION

Toni Morrison is the Robert F. Goheen Professor of Humanities, Emerita, at Princeton University. She has received the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Pulitzer Prize. In 1993 she was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature. She lives in Rockland County, New York, and Princeton, New Jersey.

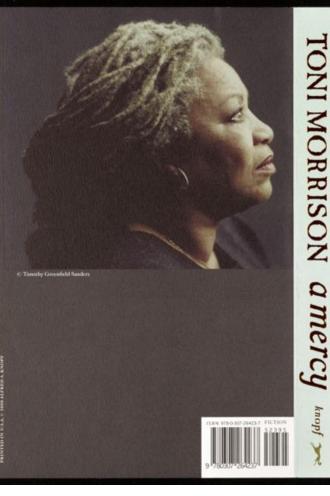
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Alfred A. Knopf, Publisher, New York

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### ALFRED A. KNOPF

#### Sarah Rothbard

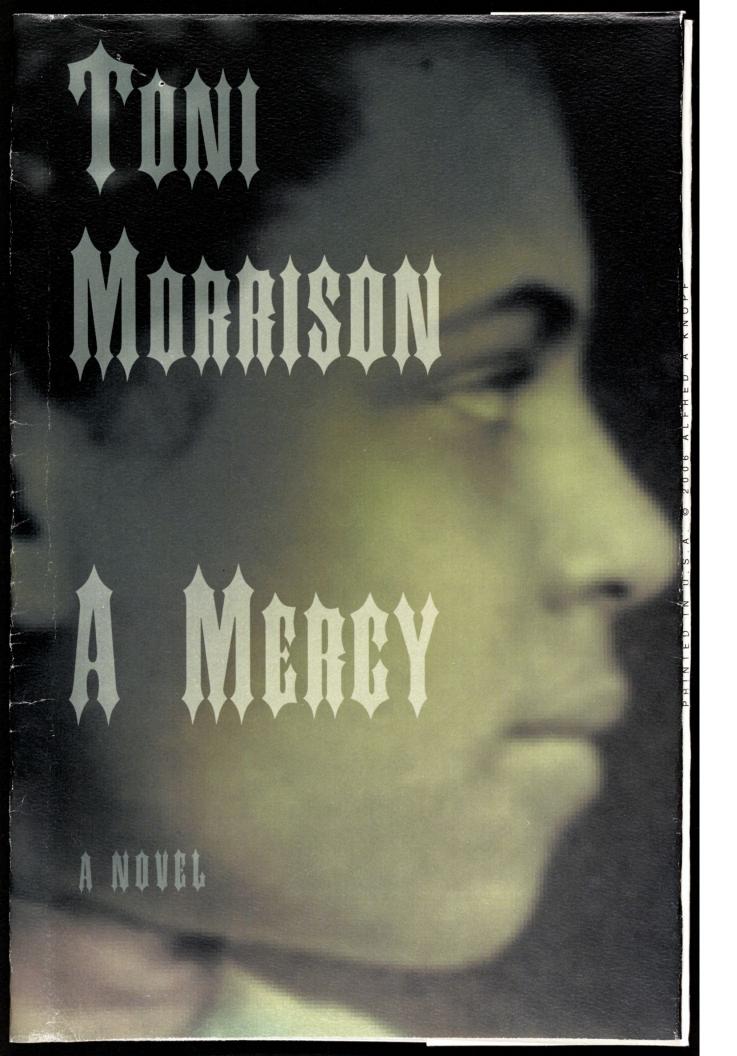
6 March 2008

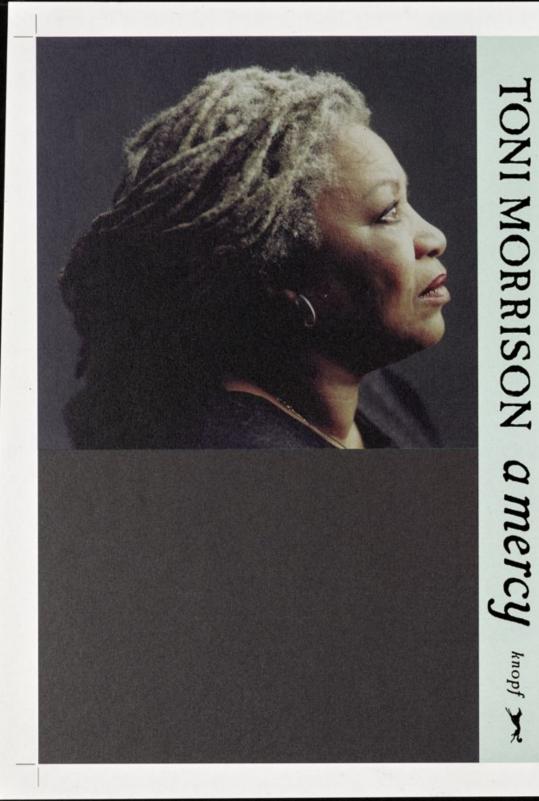
Dear Ms. Morrison, Per your conversation with Bob, 1m Sending you this jacket design From Carol Carson.

Thanks very much.

212201

Yours, Jarah Bothbard

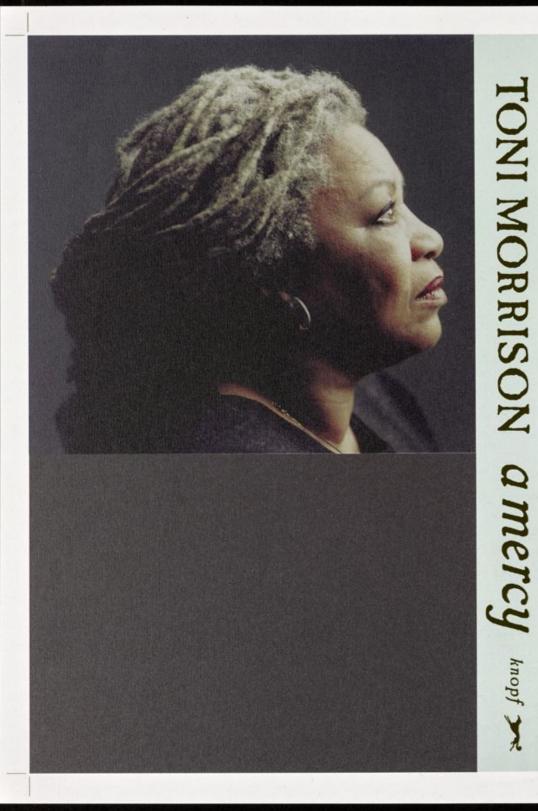




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## a mercy

a novel



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