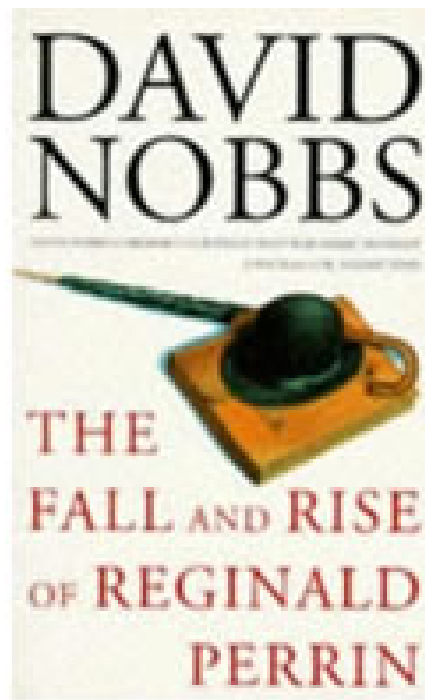




The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin

David Nobbs

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin

David Nobbs

The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin David Nobbs

Originally titled 'The Death of Reginald Perrin', this is the book that found national fame when David converted it into a TV series starring Leonard Rossiter. It tells the tale of Reginald Iolanthe Perrin, a senior sales executive at Sunshine Desserts, who behaves more and more strangely, until eventually he leaves all his clothes on a beach, goes off to lead a new life, but is drawn back to his old life and ends up marrying his wife in disguise.

The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin Details

Date : Published 1995 by Mandarin Paperbacks (first published 1975)

ISBN : 9780749321680

Author : David Nobbs

Format : Paperback 285 pages

Genre : Humor, Fiction, Psychology, European Literature, British Literature

 [Download The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin David Nobbs

From Reader Review The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin for online ebook

Jon says

Reggie Perrin suffers a midlife crisis. The humor is wonderful—farcical and odd like a 1970s British sitcom. The plot lost me in the middle as Reggie plots to run away from his life, but the is genuinely moving and quite hilarious.

Pichicarro says

Recordaba haber visto la serie cuando era un niño y tenía curiosidad. Humor inglés con algún buen momento, sin más.

Ruth says

Reginald Perrin is going through something of a mid-life crisis. Sick of the minutiae of his job at Sunshine Desserts, he is driven to desperate measures, and decides to steal a giant lorry shaped like a jelly, fake his own death, and start a new life. This book – the first in a series of three – tells of Reggie's adventures as he tries to find a meaning to this life.

The very first line – “When Reginald Iolanthe Perrin set out for work on the Thursday morning, he had no intention of calling his mother-in-law a hippopotamus” – gave me a clue that this book was going to be funny, and somewhat surreal. What I didn't expect was that it would actually be tinged with melancholy too. It's easy to sympathise with Reggie's frustration at his colleagues and his job, although the measures he took to find something more to live for were admittedly drastic and ridiculous.

Nobbs balances the melancholy out with lots of laughter though. During the first part of the book, I was amused on several occasions, but not enough to make me really laugh. However, then came the scene describing the funniest dinner party I have ever read about, which actually gave me a stomach ache from laughing so hard.

The book takes a bizarre turn towards the end, and while it was supposed to be satirical, it didn't strike quite the right note with me, because it was just TOO unbelievable. However, I did enjoy it overall, and certainly intend to read the next two books in the series.

Tony says

THE FALL AND RISE OF REGINALD PERRIN. (1975). David Nobbs. ****.

I was really happy to find a copy of this book, along with its two sequels, at a used book sale. They were in Penguin editions that were not apparently for sale in the U.S. I'm sure that that is not the case now since the series was adapted into a BBC mini-series in the late 1970s and broadcast around the world. I saw the initial

run, and, in addition watched the replays as they came on. This still ranks up there as one of the funniest shows that the BBC ever put together. I can re-visualize the series starring Leonard Rossiter as I read this book. It has to be one of the best treatment of male mid-life crisis that I have ever encountered. A strange thing happened, though, I looked up the author on Google to learn more about him, and discovered that his death had been announced in the British press only two hours before I had looked him up. As I recall, he was eighty-years old. It's spooky for something like that to happen. I did learn, however, that he had quite a few books to his credit along with a healthy number of TV and radio productions. He was not well known here in the States, but certainly should be. I did check Amazon's listings and found that most of his books are currently available, even in Kindle versions. In any event, Reginald Perrin was the poster boy for the middle-aged drop out at the time. His approach to maintaining his sanity in a crazy world was different to say the least, but ultimately understandable. I truly recommend this book. I'll get to the sequels ASAP.

Derek Baldwin says

I didn't get where I am today by not saying that this book is hilariously funny, but also very poignant in ways which perhaps don't quite come across in the (excellent) TV series. The incestuous affair enjoyed by Reggie's daughter was quite a surprise.

Ouhartenn says

Deseando leer el segundo. La parte central es un poco pesada, pero el principio y el disparatado y brillante final valen mucho la pena.

Sue says

A somewhat surreal and bizarre book, revolving around the more serious issue of a man having a rather caricatured mid-life crisis. I loved the first sentence, though it went a little downhill thereafter. Perhaps worth reading once; the occasional humorous moment but not the laugh-aloud hilarity I was promised on the blurb.

Mariano Hortal says

Publicado en <http://lecturaylocura.com/caida-y-auge/>

Siempre he guardado afinidad lectora con la editorial Impedimenta, especialmente por un catálogo escogido con buen gusto y del que no hay muchas editoriales que se encarguen; un segmento de obras que han escogido son las inglesas, en particular de principios del siglo XX, recuperando de esta manera para los lectores españoles a E. F. Benson, Edmund Crispin o Stella Gibbons, por poner algunos ejemplos estupendos y muy representativos. Ahora han vuelto a la carga con otra historia propiamente inglesa de la mano de David Nobbs y su archiconocido "Caída y auge de Reginald Perrin", novela que, en el Reino Unido, originó la creación de una exitosa comedia televisiva en la BBC.

El arrebatador comienzo invita a la risa desde casi la primera frase:

“Cuando Reginald Iolanthe Perrin se dispuso a salir para el trabajo aquella mañana de jueves, no entraba en sus planes llamar hipopótamo a su suegra. Nada más lejos de su pensamiento”

En esas primeras páginas se descubren los traumas infantiles de tan curioso personaje, relacionados con su gran cantidad de pelo corporal: “Tenía el cuerpo recubierto de vello, tanto que en el colegio le apodaban Felpudo Coco” o con su torpeza natural: “Siempre había sido bastante torpe en el colegio cuando no era Felpudo Coco, era Pato Patoso”.

Los gags se suceden cada dos por tres y en cada página tenemos un motivo más para pasarlo bien, con momentos memorables que arrancan las carcajadas como aquellos con el insigne doctor o en la cena sin comida que organiza el propio Perrin. Todo este comienzo está desencadenando la caída a los infiernos del personaje, que busca como sea un cambio de vida, de trabajo, de todo lo que le aflige, se vuelve tan incrédulo que no puede seguir adelante (“Tienes derecho a preguntarme en qué creo, yo que me declaro tan antitodo. Pues se lo diré: creo en el nihilismo en la medida en que creo en la ausencia de ismos. Sé que no sé y creo en no creer”).

El final del camino, que desembocará en el cambio, llegará sólo cuando Reginald Iolanthe Perrin desaparezca, no en vano, las siglas (RIP) eran una prolepsis de lo que iba a ocurrir con el personaje, aprovecha el autor para mostrarnos su momento más lírico justo en el momento más doloroso para él:

“Había una larga franja de guijarros y, por detrás de la bahía, la tierra se elevaba en una pendiente de hierba salpicaba de arbustos vencidos por el viento. El pueblo estaba al final de ninguna parte. Era un lugar ideal para poner fin a una vida.”

Como adelantaba el título del libro, estamos hablando de una tragicomedia, Nobbs utiliza estos momentos para que Perrin cambie de personalidad, buscando algo con lo que de verdad identificarse, algo con lo que iniciar su nueva vida, las dudas le acucian:

“Me tienta pensar en mí mismo como una figura espectral, igual que ellos, pero la verdad es otra bien distinta. Para mí el problema de la identidad no es no saber quién soy sino saber demasiado quién soy: soy Reginald Iolanthe Perrin, Felpudo Coco Perrin. Soy absurdo luego existo. Existo, luego soy absurdo”

Según va encontrando su identidad los momentos cómicos empiezan a originarse nuevamente, ahora las ironías se suceden; llegando a asistir a su propio funeral, tronchante el momento en el que el predicador indica en el sermón:

“En cierto sentido Reggie Perrin no ha muerto. ¡Él está aquí hoy entre nosotros, de una forma real y significativa, en esta precisa iglesia, a esta precisa hora!”

La ironía final, deliciosa, es genial; ya que su “muerte” desencadena el cambio del resto de sus familiares, amigos, jefe,... todos cambios a mejor, su aparente muerte es anecdótica pero necesaria para el devenir del resto; sin embargo, él se vuelve a casar con la misma persona, y todo vuelve, casi, a ser como era, pero diferente, incluso trabajando para su mismo jefe pero en una fundación a su nombre. Qué paradoja, qué cambio de actitud para darse cuenta de lo importante que es vivir.

Darren says

Deceptively simple. If there's a better depiction of a mid-life crisis/nervous breakdown, I'm unaware of it. Funny and poignant, superb cast of characters, and almost documentary in its detailing of middle-class middle-England in the mid-70's. I didn't get where I am today by not giving this 5 Stars!

Adele says

In Bookmarks: the latest news, views and reviews from Guardian Books (23-Feb,2018), novelist Jonathan Coe listed this as a book he felt is most underrated believing that "...it has never received its due because it was overshadowed by the TV adaptation". And of course he's probably right, to anyone familiar with the 70s TV sitcom, Reggie is immortalised by Leonard Rossiter's fantastic portrayal of the middle-aged middle manager, driven to bizarre behaviour by the pointlessness of his job. So much so, Leonard, in character, is featured on the cover of the old Penguin paperback I managed to pick up. Having read it, I find I do agree with Mr Coe - heralded as such or not, it is a modern classic and very, very funny - although a modern audience will have to forgive the regressive sexist, racist and homophobic references. As often pronounced on Radio 2's Drive Time..."different times everyone"

Katie says

It is sadder and more poignant than I remember from years ago. I can only see Leonard Rossiter who starred in the TV series as Reggie, AKA Coconut Matting (his school nickname). The funny bits are very funny and I laughed out loud many times, but Reggie's introspection, his fake suicide and ultimate return to his loving and loved wife are beautifully told. It was well worth re-reading. Onwards to Vol. 2.

Derek Bridge says

This is one of the all-time great British comic novels. It magics-up some outlandish characters (though hard to imagine them without seeing their fabulous portrayals in the original BBC series), gives them some great one-liners, and motors them along a really neat storyline. Admittedly, it's of its time (1970s) and some of that jars with modern sensibilities.

Xfi says

“Cuando Reginald Iolanthe Perrin se dispuso salir para el trabajo aquella mañana de jueves, no entraba en sus planes llamar hipopótamo a su suegra. Nada más lejos de su pensamiento”

Así empieza este libro, humor Inglés en estado puro.

Sólo apto para los que gusten de ese tipo de sentido del humor tan British, lleno de cinismo, de situaciones absurdas y a la vez dramáticas.

Un hombre de mediana edad del que nadie entendería que se quejara: Una bonita casa en las afueras, una mujer encantadora, dos hijos ya criados y un trabajo bien pagado.....hasta que un día se da cuenta de que todo

lo que le rodea es absurdo: Su jefe, su trabajo, sus compañeros , su casa, su vida.

Quiere a su mujer, pero da la impresión que son dos robots que comparten casa. Sus hijos no le respetan, han hecho todo lo contrario y se comportan justo como no hubiera querido que se comportaran. Su jefe es imbécil. Su trabajo absurdo...Y dice basta.

En apenas unos días elabora un demencial plan para empezar de cero, pero...¿Desde cuándo los planes salen bien? Sobre todo si eres Reginald Perrin, siempre tan correcto, siempre en esa zona gris de la sociedad donde ni te ven ni quieres que te vean, siempre tan torpe y carente de habilidades, desde el principio ves que este pobre hombre se la va a dar, que está nadando fuera del agua (nunca mejor dicho, los que leísteis el libro lo entenderéis).

Ahora bien, no siempre que no te sale el plan es para mal.

Divertida por momentos, triste por otros, la novela tiene altibajos narrativos y cambios de registro de la comedia al drama que me han dejado descolocado. El estilo tampoco es el de un gran narrador, y las situaciones cómicas a veces se llevan un poco lejos hasta sentir lástima por su protagonista. Se deja leer y me ha arrancado más de una sonrisa, pero quizás lo triste es que en algunas cosas (afortunadamente no en todas) me sentía identificado con el pobre Reggie y eso es lo que me hizo, al contrario de lo que debería, disfrutar del libro.

Tony says

I revisit this every few years and it touches me more each time. The TV series is wonderful but the book has a magical melancholy all of its own.

The sequels are enormous fun but this first stands above them. Cannot recommend it enough. Quite superb.

Carles Muñoz Miralles says

Buena novela de humor negro británico, aunque en ocasiones el carácter pusilánime del protagonista se hace un poco previsible.

Timothy Urban says

It was funny, sad, still fairly fresh despite it being nearly 40 years old now. It had a sort of 'modern life is rubbish' theme beneath the main midlife crisis story. I wanted more of that, more digs at the way the world is. These were the bits that made me laugh and there were less and less of them as it went along.

Christopher says

This book is very witty yet quite moving at times. Reading it was a real 'feel-good' experience.

Guille says

Absolutamente recomendable, para todo el mundo, busquen lo que busquen en una novela.

Un hombre que no tiene problemas, que vive más o menos placenteramente al lado de la mujer que aun sigue queriendo, y un buen día descubre que ni le gusta su vida ni se gusta a sí mismo ni sabe muy bien qué es lo que le gusta. La solución: acabar consigo mismo... pero sin acabar.

Nada extraordinario en el fondo; pero aquí entra la forma, la ironía, el sarcasmo, la mala leche, la inteligencia para la narración y el diálogo, y los innumerables gags que nos van conduciendo a algo que, por otra parte, ya sabíamos: es imposible escapar de la cárcel más segura del mundo, uno mismo... bueno, eso y que cuando nosotros vamos, ellas vuelven.

Maureen says

Part 2 in my ongoing series "Stuff I Loved as a Kid That Is Still Ace". And Reggie Perrin is perhaps even MORE ace, now that I know what it is to be a glassy-eyed commuter and cog in the capitalist system. It helps, of course, that in my mind's eye all the scenes are re-enacted by the incomparable Leonard Rossiter. Rest in peace, Lenny. Rest in peace.

Greg Farnell says

Very much a book of it's time, entertaining in parts, cheesy in parts but certainly quite sexist and a little bit racist by modern standards.
