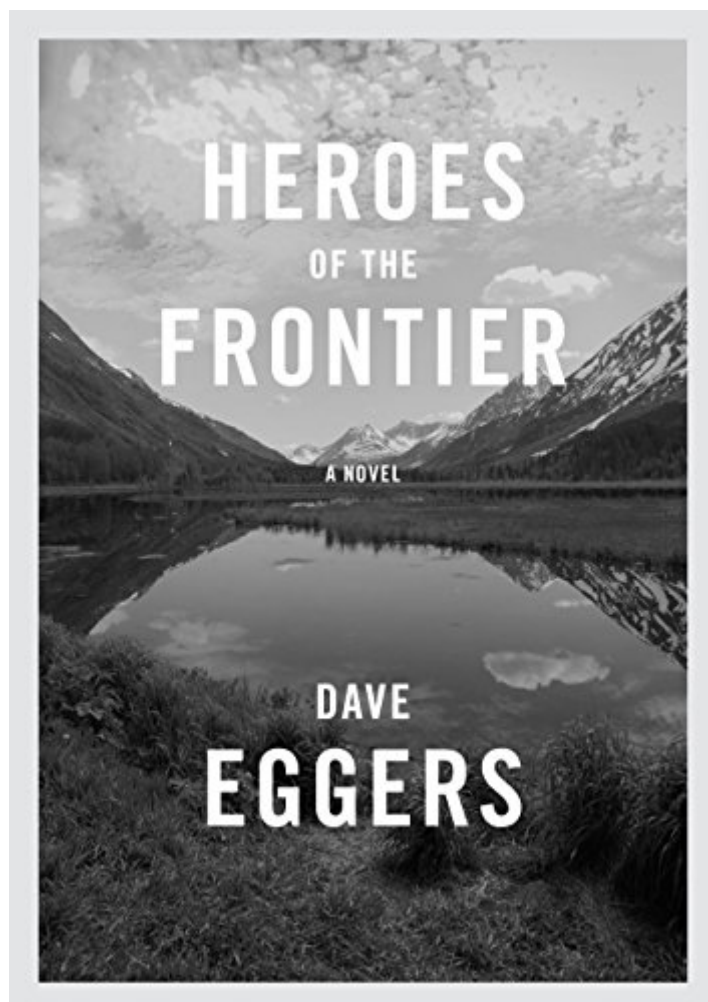


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Heroes Of The Frontier



Synopsis

“A picaresque adventure and spiritual coming-of-age tale” — *On the Road* crossed with Henderson the Rain King | Deeply affecting. — Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times* A captivating, often hilarious novel of family and wilderness from the bestselling author of *The Circle*, this is a powerful examination of our contemporary life and a rousing story of adventure. Josie and her children’s father have split up, she’s been sued by a former patient and lost her dental practice, and she’s grieving the death of a young man senselessly killed. When her ex asks to take the children to meet his new fiancée’s family, Josie makes a run for it, figuring Alaska is about as far as she can get without a passport. Josie and her kids, Paul and Ana, rent a rattling old RV named the Chateau, and at first their trip feels like a vacation: They see bears and bison, they eat hot dogs cooked on a bonfire, and they spend nights parked along icy cold rivers in dark forests. But as they drive, pushed north by the ubiquitous wildfires, Josie is chased by enemies both real and imagined, past mistakes pursuing her tiny family, even to the very edge of civilization. A tremendous new novel from the best-selling author of *The Circle*, *Heroes of the Frontier* is the darkly comic story of a mother and her two young children on a journey through an Alaskan wilderness plagued by wildfires and a uniquely American madness. From the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

There is something about author Dave Eggers which is uniquely different, totally distinct from the minds of other authors who write in the same genre. When he is allowed to dream dreams and put his thoughts to paper, there is no limits to what his free-flowing mind can achieve. Think of the captivating novel *The Circle*, the painstakingly researched *Zeitoun*, the powerful and tightly written *A Hologram for the King* or the emotionally soul-searching *Your Fathers, Where Are They? And the Prophets, Do They Live Forever?* and you will understand what I'm talking about. His latest novel, *Heroes of the Frontier*, with its almost flawless prose is as appealing as his earlier novels but in a totally different way. The book follows the story of a single mother, thirty-eight years old Josie, who has been handed a hard life ever since her childhood. Not only was her childhood spoiled by circumstances but a family disgrace ruined what little was left of it. Her children briefly brought about a semblance of peace to a life that was constantly nagged by turmoil. But it didn't last long. After being sued by a patient and guilt-ridden with the death of a boy who she encouraged to join the military, Josie and her children five-year-old Ana and eight-year-old Paul embarked on a wild trip through the untamed wilderness of Alaska in a story which is exciting but heartbreaking, and captures the quirks of life in all shades and colors. *Heroes of the Frontier* by Dave Eggers may not be the best book that I have ever read but it is Eggers at his contemplative best. It is an adventure story with all its ingredients and more. You have a dysfunctional family, suspense, drama, and danger with picturesque setting and an interesting theme which will keep you turning the pages.

Being the Dave Eggers fan I am, I started reading this book hours shortly after it arrived on my Kindle at midnight last night - from a pre-order many months prior. Immediately, my thoughts were "I'm so happy"!!! "Oh....I'm enjoying this"...."Damn, this is good....I'm so excited!!!!!!" "It's good, it's good! It's GOOD!!!!!!" The surroundings - geography - wilderness - environment as the backdrop of this story is entrancing. Josie has just arrived in Anchorage, Alaska with her two children, Paul and Ana. Josie lost her dentist practice after being sued by a patient's family for not diagnosing oral cancer to a woman name Evelyn, whose condition is terminal. Josie is also grieving the loss of another patient who she supported when he wanted to go overseas and serve the country. He died. She also didn't tell Carl, the kids father that she was leaving Ohio, crossing the state line. Whether or not it was illegal, she hadn't checked. Carl and Josie never married...but it didn't take long for Carl to marry after Josie asked him to move out. Carl is living in Florida with his new

wife. Wow....I'd say right from the start....Josie could be on the brink of collapse....and now she is going to be a single parent - of two 'small' children in unfamiliar territory...in tight quarters to boot. Risky...and scary! With three thousand dollars cash on Josie - (in a velvet bag)...Josie was hoping she was untraceable, untrackable. She rented an RV- "the Chateau",(ha, -more broken down than luxury), for three weeks from an older-retired man- and planned to visit a stepsister, Sam. Josie had never been to Alaska but she was craving a plainspoken and linear existence centered around work, trees, and the sky.

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