



## Red Leaves

By Paullina Simons

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Everyone at Dartmouth College knows Kristina Kim, Conni Tobias, Albert Maplethorpe and Jim Shaw. Attractive, intelligent and poised for brilliant futures, they are campus elite, and ever since freshman years, they've been inseparable--almost like family. Led by the beautiful, spirited and enigmatic Kristina, they share an intimacy others envy.

But it is more than camaraderie that unites the friends. Dark and seductive secrets bind the four to one another--intense passions and simmering tensions that have been building for years. When those passions finally explode the dead of a bitter cold night, a brutal act will be committed--one that will reveal shocking truths about each of them...

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## Red Leaves By Paullina Simons Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

After her heralded but somewhat overwritten first novel, *Tully*, Simons has sharpened her craftsmanship to produce this suspenseful work about four friends at Dartmouth College whose close relationship is coming apart. The disintegration doesn't appear mortal, but it is. During a cold Thanksgiving weekend and its aftermath, Kristina, Jim, Conni and Albert study, play and occasionally sleep together, passionately addicted to each other's company. When Kristina's nude and frozen body is found in a snowbank, having been concealed there for some days, young small-town detective Spencer O'Malley investigates her death. He is drawn into the group's games and lies just as he was drawn to Kristina's compelling liveliness when he met her the day before she was killed. Why did her best friends fail to report her missing? Their answers to his fervent questions reveal a network of hidden secrets and jealousies that have long existed among them. But the hardly surprising solution to the crime doesn't appear until three years later, when the full significance of the title becomes clear. The narrative has striking similarities to the events in Donna Tartt's *The Secret History*, but Simons is not as fluent a writer, nor does the plot carry the philosophical resonance of Tartt's more sophisticated work. Yet Simons handles her characters and setting (both the New Hampshire campus and the moneyed neighborhoods of Greenwich, Conn.) with a certain skill, creating mystery from the ordinary, protected lives of these Ivy League kids, slowly peeling away their deceptions to reveal denial, cowardice and chilling indifference. In doing so, she tells an often engrossing story. BOMC selection; audio rights to Brilliance Audio; author tour.

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From Library Journal

At 21, Kristina Kim is a senior at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire. She is beautiful, pleasant, and the star player on the women's basketball team. Surrounded by her close friends Jim Shaw, Conni Tobias, and Albert Maplethorpe, Kristina has her whole life before her. But a week after Thanksgiving her body is found frozen in the deep snow near her dormitory. Spencer Patrick O'Malley, the detective in charge, coincidentally met Kristina shortly before her death and even had a date with her the week after the holiday. As Spencer conducts his investigation, he uncovers many peculiarities; for example, why did none of her trusted friends report Kristina missing in the nine days previous to the discovery of her body? When Spencer learns that Kristina died leaving \$9 million to her friends, he digs deeper and finds a frightful secret. Simons's (*Tully*, LJ 4/15/94) characterizations are excellent, and she quickly draws the reader deeply into the nuances of the story. Highly recommended for fiction collections. ?Maria A. Perez-Stable, Western Michigan Univ. Libs., Kalamazoo

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From [Booklist](#)

Simons, author of *Tully* (1994), continues her fascination with the importance of friendship in young adulthood and its ability to supplant an impaired family. Beautiful, brainy, and athletic 21-year-old Kristina Sinclair should be having the time of her life at Dartmouth College. However, when she is found dead after one of her midnight jaunts (walking naked along the length of a wall on a snow-covered bridge), the drama of her calamitous past comes to life. Detective Spencer O'Malley, infatuated with Kristina shortly before her death, embarks on a mission to uncover the mysteries surrounding her existence and sudden demise. When he realizes that Kristina's body was left in the snow for days and none of her close friends found her absence alarming, they become potential murder suspects. Although the bond between Kristina and her friends is not fully developed, Simons compensates with an intensive and enthralling treatment of the tragic incident that derails their lives. *Liz Rifken*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Arthur Pineda:**

Have you spare time for a day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent all their spare time to take a go walking, shopping, or went to the Mall. How about open or read a book titled Red Leaves? Maybe it is for being best activity for you. You already know beside you can spend your time together with your favorite's book, you can better than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have additional opinion?

#### **Jerry Smith:**

People live in this new day of lifestyle always aim to and must have the free time or they will get wide range of stress from both daily life and work. So , whenever we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely indeed. People is human not a robot. Then we request again, what kind of activity have you got when the spare time coming to you actually of course your answer may unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is Red Leaves.

#### **Michelle Shaw:**

Red Leaves can be one of your nice books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to get every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing Red Leaves but doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource info that maybe you can be among it. This great information can drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial considering.

#### **Hattie Godfrey:**

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