

# The Obituary Writer: First of Glow



**The Obituary Writer: First of Glow** by Mary Elizabeth Pope

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 3925 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 237 pages

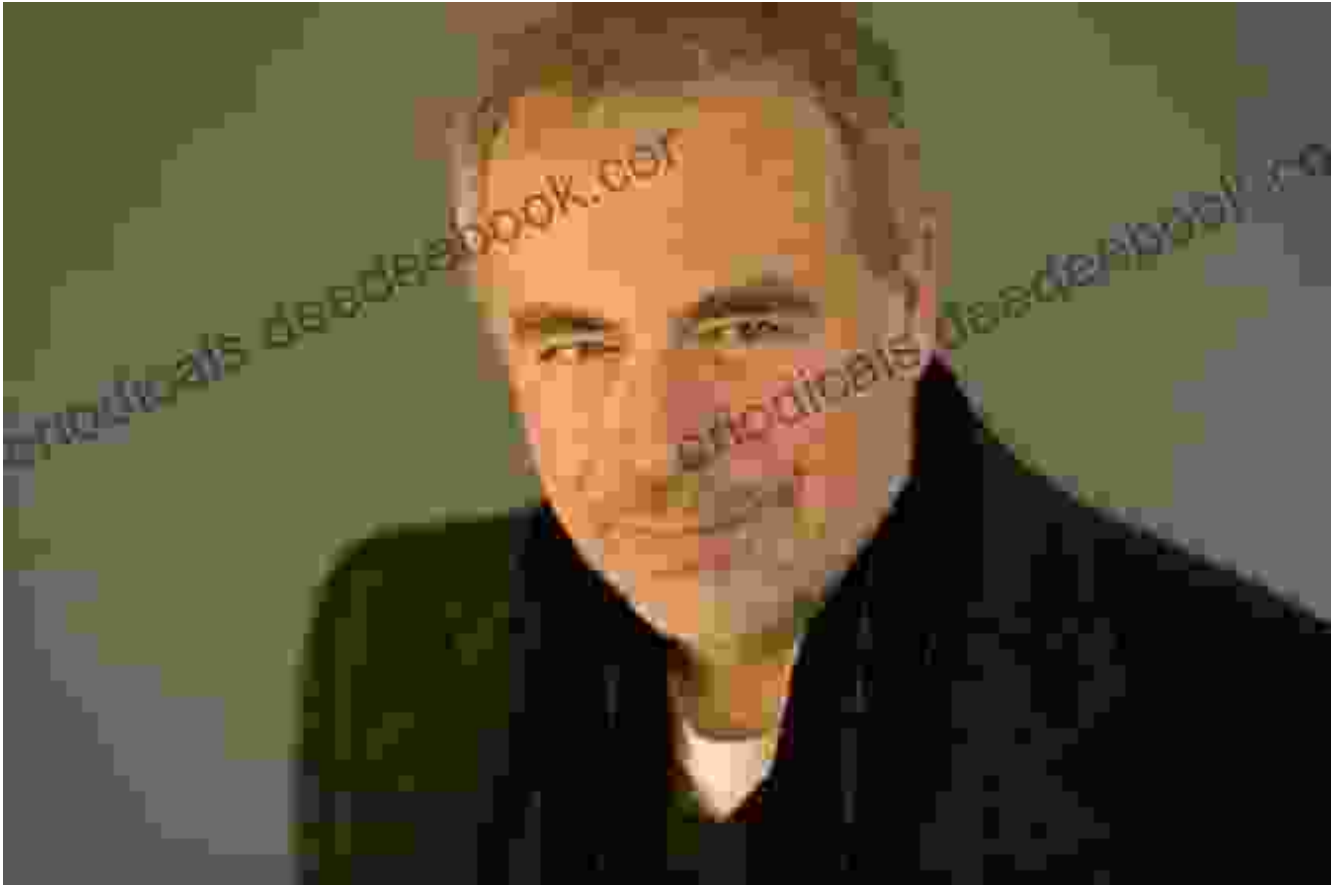
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**By Richard Russo**



The Obituary Writer: First of Glow is a novel by Emmy Award-winning writer Richard Russo. The novel tells the story of a small-town newspaper obituary writer who is forced to confront his own mortality after he is diagnosed with a terminal illness.

The novel's protagonist, Henry Skrimshander, is a 55-year-old widower who has spent his entire career writing obituaries for the local newspaper. Henry is a quiet and solitary man who has always been more comfortable with the dead than the living. However, after he is diagnosed with cancer, Henry begins to see his life in a new light.

With the help of his friends and family, Henry begins to confront his own mortality and to make peace with his past. He also begins to write a

memoir, which he hopes will help his loved ones to remember him after he is gone.

*The Obituary Writer: First of Glow* is a moving and insightful novel about death, grief, and loss. It is also a story about the importance of family and friends, and the power of love.

## **Characters**

- **Henry Skrimshander:** The protagonist of the novel, Henry is a 55-year-old widower who has spent his entire career writing obituaries for the local newspaper.
- **Vivian Skrimshander:** Henry's late wife, who died of cancer several years before the novel begins.
- **Sarah Skrimshander:** Henry and Vivian's daughter, who is now a successful writer living in New York City.
- **Mitch Gemmill:** Henry's best friend and the editor of the local newspaper.
- **Dr. Carol Billingham:** Henry's oncologist, who helps him to cope with his diagnosis and treatment.

## **Themes**

- Death and mortality
- Grief and loss
- Family and friends
- The power of love

## **Reviews**

The Obituary Writer: First of Glow has received critical acclaim from reviewers.

"Russo's latest novel is a masterpiece of characterization and storytelling. . . . A must-read for anyone who has ever lost a loved one." - The New York Times

"A moving and insightful novel about death, grief, and loss. . . . Russo's writing is both beautiful and heartbreaking." - The Boston Globe

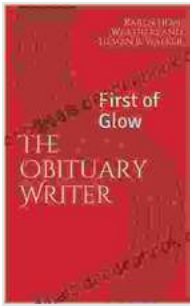
"A powerful and unforgettable novel that will stay with you long after you finish it." - The Washington Post

## **About the Author**

Richard Russo is an Emmy Award-winning writer and the author of several novels, including Empire Falls, The Risk Pool, and Bridge of Sighs. His work has been translated into more than 30 languages.

Russo was born in Johnstown, New York, and grew up in Gloversville, New York. He graduated from Colby College and the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop. He has taught at Colby College, the University of Iowa, and Middlebury College.

Russo is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the National Book Critics Circle. He has received numerous awards for his work, including the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction, and the National Book Award for Fiction.



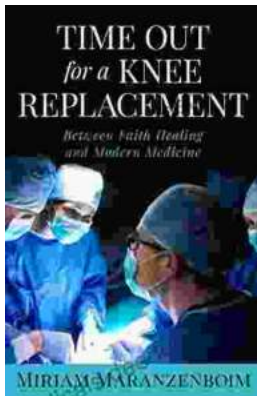
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