

After the Wink and Other Stories



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In this collection of 36 short stories and essays (and two poems!), Carolyn Steele Agosta writes about relationships - man/woman, mother/daughter, friend/enemy, grandparent/grandchild, stranger to stranger. Indeed, Ms. Agosta's stories are all about relationships and the twisting, turning paths they take. If she ever wrote a story about ax-murderers, they'd be a family of ax-murderers, comparing brands of axes and arguing over who Mother liked best. In *After the Wink*, a woman who feels she has lost sight of herself contemplates starting an affair with a man who sees her for - not who she is - but who she thinks she wants to be. Might like to be. Isn't sure she wants to be. Well, you get it. In *Coming to My Senses*, Diane regains her sense of smell only to realize that too many of her other senses have also been clamped down into a narrow existence. *The Last Time Dad Got Out of Jail* looks at father/daughter relationships and the harsh injustices of justice. Two stories, *A Stranger in a Lonely Place* and *Rest Area, I-40*, consider the difficulties of a relationship with God. The author of two novels, *Every Little Step She Takes* and *The Pleasure of Your Company*, Carolyn Steele Agosta celebrates the importance of family and endorses the idea that, be it ever so insanity-inducing, there's no place like Home.