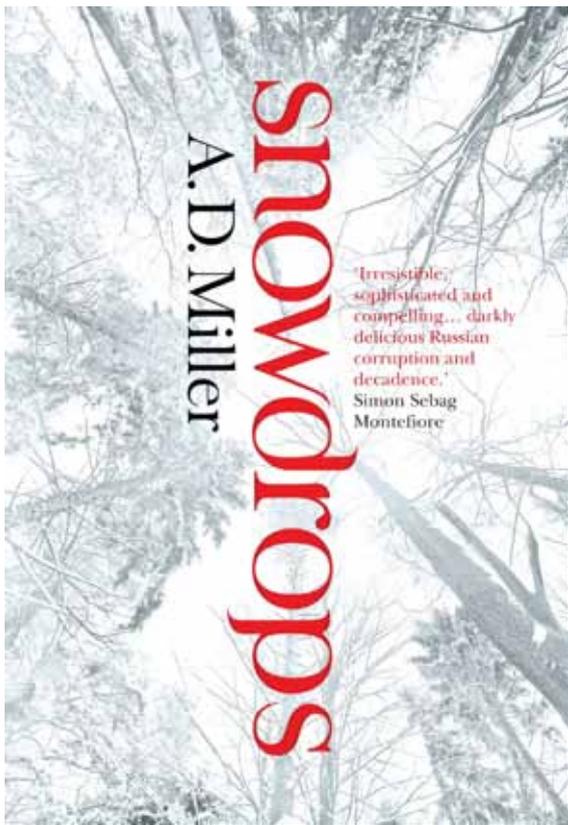




## Reader's Guide



*Snowdrops* is A.D. Miller's first novel

# Snowdrops

## A.D. Miller

Atlantic  
Price £10.99

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**M**  
Man



## About the author

Born in London in 1974, A.D. Miller studied literature at Cambridge and Princeton. He worked as a television producer before joining *The Economist*. From 2004 to 2007 he was the magazine's Moscow correspondent, travelling widely across Russia and the former Soviet Union. He is the author of the acclaimed family history *The Earl of Petticoat Lane* (2006); *Snowdrops* is his first novel. Rights have been sold in 22 countries and it will be translated into 19 languages. He lives in London with his wife and children.

## Snowdrops

A.D. Miller's *Snowdrops* is a riveting psychological drama that unfolds over the course of one Moscow winter, as a young Englishman's moral compass is spun by the seductive opportunities revealed to him by a new Russia: a land of hedonism and desperation, corruption and kindness, magical dachas and debauched nightclubs; a place where secrets - and corpses - come to light only when the deep snows start to thaw... *Snowdrops* is a chilling story of love and moral freefall: of the corruption, by a corrupt society, of a corruptible man. It is taut, intense and has a momentum as irresistible to the reader as the moral danger that first enchants, then threatens to overwhelm, its narrator.

## Discussion points

Do you think that Nick Platt is a good man who turns bad, a bad man to start with, or neither?

Is *Snowdrops* a story about corrupt Russians or corruptible westerners?

Thinking about the attitudes of the lawyers and bankers in the novel, do you think *Snowdrops* is in part a tale of the era before the financial crash?

At the end of the book, Nick says that when he thinks about his last winter in Moscow, "there is some guilt". Is he really sorry for what he did there?

A snowdrop, in Moscow slang, is a corpse concealed by the snow, revealed when the thaw comes. What does the image of the snowdrop symbolise in this novel?

## Themed reading

Martin Cruz Smith *Gorky Park*  
Nikolai Gogol *The Overcoat*  
Martin Amis *House of Meetings*  
Anna Politkovskaya *Putin's Russia*

## Useful links

**The novel's website**  
<http://www.snowdropsthenovel.com>  
**Publisher's website**  
[www.atlantic-books.co.uk](http://www.atlantic-books.co.uk)