

# [PDF] How It All Began: A Novel

## Penelope Lively - pdf download free book

---



### Books Details:

Title: How It All Began: A Novel  
Author: Penelope Lively  
Released: 2012-11-27  
Language:  
Pages: 240  
ISBN: 9780143122647  
ISBN13: 978-0143122647  
ASIN: 0143122649

# [CLICK HERE FOR DOWNLOAD](#)

---

pdf, mobi, epub, azw, kindle

### Description:

**From** \*Starred Review\* The ruling vision of master British novelist Lively's latest delectably tart and agile novel is the Butterfly Effect, which stipulates that "a very small perturbation" can radically alter the course of events. The catalyst here is a London mugging that leaves Charlotte, a passionate reader and former English teacher become adult literacy tutor, with a broken hip. She moves in with her married daughter, Rose, to recuperate. Rose works for Henry, a lord and once-prominent historian, whose ego is as robust as ever but whose mind is faltering as he attempts to launch a BBC documentary to hilarious effect. With Rose out helping her mother, Henry prevails upon his daughter, Marion, an interior designer, to accompany him out of town, where she meets a too-good-

to-be-true client. When she texts her lover, who deals in architectural salvage (tangible history), to postpone a rendezvous, his wife intercepts the message. Charlotte begins tutoring Anton, a smart and soulful East European, who affirms her ardor for language and story and awakens Rose out of her smothering stoicism. Throughout this brilliantly choreographed and surreptitiously poignant chain-reaction comedy of chance and change, Lively (*Family Album*, 2009) shrewdly elucidates the nature of history, the tunnel-visioning of pain and age, and the abiding illumination of reading, which so profoundly nourishes the mind and spirit. --Donna Seaman --This text refers to the edition.

## **Review**

"Here, one of our most talented writers has written an elegant, witty work of fiction, deceptively simple, emotionally and intellectually penetrating, the kind of novel that brings a plot to satisfying closure but whose questions linger long afterward in the reader's mind."

*(The New York Times Book Review)*

"In this mischievous novel, Lively traces the genealogy of randomness that messes up the lives of strangers. . . . Moving skillfully between streams-of-consciousness and a wry omniscient voice, Lively investigates her characters' motives and afterthoughts with precision and tenderness."

*(The New Yorker)*

"*How It All Began* is another virtuoso performance. I found it even more delightful a second time through, appreciating once more the elegance of Lively's design, the grace notes of thematic underpinning shining through. . . . In her own late 70s now, with a legion of regular readers and newcomers with every book, Lively continues to surprise and illuminate, writing to ever more dazzling effect."

*(The Boston Globe)*

"The ever-productive, ever-graceful Penelope Lively returns to several pet themes—memory, history and the powerful role of happenstance in reshaping lives—with a fresh and charming novel. . . . She has provided a golden passport that will sweep you through the border control of other people's lives."

*(The Washington Post)*

"Lively's novel is skillfully constructed, with a thoroughly engaging plot. It also has much to say about the role of chance in human affairs, the aging process and the importance of memories."

*(Minneapolis Star-Tribune)*

"Lively is a consummate storyteller who once again illuminates the ways that the vagaries of chance bring powerful alteration to the ordinary plans of ordinary people. . . . The characters in this novel are, each and all, well drawn and fully conceived. . . . Everyone in this elegantly told tale is connected by chance and the power of story."

*(The Seattle Times)*

"Startling and soothing, uncommonly paced, this is a book to treasure. . . . To a person, each character is wholly developed, and the trajectory of all the chaotically intersecting lives moves forward. Ms. Lively attends to these with great care, and with every detail and keenly observed

moment, the reader accrues more information about where it all leads. There are consequences to missteps and random acts. . . . Three cheers for this gorgeous writing.”

*(The Washington Times)*

“In this densely patterned novel . . . Lively observes how the ‘strange notional movements’ of world economies can ‘wreck individual lives.’ This novel shows that if minor events wreak major effects, so can grand systems shape our own small ends—and our beginnings, too.”

*(San Francisco Chronicle)*

“Wonderful . . . British treasure Penelope Lively examines the effects of a seemingly random crime on a group of London acquaintances and strangers.”

*(Marie Claire)*

“Lives intersect in unexpected and comical ways in this breezy, engrossing novel. . . . Lively infuses her motley cast of characters with a blend of pathos and sharp satire, and though *How It All Began* is light fare, this deftly paced novel remains compulsively readable throughout.”

*(Entertainment Weekly)*

“This delightful, absorbing novel relies on a sophisticated and skillfully realized structure to introduce and then follow its endearingly ordinary characters. . . . The interdependency of the characters’ lives, which they remain largely unaware of, builds intriguing momentum, and the pace quickens as the novel develops. Throughout, prolific Booker Prize-winning author Lively illustrates her knack for charming familiarity and just the right dash of surprise.”

*(Publishers Weekly)*

- 
- Title: *How It All Began: A Novel*
  - Author: Penelope Lively
  - Released: 2012-11-27
  - Language:
  - Pages: 240
  - ISBN: 9780143122647
  - ISBN13: 978-0143122647
  - ASIN: 0143122649

