

READY, SET, OH

Available May 3, 2022

"Josefowicz finds the large truths in our smallest state, leaving an indelible mark on our broader literary landscape. A stunning debut."

— Jacob M. Appel, author of *Einstein's Beach House*

Set against the upheavals of the Sixties, *READY, SET, OH* follows three college students as they confront the limits imposed on them by family, culture, and history.

Providence, Rhode Island, 1967. Tino Battuta returns home from medical school in disgrace and without his draft deferment to attend his grandfather's funeral and to spend time with his sweetheart, Primrose Tirocchi. Primrose, an art student, has an abusive home life and serious mental health challenges. Primrose has plans: she is writing *The Book of Love* with her best friend while dreaming about living in New York and showing her art in galleries. Tino has a dream as well: to escape the war. Complicating matters, Primrose is soon carrying Tino's baby. But marriage isn't one of Tino's dreams. Primrose hooks up with Students for a Democratic Society and with Lupo Light, a budding astronomer with a deferment. Meanwhile, Tino and his best friend fix up a boat that could be their ticket to Canada and out of the Vietnam war. In the end, Primrose and Tino must each choose between fighting for their dreams or following a path imposed on them by their families and community, and by history.

About the author

Diane Josefowicz is a writer, editor, and historian. Her fiction and essays have appeared in *Conjunctions*, *Fence*, *Dame*, *LA Review of Books*, and elsewhere. She is the author, with Jed Z. Buchwald, of two histories of Egyptology, *The Riddle of the Rosetta* (2020) and *The Zodiac of Paris* (2010), both from Princeton University Press; and a novella, *L'Air du Temps* (1985), forthcoming from Regal House. She grew up outside Providence, where she now lives with her family. *Ready, Set, Oh* is her first novel.



ISBN: 978-1-7364033-4-1

(trade paperback)

ISBN: 978-1-7364033-5-8

(eBook/Kindle)

Page count 364

Trim 5"x 8"

Format Paperback &
eBook/Kindle

Price \$18

Publication date 5/3/2022

Pre-order available soon
through Ingram

Subject: Literary fiction

FLEXIBLE PRESS, LLC., Minneapolis, Minnesota

www.flexiblepub.com

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