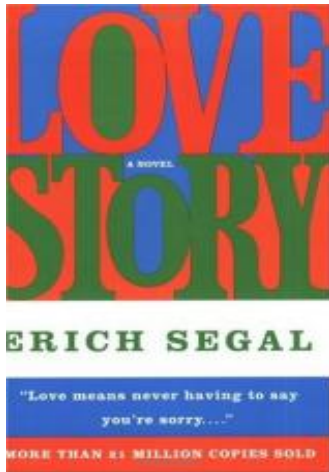


# Love Story

by Erich Segal

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## About the Book

He is Oliver Barrett IV, a rich jock from a stuffy WASP family on his way to a Harvard degree and a successful career in law. She is Jenny Cavillieri, a wisecracking working-class beauty from Rhode Island studying music at Radcliffe.

Opposites in nearly every way, Oliver and Jenny immediately attract, sharing a tumultuous love that defies everything...yet will end too soon. As they face the joys of marriage and life together, they must also confront the random twists of fate that conspire to separate them. Here is a legendary love that will linger in your heart now and forever.

## Discussion Guide

1. **Love Story** opens by revealing a key plot element: "What can you say about a twenty-five-year-old girl who died?" How did this information affect your desire to keep reading?
2. Considering their personalities and upbringings, how are Oliver Barrett and Jenny Cavillieri alike, and how do they differ? What enables them to surmount their differences?
3. How would you describe the parent-child relationships between Oliver and his father, Oliver Barrett III, and Jenny and Phil Cavillieri?
4. What do you think attracts Oliver and Jenny initially, and how does that attraction change and deepen over the course of **Love Story**?
5. How do Oliver and Jenny's wedding and "post-game party" reflect their style as a couple?

6. After Oliver apologizes for his part in the argument he and Jenny have about his family, she tells him: "Love means not ever having to say you're sorry." To what extent do you think this remark holds true?
7. How does Jennifer's illness change her relationship with Oliver?
8. Why is Oliver's reconciliation with his father after Jenny's death significant, and what does it suggest about Jenny's effect on him?

## Author Bio

Erich Segal's first three novels, **Love Story**, **Oliver's Story**, and **Man, Woman and Child**, were all international bestsellers and became major motion pictures. His fourth novel, **The Class**, was a *New York Times* bestseller and won literary prizes in both France and Italy. Segal is also the author of **Doctors**, and most recently, **Acts of Faith** and **Prizes**.

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