

VOGUE

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THE CHAPERONE

By Laura Moriarty



TALES OF THE JAZZ AGE

The flapper years roar to life in a new novel.

As audiences await the debut of **Baz Luhrmann's** *The Great Gatsby* (and with it **Leonardo DiCaprio's** return in a role as a wild-hearted early twentieth-century man), and the characters on *Downton Abbey* brace for change on the eve of the 1920s, it's clear that the decade is roaring again. In her new novel, *The Chaperone* (Riverhead), **Laura Moriarty** treats this golden age with an evocative look at the early life of silent-film icon Louise Brooks, who in 1922 leaves Wichita, Kansas, for New York City in the company of a 36-year-old chaperone, Cora Carlisle. Only fifteen and on her way to study at the famed Denishawn dance school (where she meets a young Martha Graham), Moriarty's Brooks already sports the sleek, ink-black bob that years later becomes her hallmark. Carlisle, who came of age in an era of corsets, and Brooks (bursting with flapper fervor) observe each other across a generational gap, a space that Moriarty fills with a mesmerizing take on women in this pivotal era. —KATHERINE BERNARD

SPOT WATCHING

LOUISE BROOKS IN THE 1929 FILM
THE CANARY MURDER CASE.

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