

Peyton Place Grace Metalious

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Abandoned pregnant and penniless on the teeming streets of London, 16-year-old Amber St. Clare manages, by using her wits, beauty, and courage, to climb to the highest position a woman could achieve in Restoration England—that of favorite mistress of the Merry Monarch, Charles II. From whores and highwaymen to courtiers and noblemen, from events such as the Great Plague and the Fire of London to the intimate passions of ordinary—and extraordinary—men and women, Amber experiences it all. But throughout her trials and escapades, she remains, in her heart, true to the one man she really loves, the one man she can never have. Frequently compared to *Gone with the Wind*, *Forever Amber* is the other great historical romance, outselling every other American novel of the 1940s—despite being banned in Boston for its sheer sexiness. A book to read and reread, this edition brings back to print an unforgettable romance and a timeless masterpiece.

"The small town has become a national icon that circulates widely in literature, culture, and politics as an authentic American space and community. Yet there are surprisingly few critical studies that analyze the small town's centrality to the United States' identity and imagination. In *Main Street and Empire*, Ryan Poll addresses this need, arguing that the small town, as evoked by the image of "Main Street," is not a relic of the past but rather a metaphorical screen upon which America's "everyday" stories and subjects are projected on both a national and global scale. Bringing together a broad selection of texts—from Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*, Grace Metalious's *Peyton Place*, and Peter Weir's *The Truman Show* to the speeches of William McKinley, Ronald Reagan, Sarah Palin, and Barack Obama--Poll examines how the small town is used to imagine and reproduce the nation throughout the twentieth- and into the twenty-first century. He contends that the dominant small town, despite its innocent, nostalgic appearance, is central to the development of the U.S. empire and global capitalism." --Publisher description. This moving novel follows Louis Charles Lynch ("Lucy") as he and his wife of forty years are about to embark on a vacation to Italy. Lucy is sixty years old and has spent his entire life in Thomaston, New York. Like his late, beloved father, Lucy is an optimist, though he's had plenty of reasons not to be—chief among them his mother, still indomitably alive. Yet it was her shrewdness, combined with that Lynch optimism, that had propelled them years ago to the right side of the tracks and created an "empire" of convenience stores about to be passed on to the next generation. Lucy's oldest friend, once a rival for his wife's affection, leads a life in Venice far removed from Thomaston. In fact, the exact nature of their friendship is one of the many mysteries Lucy hopes to untangle in the "history" he's writing of his hometown and family. And with his story interspersed with that of Noonan, the native son who'd fled so long ago, the destinies building up around both of them (and Sarah, too) are relentless, constantly surprising, and utterly revealing. *Bridge of Sighs*, from the beloved Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Empire Falls*, is a moving novel about small-town America that expands Russo's widely heralded achievement in ways both familiar and astonishing.

Few things change in a small town like *Peyton Place*, but the past has a tendency to rear its ugly head at the most inconvenient times. *Return to Peyton Place* reunites the reader with Allison MacKenzie, now a successful writer in New York, and working on her debut novel; her mother Constance, now happily married; and her friend Selena Cross, free from the torments of her abusive step father. All three women are, by any reasonable standard, happy. But things become complicated when Allison's novel, based heavily on the town—and not in a flattering way—attracts the ire of their friends and neighbours. *Return to Peyton Place* was adapted into a daytime soap opera and two made-for-television films. Penguin Random House Canada is proud to bring you classic works of literature in e-book form, with the highest quality production values. Find more today and rediscover the books you never knew you loved.

A Biography of "Peyton Place"

The 'Peyton Place' Murder

The girl from Peyton place

Unveiling Kate Chopin

Challenging Our Freedom to Read

First published in 1958 and then turned into a film of the same name in 1959 featuring Troy Donahue, Sandra Dee, Dorothy McGuire and Richard Egan, this classic romance is available for the first time in ebook format. Ken and Sylvia met twice at the Summer Place. The first summer they were in their teens. Their intimacy was without love. They'd met too early. The second summer they shouldn't have fallen in love...and did. They were in their thirties-married-each

with children. Had they met too late? Ken and Sylvia decided to break two marriages to make the one they wanted together. They almost broke a third that hadn't even started yet. Because Ken's daughter and Sylvia's son met at the Summer Place. They were in their teens. For them, it was neither too early nor too late. This novel is about how marriages are made on earth-and unmade. It is about the price people pay for changing their minds about love.

This true crime history examines the surprising connection between an infamous small-town murder and the bestselling novel it inspired. Born and raised in Manchester, New Hampshire, Grace Metalious shocked the nation in 1956 with *Peyton Place*, her sexually charged debut novel about murder in a small town. It spawned a series of novels, two Hollywood movies, and a long-running television series on ABC. It also made Metalious a pariah in her hometown, where she became tabloid fodder until her untimely death at the age of thirty-nine. Unknown to most readers, the fictional story was inspired by a real crime known as "The Sheep Pen Murder," which took place in Gilmanton, New Hampshire, in the late 1940s. Now historian Renee Mallett skillfully weaves together the lives of Metalious and Barbara Roberts, the confessed killer behind the Sheep Pen Murder. In *The "Peyton Place" Murder*, Mallett explores what happens when true crime and literature meet.

Two best-selling and controversial novels--*Peyton Place* and *Return to Peyton Place*--appear in an omnibus edition that captures the sins and scandals, passions and jealousies, of a small New England town.

In this lively account of the writing, publication, and legacy of the 1956 bestselling novel, "Peyton Place," Ardis Cameron tells how the story of a patricide in a small New England village became a cultural...

Main Street and Empire

Banned Books

a biography of Grace Metalious

Unsettling Origins Or the Narrative of Samuel Peyton As Told by Grace Metalious

Local Souls

John Cotter returns home to Leah, New Hampshire after World War II and several years traveling in Europe, but still feels alienated from his family and neighbors. New England is so compact that even casual visitors can sample its diverse history in just a short time. But travelers and residents alike can also pass right by historic buildings, landscapes, and iconic objects without noticing them. *New England's Hidden Past* presents the region's history in an engaging new way: through 58 lists of historic places and things usually hidden in plain sight in all six New England states. Pay attention and you'll find stone structures built by Indians, soaring churches financed by Franco-American millworkers, and public high schools started by colonists when New England was still a howling wilderness. You may have seen them, but you probably don't know the story behind them. *New England's Hidden Past* takes readers to the grave sites of revolutionary heroines, Loyalist house museums, as well as, Revolutionary taverns and colonial inns. It takes them to Indian trails, the oldest houses, historic department stores, ghost towns, and Little Italys. Each unique, interesting location or object has a counterpart in the other five New England states. A perfect guide to keep in the car and refer to when traveling New England or planning a trip.

This vivid New York Times bestseller about 1950s America from a Pulitzer Prize – winning journalist is “ an engrossing sail across a pivotal decade ” (Time). Joe McCarthy. Marilyn Monroe. The H-bomb. Ozzie and Harriet. Elvis. Civil rights. It's undeniable: The fifties were a defining decade for America, complete with sweeping cultural change and political upheaval. This decade is also the focus of David Halberstam's triumphant *The Fifties*, which stands as an enduring classic and was an instant New York Times bestseller upon its publication. More than a survey of the decade, it is a masterfully woven examination of far-reaching change, from the unexpected popularity of Holiday Inn to the marketing savvy behind McDonald's expansion. A meditation on the staggering influence of image and rhetoric, *The Fifties* is vintage Halberstam, who was hailed by the *Denver Post* as “ a lively, graceful writer who makes you . . . understand how much of our time was born in those years. ” This ebook features an extended biography of David Halberstam.

Ms. Mentor, that uniquely brilliant and irascible intellectual, is your all-knowing guide through the jungle that is academia today. In the last decade Ms. Mentor's mailbox has been filled to overflowing with thousands of plaintive epistles, rants, and gossipy screeds. A mere fraction has appeared in her celebrated monthly online and print Q&A columns for the *Chronicle of Higher Education*; her readers' colorful and rebellious ripostes have gone unpublished—until now. Hearing the call for a follow-up to the wildly successful Ms. Mentor's *Impeccable Advice for Women in Academia*, Ms. Mentor now broadens her counsel to include academics of the male variety. Ms. Mentor knows all about foraging for jobs, about graduate school stars and serfs, and about mentors and underminers, backbiters and whiners. She answers burning questions: Am I too old, too working class, too perfect, too blonde? When should I reproduce? When do I speak up, laugh, and spill the secrets I've gathered? Do I really have to erase my own blackboard? Does academic sex have to be reptilian? From the ivory tower that affords her an unparalleled view of the academic landscape, Ms. Mentor dispenses her perfect wisdom to the huddled masses of professorial newbies, hardbitten oldies, and anxious midcareerists. She gives etiquette lessons to academic couples and the tough-talking low-down on adjunct positions. She tells you what to wear, how to make yourself popular, and how to decode academic language. She introduces you to characters you must know: Professor Pelvic, Dr. Iron Fist, Mr. Upstart Whelp, Dean Titan, Professor McShameless. In this volume Ms. Mentor once again shares her wide-ranging unexpurgated wisdom, giving tips on bizarre writing rituals, tenure diaries, and time management (Exploding Head Syndrome). She decodes department meetings and teaches you the tricks for getting stellar teaching evaluations. Raw, shocking, precise, clever, absurd—Ms. Mentor has it all.

Dinner with the Schnabels

The True Crime Story Behind The Novel That Shocked The Nation

A Summer Place

360 Overlooked, Underappreciated and Misunderstood Landmarks

The Land of Mango Sunsets

This is a study of the collaborative creation behind literary works that are usually considered to be written by a single author. Although most theories of interpretation and editing depend on a concept of single authorship, many works are actually developed by more than one author. Stillinger examines case histories from Keats, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Mill, and T.S. Eliot, as well as from American fiction, plays, and films, demonstrating that multiple authorship is a widespread phenomenon. He shows that the reality of how an author produces a work is often more complex than is expressed in the romantic notion of the author as solitary genius. The cumulative evidence revealed in this engaging study indicates that collaboration deserves to be included in any account of authorial achievement.

50 anni dopo la prima edizione torna Peyton Place , il romanzo che ha cambiato per sempre la cultura di massa, raccontando il lato oscuro di un'epoca grazie al fascino proibito delle sue vicende, alla miscela di scandalo, pulsioni profonde, sesso e morbosit à . Prima di Twin Peaks e Melrose Place , prima di Sex and the City e Desperate Housewives , questo romanzo ha svelato la sensualit à e il peccato della provincia americana, con una forza e un impatto dirompenti.

The last novel to be published before her death, Grace Metalious ’ s No Adam in Eden explores women ’ s capacity—or incapacity—to love. At the centre of this story about three generations of women is Angelique de Montigny, the beautiful but spoiled daughter of Armand and Monique. Convinced of her matchless beauty and charm, Angelique proves herself incapable of love, to the detriment of her husband and her children. HarperPerennial Classics brings great works of literature to life in digital format, upholding the highest standards in ebook production and celebrating reading in all its forms. Look for more titles in the HarperPerennial Classics collection to build your digital library.

This book contains an essay on Grace Metalious' Peyton Place.

Driving Backwards

The Unauthorized Backstory of Peyton Place

Ms. Mentor's New and Ever More Impeccable Advice for Women and Men in Academia

A Means of Social Criticism?

The Television Series (Revised Edition)

A look back at the TV novelization of the best seller that inspired two feature films, a daytime drama and two network television movies, in addition to the popular nighttime series.

Mount Desert Island has attracted scoundrels and scandals for more than 100 years. Steady as the tide, every summer brings a rush of summer residents from eastern cities to the island and nothing thrilled them so much as a good scandal. In its heyday, Mount Desert was a wild oasis where the summercators could carry on in comparative privacy. Today, unfortunately, unlike Las Vegas, what happened on Mount Desert doesn ’ t always stay on Mount Desert. The scandals that were the talk of the picnics and outings that filled the summer visitors' days are brought back to life in Bar Harbor Babylon. Murderers, thieves, cheaters and scammers have all made their mark on the tiny towns of Mount Desert. This book will take the reader on a tour of the misadventures and misfortunes that punctuate the island's wealthy and privileged past.

Dramatizes the lives, problems, and failings of the people of a small New England town

Newly arrived in Cooper Station, a small, New England town, Chris Pappas and his wife, Lisa, struggle to join the insular society that views them as outsiders. While Chris sets out to establish himself as a teacher, Lisa enters into a clandestine relationship with Anthony Cooper, a descendent of the town founder. But it is only when the pair run afoul of Doris Palmer—a woman desperate to keep her secret—that they feel the true weight of the collar that constrains Cooper Station ’ s citizens. Although redolent of the same themes as Peyton Place and Return to Peyton Place, Grace Metalious ’ s The Tight White Collar did not achieve the same level of success as its predecessors. HarperPerennial Classics brings great works of literature to life in digital format, upholding the highest standards in ebook production and celebrating reading in all its forms. Look for more titles in the HarperPerennial Classics collection to build your digital library.

The Fifties

Once Is Not Enough

Unbuttoning America

Return to Peyton Place

Inside Peyton Place: The Life of Grace Metalious

Provides information on banned books and ways to organize programs in support of the First Amendment.

'I loved every page of this funny, warm, delightful novel!' LIANE MORIARTY 'A smart, funny novel about love, marriage and family.' Weekend Australian 'With sharply observed characters and comic set-pieces to make you laugh out loud, Dinner with the Schnabels is great fun to read and casts a more mature and acerbic eye on modern masculinity.' Sydney Morning Herald, Fiction Pick of the Week You can marry into them, but can you ever really be one of them? A novel about marriage, love and family. Things haven't gone well for Simon Larsen lately. He adores his wife, Tansy, and his children, but since his business failed and he lost the family home, he can't seem to get off the couch. His larger-than-life in-laws, the Schnabels - Tansy's mother, sister and brother - won't get off his case. To keep everyone happy, Simon needs to do one little job: he has a week to landscape a friend's backyard for an important Schnabel family event. But as the week progresses, Simon is derailed by the arrival of an unexpected house guest. Then he discovers Tansy is harbouring a secret. As his world spins out of control, who can Simon really count on when the chips are down? Life with the Schnabels is messy, chaotic and joyful, and Dinner with the Schnabels is as heartwarming as it is outrageously funny. Praise for Dinner with the Schnabels: 'Laughs all the way . . . a charmer of a book.' Daily Telegraph 'Dinner with the Schnabels is a contemporary comic masterpiece. Practically every page boasts lines redolent of humour, wit and sarcasm that will make you snigger if not laugh out loud.' ArtsHub 'Hilarious.' The Bookshelf (ABC Radio) 'Told with great humour and pathos. It is a tonic and a delight.' PIP WILLIAMS, author of The Dictionary of Lost Words 'Just delightful . . . a modern comedy of manners that pokes affectionate fun at contemporary Australia - all with Toni's trademark warmth, sensitivity and tenderness. I am pressing it into the hands of everyone I know.' KATE FORSYTH 'Toni Jordan at her finest - brilliantly observed and highly entertaining. I inhaled her words then snorted them out laughing!' JOANNA NELL 'Smart, tender, wise and hilarious. This is a dinner I didn't want to leave.' KATHRYN HEYMAN 'A modern Melbourne Oscar Wilde comedy of family conundrums, perfect for David Nicholls and Beth O'Leary fans!' DANIELLE BINKS 'As heartwarming as it is outrageously funny.' Herald Sun 'A sparkling, clever novel . . . Toni Jordan is at her best here, rivalling Liane Moriarty (a fan) with her comic skewering of social mores, pacy plot, sharp characterisations and sly questioning of contemporary values' In Daily 'The only criticism I could possibly level at this novel is that it was near-impossible to put down . . . Dinner with the Schnabels is a 5-star read for sure. Run, don't walk.' The AU Review 'This delicious story about family will be Jordan's most-loved novel yet . . . Dinner with the Schnabels just makes my life feel easier - it makes me feel seen.' Readings 'Once again proving why Jordan is one of this

country's most exceptional writers.' Better Reading Praise for Toni Jordan: 'Laugh-out-loud funny.' The Australian Women's Weekly 'Crisp and clever.' Saturday Paper 'A moving comedy.' Who Weekly 'An emotionally rich domestic drama.' The Australian 'Pitch-perfect blend of intelligence, compassion and humour.' The Guardian

The continuing story of Peyton Place is once again available in paperback

This big, richly diverse novel of life in a small New England town teems with incident, vitality and character. Its people are presented in the full dimensions of their lives--their corruptions and kindnesses, their high hopes and secret drives.

Rampole Place

The Tight White Collar

Dirty Whites and Dark Secrets

Murder, Misfortune, and Scandal on Mount Desert Island

The Fictional Small Town in the Age of Globalization

Grace Metalious, born and raised in Manchester, New Hampshire, came from humble beginnings. A former mill worker, mother of three, and school principal's wife, she would shock the nation in 1956 with the publication of Peyton Place, her first novel about a murder in a small town. Quickly becoming the best-selling book of its time, the sexually-charged book spawned sequels, two Hollywood movies, and a long-running television series on ABC starring Mia Farrow and Ryan O'Neal. It also made Metalious a pariah in the town where she lived, and tabloid fodder for years, ultimately leading to the her untimely death at the age of 39. Unknown to most readers, behind the fictional story about the lives and scandals of residents of a small New England town Metalious called Peyton Place, lay a dark secret based on fact. The story was, in part, inspired by a true life crime known in the press as "The Sheep Pen Murder," which took place in Gilmanton, New Hampshire in the late 1940s. In THE 'PEYTON PLACE' MURDER: The True Crime Story Behind The Novel That Shocked The Nation historian Renee Mallett skillfully weaves together the lives of Metalious and Barbara Roberts, the confessed killer behind The Sheep Pen Murder. In her book, Mallett shines a new light on the inspiration behind the shocking best-selling novel and explores what happens when true crime and literature meet.

Gilmanton was briefly the most famous town in America. Today the town, nestled amongst the hills of Central New Hampshire and along the curve of the Suncook River, is a microcosm of the changing ways and enduring values of rural life in the twenty-first century. Driving Backwards is a poignant exploration of the vividness of the everyday. Across twenty years of summers, Jessica Lander has come to know Gilmanton and its residents. Valerie, who tends sixtyfive goats,home-schools ten children and crafts artisanal goat cheese. Jim and Cheryl, who raise miniature horses, flocks of chickens and long eared rabbits all on two tiny acres. Duncan, a third generation farmer, who harvests thousands of pound of wild blueberries each year summer. Chuck, who runs a six-generation dairy farm. Lander's guide is David Bickford—a fireman, carpenter, town selectman and nearly one hundred year old storyteller. Through richly observed portraits and elegant prose Lander elevates the ordinary, and encourages a deeper appreciation for the stories that surrounding us. With grace, humor, affection and insight, Driving Backwards blends three hundred years of colorful history with the contemporary lives, seasonal rhythms and varied landscape of modern small-town America.

Her sleazy husband left her for a lingerie model who's barely more than a teenager, and her kids are busy with their own lives. But before Miriam Elizabeth Swanson can work herself up into a true snit about it all, her newest tenant, Liz, arrives from Birmingham with plenty of troubles of her own. And then Miriam meets a man named Harrison, who makes her laugh, makes her cry, and makes her feel like a brand-new woman. It's almost too much for one Manhattan quasi-socialite to handle—so Miriam's escaping to the enchanted and mysterious land of Sullivans Island, deep in the low country of South Carolina, a place where she can finally get her head on straight—and figure out that it's not pride that's going to keep her warm at night . . .

Switch off those TVs, kill your mobiles and settle down with the most controversial book ever written. Once denounced as 'wicked', 'sordid', 'cheap' 'moral filth', PEYTON PLACE was the top read of its time and sold millions of copies worldwide. Way before TWIN PEAKS, SURVIVOR or BIG BROTHER, the curtains were twitching in the mythical New England town of Peyton Place, and this soapy story exposed the dirty secrets of 1950s small-town America: incest, abortion, adultery, repression and lust. Take a peek ...

Bridge of Sighs

Sexuality in Grace Metalious' 'Peyton Place'

Peyton Place

No Adam In Eden

Bar Harbor Babylon

A scorching memoir of a love affair with an addict, weaving personal reckoning with psychology and history to understand the nature of addiction, codependency, and our appetite for obsessive love “ Ferocious . . . glints with hard-won truths . . . Aron lights a path through the darkness of her past toward a better future. ” —Los Angeles Times NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY PARADE “ The disease he has is addiction, ” Nina Renata Aron writes of her boyfriend, K. “ The disease I have is loving him. ” Their love affair is dramatic, urgent, overwhelming—an intoxicating antidote to the long, lonely days of early motherhood. Soon after they get together, K starts using again, and years of relapses and broken promises follow. Even as his addiction deepens, she stays, convinced she is the one who can get him sober. After an adolescence marred by family trauma and addiction, Nina can ’ t help but feel responsible for those suffering around her. How can she break this pattern? If she leaves K, has she failed him? Writing in prose at once unflinching and acrobatic, Aron delivers a piercing memoir of romance and addiction, drawing on intimate anecdotes as well as academic research to crack open the long-feminized and overlooked phenomenon of codependency. She shifts between visceral, ferocious accounts of her affair with K and introspective analyses of the part she plays in his addictions, as well as defining moments in the history of codependency, from the temperance movement to the formation of Al-Anon to more recent research in the

psychology of addiction. Good Morning, Destroyer of Men ' s Souls is a blazing, bighearted book that illuminates and adds nuance to the A Memoir of Women, Addiction, and Love messy tethers between femininity, enabling, and love. Praise for Good Morning, Destroyer of Men's Souls " Unflinching . . . Aron writes Good Morning, Destroyer of Men's Souls in gripping prose about the thrills and dangers of her own substance use and relationship with K—their weak-kneed passion and wolfish needs, as well as her guilt-ridden enabling and savior-complex optimism. " —San Francisco Chronicle " In Nina Renata Aron ' s scorching, unvarnished memoir, an addiction story gets spun from the perspective of the helpless partner, the lover too stuck in a dangerous dynamic to find her way out. " —Entertainment Weekly " A raw and eloquently unflinching memoir. " —Kirkus Reviews Chronicles the life of American author Kate Chopin and discusses how her novel "The Awakening" was viewed by society when it was first published, why she is considered a feminist, how her personal life influenced her writing, and other related topics.

"I am trapped,' she screamed silently, no one in the room hearing her inner pleas. 'I am trapped in a cage of poverty and mediocrity and If I don't get out I will die.' Only the sound of her typewriter could be heard that night echoing throughout the shack that she had called home. Grace Metalious wrote the stories that no one dared to write before that time. A midcentury tale of small-town life in New England to the hustle and bustle of New York City and to the unforgiving film studios of Hollywood, her story unfolds. Her infamous novel Peyton Place catapulted her from obscurity to the top of the literary world. This is a classic scenario where art imitates life and so does this novel. The young author coping with literary and financial success, without realizing it creates her own Peyton Place where she herself had to reside. The seasons of Grace is a fictional account based on the author's life; sometimes dark, sometimes shocking, but always authentic"--Back cover.

For Peyton Place: A Haiku Soap Opera, poet David Trinidad watched all 514 episodes of the infamous 1960s 'adult' primetime soap opera and wrote a haiku for everyone. Fraught relationships, courtroom cliffhangers and sensational storylines are condensed into 17-syllable episodes, as stereotypic characters weather the passing TV seasons. This haiku 'soap epic' is ingenious, funny and totally addictive.

A Haiku Soap Opera

Town Burning

Peyton Place (versione italiana)

The Seasons of Grace

Study of the social and political life during the years 1906 to 1912 in the middlewest.

The spectacular bestseller from the author of VALLEY OF THE DOLLS. Once upon a time, the entertainment industry was a world that never slept. Magazine editors, models, pop stars and all the rest visited " vitamin doctors " to get the shots that would allow them to stay up all night and then work all day—in offices decorated with beanbag chairs and Calderesque mobiles... In this world, January Wayne goes from poor-little-rich-girl to grown-up swinger, as she searches New York and Los Angeles for a guy just like Mike Wayne, the glamorous movie producer, who also happens to be her father... " SPECTACULARLY SUCCESSFUL. There are plane crashes, drug orgies, motorcycle accidents, mass rapes, attempted abortions, suicide, evil doctors and other assorted activities; and I couldn ' t put the damned thing down. " —Library Journal " [Susann ' s] pulp poetry resonates to this day. WITH HER FORMULA OF SEX, DRUGS, AND SHOW BUSINESS, Susann didn ' t so much capture the tenor of her times as she did predict the Zeitgeist of ours. " —Detour

Seminar paper from the year 2010 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 2,0, University of Hannover (Englisches Seminar), course: Middlebrow Literature, language: English, abstract: The (in 1956) outrageous contents of the novel Peyton Place, of which a lot are of a sexual kind, were the reason why the book became famous. The main characters, Allison MacKenzie, her mother, Constance MacKenzie, and Selena Cross are introduced one after another, as well as a couple of other characters, that live in the small town called Peyton Place. The essay examines the sexual relations of the characters and to what extent these convey social criticism.

" This book underscores what we have long known—Gurganus stands among the best writers of our time. " —Ann Patchett Through memorable language and bawdy humor, Gurganus returns to his mythological Falls, North Carolina, home of Widow. This first work in a decade offers three novellas mirroring today ' s face-lifted South, a zone revolutionized around freer sexuality, looser family ties, and superior telecommunications, yet it celebrates those locals who have chosen to stay local. In doing so, Local Souls uncovers certain old habits—adultery, incest, obsession—still very much alive in our New South, a "Winesburg, Ohio" with high-speed Internet. Wells Tower says of Gurganus, "No living writer knows more about how humans matter to each other." Such ties of love produce hilarious, if wrenching, complications: "Fear Not" gives us a banker's daughter seeking the child she was forced to surrender when barely fifteen, only to find an adult rescuer she might have invented. In "Saints Have Mothers," a beloved high school valedictorian disappears during a trip to Africa, granting her ambitious mother a postponed fame that turns against her. And in a dramatic "Decoy," the doctor-patient friendship between two married men breaks toward desire just as a biblical flood shatters their neighborhood and rearranges their fates. Gurganus finds fresh pathos in ancient tensions: between marriage and Eros, parenthood and personal fulfillment. He writes about erotic hunger and social embarrassment with Twain's knife-edged glee. By loving Falls, Gurganus dramatizes the passing of Hawthorne ' s small-town nation into those Twitter-nourished lives we now expect and relish. Four decades ago, John Cheever pronounced Allan Gurganus "the most technically gifted and morally responsive writer of his generation." Local Souls confirms Cheever ' s prescient faith. It deepens the luster of Gurganus ' s reputation for compassion and laughter. His black comedy leaves us with lasting affection for his characters and the aching aftermath of human consequences. Here is a universal work about a village.

Multiple Authorship and the Myth of Solitary Genius

Forever Amber

Peyton Place and Return to Peyton Place