

# Small Ceremonies The Box Garden Swann

Unveiling the Magic of Words: A Review of "**Small Ceremonies The Box Garden Swann**"

In some sort of defined by information and interconnectivity, the enchanting power of words has acquired unparalleled significance. Their ability to kindle emotions, provoke contemplation, and ignite transformative change is really awe-inspiring. Enter the realm of "**Small Ceremonies The Box Garden Swann**," a mesmerizing literary masterpiece penned with a distinguished author, guiding readers on a profound journey to unravel the secrets and potential hidden within every word. In this critique, we shall delve in to the book is central themes, examine its distinctive writing style, and assess its profound effect on the souls of its readers.

**Liminal Spaces** Alex Ramon 2009-10-02 This book offers a comprehensive reassessment of the work of Carol Shields. Arguing against enduring conceptions of Shields's fiction as celebratory domestic miniaturism, the study presents her work as more expansive and equivocal than has sometimes been recognised,

reading her texts as "liminal spaces" situated on a series of formal and thematic borders. Close attention is paid to Shields's stylistic experimentation, to her subversions of auto/biography and historiography, and to the significance of her critical writing, while works which have previously received very little analysis, such as her early poetry collections, are

also examined. Intertextual links between Shields's work and that of a range of other writers including Phillip Larkin, Iris Murdoch, Alice Munro and Margaret Atwood are identified and explored, and the study also draws extensively on manuscript materials which give an insight into Shields's working methods and extend debate about her experiments with narrative perspective and genre-mixing.

**More Book Lust** Nancy Pearl 2009-09-29

Whether you're searching for the perfect read for yourself or for a friend, More Book Lust offer eclectic recommendations unlike those in any other reading guide available. In this followup to the bestselling Book Lust, popular librarian, Nancy Pearl, offers a fresh collection of 1,000 reading recommendations in more than 120 thematic, intelligent and wholly entertaining reading lists. For the friend wanting to leave her job: "Living Your Dream" offers good armchair dreaming books about people who have left stodgy jobs to do what they love. Are you a

budding chef? "Fiction For Foodies" includes books that sneak in a recipe or two along with a tantalizing plot. For the James Bond wannabe: "Crime is a Globetrotter" features crime novels set in various locations around the world such as Tibet, Sweden, and Sicily. In the book's introduction, Pearl jokes, "If we were at a twelve-step meeting together, I would have to stand up and say, 'Hi, I'm Nancy P., and I'm a readaholic.'" Booklist magazine plays off this obsession while echoing a sentiment of Nancy Pearl's fans everywhere: "A self-confessed 'readaholic,' Pearl lets us benefit from her addiction. May she never seek recovery." Indeed.

**Fire Beneath the Cauldron** Geoff Hancock 1991 A collection of 22 short fictions from some of Canada's finest authors, including Douglas Glover, Sharon Butala, Marlene Nourbese Philip, Sean Virgo, and Dianne Warren. "This collection celebrates the short story in its incredible variety .... The edition aptly describes the stories

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as a self-portrait, a cross-section of the Canadian imagination." Canadian Materials.

**The Box Garden** Carol Shields 1996-01-01 A woman returns home--and rediscovers her past Charleen is a divorcee in her mid-thirties, eking out a living as a poet and part-time assistant for an obscure scientific journal. Although she is quick to count her blessings--a son whom she loves, a blossoming relationship with a man, and friends who care about her--Charleen wonders how her life turned out the way it did. Is she a failure? Or is she still struggling to escape the limited world of her childhood? Her search for answers is as exasperating as the meager paycheck she takes to the bank every week. But when she returns home to attend her mother's wedding, Charleen is caught up in a series of unexpected--and terrifying--events. And in coping with these big and small emergencies, she is forced to come to terms with the life she has led and the decisions she has made.

**The Collected Stories of Carol Shields** Carol

Shields 2010-07-23 Carol Shields, the Pulitzer Prize-winner author of the novels Unless, The Stone Diaries and Larry's Party was also a renowned short story writer. Now readers can enjoy all three of Carol Shields's short story collections - Various Miracles, The Orange Fish and Dressing Up for the Carnival - in one volume, along with the previously unpublished story, "Segue," her last. With an eye for the smallest of telling details - a woman applying her lipstick so "the shape of pale raspberry fits perfectly the face she knows by heart" - and a willingness to explore the most fundamental relationships and the wildest of coincidences, Shields illuminates the absurdities and miracles that grace all our lives. From a couple who experiences a world without weather, to the gentle humor of an elderly widow mowing her lawn while looking back on a life of passion, to a young woman abandoned by love and clinging to a "slender handrail of hope," Shields's enormous sympathy for her characters permeates her

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fiction. Playful, charming, acutely observed and generous of spirit, this collection of stories will delight and enchant Carol Shields fans everywhere. Excerpt from *The Collected Stories of Carol Shields* Let me say it: I am an aging woman of despairing good cheer — just look into the imaginary camera lens and watch me as I make the Sunday morning transaction over the bread, then the flowers, my straw tote from our recent holiday in Jamaica, my smile, my upturned sixty-seven-year-old voice, a voice so crying-out and clad with familiarity that, in fact, I can't hear it anymore myself, thank God; my ears are blocked. Lately everything to do with my essence has become transparent, neutral: Good morning, Jane Sexton smiles to one and all (such a friendly, down-to-earth woman). "What a perfect fall day." "What glorious blooms!" "Why Mr. Henning, this bread is still warm! Can this be true?"

**The Box Garden** Carol Shields 2011-09-28 Until events run wildly out of hand, Charleen Forrest

manages to cope with the uncertainties of a failed marriage, trying to live her own life and raise a son on her frugal income. She is not unaware of the hazards: "family, banktellers, ex-husband, landladies, bus drivers... men on the make who want her to lie back and accept (this is what you need, baby), friends who feel sorry for her." Her resourcefulness is a delight; her uncanny observations and surprising irony reveal a witty, wry edge that is apt to make you laugh out loud.

**Coming to Canada** Carol Shields 1992-10-15 In a record breaking "hat trick," Carol Shields was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for her novel, *The Stone Diaries*, the Canadian Governor General's Literary Award for fiction, and was shortlisted for Britain's prestigious Booker Prize. Carleton University Press is pleased to release a newly designed edition of her poetry book, *Coming to Canada*, first published by CUP in 1992. This collection of nearly 60 poems includes the key "Coming to Canada" sequence, and is

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supplemented with selections from two previous volumes, *Others* (1972) and *Intersect* (1974). Among the finest writers in the world, Carol Shields has won a large and loyal audience as a witty, compassionate and insightful novelist, short story writer, playwright and poet. She is the author of 15 books. Arriving in Canada from the United States in 1957, Shields is a long-time resident of Winnipeg, Manitoba, where she is Chancellor of the University of Winnipeg.

**Various Miracles** Carol Shields 2010-10-29 The stories collected here offer an entrancing look at some of the various miracles of everyday life, the quirks of chance and coincidence, life's setbacks and improvisations. Carol Shields deftly draws us into the lives of a broad range of sharply observed characters, from the brilliant young violinist smothered by an overprotective family, to the elderly widow mowing her lawn while a long, passionate life buzzes around in her memory. Blending wit and compassion, Shields illuminates moments when ordinary people face

extraordinary circumstances, declarations of love and revelations that transform their lives. Sharp, skeptical and sympathetic, this collection presents Shields at her inimitable best in twenty-one miracles of the storyteller's art.

**I Am Really a Princess** Carol Diggory Shields 1996-05 A child imagines herself a princess and contrasts her everyday life with the one she could have in a castle with infinitely permissive parents.

**Les Belles Étrangères** Jane Koustas 2008-03-10 While translation history in Canada is well documented, the history of the translation of Canadian fiction outside the nation remains obscure. *Les Belles Étrangères* examines the translation of Canadian English-language fiction in France. This book considers the history of this practice, the reasons for the move away from Quebec translators as well as the process and perils involved in this detour. Within a theoretical framework and drawing on primary sources, this study considers the historical,

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theoretical, and concrete aspects of this practice through the study of the translations of authors such as Robertson Davies, Carol Shields, Margaret Atwood, Michael Ondaatje, Ann-Marie MacDonald, and Alistair MacLeod. The book also includes a comprehensive bibliography of English-language novels, poetry, and plays published and translated in France over the past 240 years.

The Collected Poetry of Carol Shields Carol Shields 2021-10-15 Carol Shields, best known for her fiction writing, received both the Pulitzer Prize and the Governor General's Award for Fiction for her novel *The Stone Diaries*. But she also wrote hundreds of poems over the span of her career. *The Collected Poetry of Carol Shields* includes three previously published collections and over eighty unpublished poems, ranging from the early 1970s to Shields's death in 2003. In a detailed introduction and commentary, Nora Foster Stovel contextualizes these poems against the background of Shields's life and oeuvre and

the traditions of twentieth-century poetry. She demonstrates how poetry influenced and informed Shields's novels; many of the poems, which constitute miniature narratives, illuminate Shields's fiction and serve as the testing ground for metaphors she later employed in her prose works. Stovel delineates Shields's career-long interest in character and setting, gender and class, self and other, actuality and numinousness, as well as revealing her subversive feminism, which became explicit in Reta Winter's angry (unsent) letters in *Unless* and in the stories of poet Mary Swann and Daisy Goodwill in Swann and *The Stone Diaries*. The first complete collection of her poetry, this volume is essential for all readers of Carol Shields. Stovel's detailed annotations, based on research in the Carol Shields fonds at Library and Archives Canada, reveal the poems in all their depth and resonance, and the dignity and consequence they afford to ordinary people.

**Jane Austen** Carol Shields 2005-05-31 With the  
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same sensitivity and artfulness that are the trademarks of her award-winning novels, Carol Shields explores the life of a writer whose own novels have engaged and delighted readers for the past two hundred years. In Jane Austen, Shields follows this superb and beloved novelist from her early family life in Steventown to her later years in Bath, her broken engagement, and her intense relationship with her sister Cassandra. She reveals both the very private woman and the acclaimed author behind the enduring classics *Sense and Sensibility*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Emma*. With its fascinating insights into the writing process from an award-winning novelist, Carol Shields's magnificent biography of Jane Austen is also a compelling meditation on how great fiction is created.

[The Republic of Love](#) Carol Shields 2022-03-15  
With a viewpoint that shifts as crisply as cards in the hands of a blackjack dealer, Carol Shields introduces us to two shell-shocked veterans of

the wars of the heart. There's Fay, a folklorist whose passion for mermaids has kept her from focusing on any one man. And right across the street there's Tom, a popular radio talk-show host who has focused a little too intently, having married and divorced three times. Can Fay believe in lasting love with such a man? Will romantic love conquer all rational expectations? Only Carol Shields could describe so adroitly this couple who fall in love as thoroughly and satisfyingly as any Victorian couple and the modern complications that beset them in this touching and ironic book.

**Carol Shields** Aritha Van Herk 2009 Beloved of readers and writers alike, Carol Shields was a formidable creative force. The author of dozens of books, she won a Pulitzer Prize and an Orange Prize, a Governor General's award, and many other honours and recognitions. And this extraordinary writer's work continues to inspire lovers of language from around the world. "Carol Shields: Evocation and echo" gathers together a

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bouquet of literary responses. Critics, friends, and fellow writers from North America and Europe here respond to the writing of Carol Shields. Their observations, augmentations, and creative interventions make for a collection that pays homage to Shields, but nonetheless possesses its own distinctive flavour. Her magnificent words continue to reverberate, evoking laughter and memory, and echoing her perceptive eloquence.

**Unless** Carol Shields 2010-10-08 “Unless you’re lucky, unless you’re healthy, fertile, unless you’re loved and fed, unless you’re offered what others are offered, you go down in the darkness, down to despair.” Reta Winters has many reasons to be happy: Her three almost grown daughters. Her twenty-year relationship with their father. Her work translating the larger-than-life French intellectual and feminist Danielle Westerman. Her modest success with a novel of her own, and the clamour of her American publisher for a sequel. Then in the

spring of her forty-fourth year, all the quiet satisfactions of her well-lived life disappear in a moment: her eldest daughter Norah suddenly runs from the family and ends up mute and begging on a Toronto street corner, with a hand-lettered sign reading GOODNESS around her neck. GOODNESS. With the inconceivable loss of her daughter like a lump in her throat, Reta tackles the mystery of this message. What in this world has broken Norah, and what could bring her back to the provisional safety of home? Reta’s wit is the weapon she most often brandishes as she kicks against the pricks that have brought her daughter down: Carol Shields brings us Reta’s voice in all its poignancy, outrage and droll humour. Piercing and sad, astute and evocative, full of tenderness and laughter, *Unless* will stand with *The Stone Diaries* in the canon of Carol Shields’s fiction.

[Small Ceremonies](#) Carol Shields 2022-03-15 The superb first novel from the author of *The Stone Diaries*, winner of the Governor General's

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Award, a National Book Critics Circle Award and the Pulitzer Prize. Judith Gill is a well-respected biographer who desperately wants to write fiction. When she joins her academic husband on sabbatical in Birmingham, she finds on the shelves of their rented flat the notes of a failed novelist. With considerable guilt, Judith decides to plagiarize one of the ideas and brings it home to Canada to work on. Frustrated by the creative process but determined to be more imaginative, Judith attends writing classes and later discovers that her tutor, suffering from writer's block, has ripped off 'her' idea. Once again, Shields focuses her sharp gaze on the small ceremonies of life in this novel of rare intelligence and wit.

*Swann* Carol Shields 2011-01-21 Carol Shields's award-winning and critically acclaimed "literary mystery," first published in 1987. Swann is the story of four individuals who become entwined in the life of Mary Swann, a rural Canadian poet whose authentic and unique voice is discovered only hours before her husband hacks her to

pieces. Who is Mary Swann? And how could she have produced these works of genius in almost complete isolation? Mysteriously, all traces of Swann's existence — her notebook, the first draft of her work, even her photograph — gradually vanish as the characters in this engrossing novel become caught up in their own concepts of who Mary Swann was.

**Dressing Up for the Carnival** Carol Shields 2001-05-01 In *Dressing Up for the Carnival*, Carol Shields distills her characteristic wisdom, elegance, and insouciant humor in twenty-two luminous stories. A wealth of surprises and contrasts, this collection ranges from the lyricism of "Weather," in which a couple's life is thrown into chaos when the National Association of Meteorologists goes on strike, to the swampy sexuality of "Eros," in which a room in a Parisian hotel on the verge of ruin is the catalyst for passion, to the brave confidence of "A Scarf"—new for this collection—which chronicles the realities of a fledgling author's book tour.

Playful,  
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graceful, acutely observed, and generous of spirit, these stories will delight her devoted fans and win her new converts as well.

The Reader's Companion to Twentieth-century Writers Peter Parker 1995 Rational Emotive Behaviour Therapy in a Nutshell provides a concise overview of a popular therapeutic approach, starting with the ABCDE Model of Emotional Disturbance and Change. Written by leading REBT specialists, Michael Neenan and Windy Dryden, the book goes on to explain the core of the therapeutic process: - Assessment - Disputing - Homework - Working through - Promoting self-change. As an introduction to the basics of the approach, this updated and revised edition of Rational Emotive Behaviour Therapy in a Nutshell is the ideal first text and a springboard to further study.

Carol Shields and the Writer-Critic Brenda Beckman-Long 2016-01-27 Throughout her literary and critical career, Canadian writer Carol Shields (1935–2003) resisted simple

categorization. Her novels are elegant puzzles that confront the reader with the ambiguity of meaning and narrative, yet their position within Shields' critical feminist project has, until now, been obscured. In Carol Shields and the Writer-Critic, Brenda Beckman-Long illuminates that project through the study of Shields' extensive oeuvre, including her fiction and criticism. Beckman-Long brings depth to her analysis through close readings of six novels, including the award-winning The Stone Diaries. Elliptical, open-ended, and concerned with women writing about women, these novels reveal Shields' critique of dominant masculine discourses and her deep engagement with the long tradition of women's life writing. Beckman-Long's original archival research attests to Shields' preoccupation with the changing efforts of waves of feminist activism and writing. A much needed reappraisal of Shields's innovative work, Carol Shields and the Writer-Critic contributes to the scholarship on life writing and

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autobiography, literary criticism, and feminist and critical theory.

**Bloomsbury Essential Guide for Reading**

**Groups** Susan Osborne 2009-01-01 "A book club gives the opportunity to meet up with friends and wake the brain up a bit with lively and often quite aggressive discussion" Dawn French How do you keep your reading groups discussions lively and focussed? If you want to gain new insight into literature and share your passion with friends this book offers readers guides for 75 of the very best reads - guaranteed to provoke spirited debate! Each of the readers guides includes a summary of the book, a brief author biography, discussion points to spark debate, and a set of titles for further reading that deal with similar themes. A 'background' section provides pointers to more material about the book online and as well as further thought-provoking material: Where did the author come from? What made them write the book? How did the context in which they wrote influence them?

If you'd like further insight, debate, discussion and analysis to underpin your understanding and enjoyment of reading - then look no further than this guide. New titles in this edition include: The Long Firm, Leper's Companions, By the Sea, The Ninth Life of Louis Drax, Buddha of Suburbia, The Icarus Girl, Black and Blue, The Minotaur Takes a Cigarette Break, Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress, The Cutting Room, Shadow of the Wind, Giving up the Ghost...and many more!

**Small Ceremonies, the Box Garden, Swan**

Carol Shields 1976 Includes all three novels small ceremonies, the box garden and swann.

**Lunch Money** Carol Diggory Shields

1998-08-01 Here are twenty-four hilarious poems about school, where all kinds of unexpected things happen. From an unusual pledge of allegiance and jungle gym gossip to recess rules and the rules of addition, Carol Diggory Shields captures the experiences of schoolgoers with wit and verve. This rollicking

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collection is sure to keep readers laughing until summer vacation. A frisky collection....Kids will greet the poems with enthusiasm. School Library Journal Carol Diggory Shields and Paul Meisel also collaborated on *I Am Really a Princess* (Dutton and Puffin) and *I Wish My Brother Was a Dog* (Dutton). Carol Diggory Shields lives in Salinas, California. Paul Meisel lives in Newtown, Connecticut.

**Carol Shields, Narrative Hunger, and the Possibilities of Fiction** Ted Farrell 2003-01-01

Award-winning Canadian writer Carol Shields has garnered praise from scholars and an international audience of readers. Inspired by the quality and scope of Shields's work, Carol Shields, *Narrative Hunger*, and *the Possibilities of Fiction* addresses her creative exploration of postmodernism. As the first thorough examination of the Pulitzer Prize-winning author, this collection of essays establishes the groundwork for future studies of her oeuvre. The collection begins with a significant new essay

from Shields herself, 'Narrative Hunger and the Overflowing Cupboard,' perhaps her most substantial commentary upon her own aims as a writer. In addition, scholars from Canada, England, the United States, and Australia explore the complexity of Shields's work and her contributions to the genre of the novel. These lively essays reflect Shields's verve and her playful approach to today's sophisticated critical thinking. Among the topics are Shields's use of biography and autobiography, metafiction, popular romance, and symbolism. While the essays foreground the unreliability of language, and hence our inability to know one another or even ourselves, the contributors argue that Shields has taken a step beyond postmodernism by suggesting that we can transcend the limitations of its epistemology. Containing several essays on Swann and *The Stone Diaries*, Shields's most popular works, and the most extensive annotated bibliography available of works by and about Shields, this collection will

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appeal widely to scholars, students, and readers of Carol Shields and Canadian fiction.

**Larry's Party** Carol Shields 2011-10-05 The Stone Diaries marked a new phase in a literary career already ablaze with achievement. As well as the many international awards it received, including the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Governor General's Award, the book also met with universal critical acclaim and topped bestseller lists around the world. "Carol Shields," raved Maclean's, "has crafted a small miracle of a novel." "The Stone Diaries," said the New York Times Book Review, "reminds us again why literature matters." The San Diego Tribune called The Stone Diaries "a universal study of what makes women tick." Now, in Larry's Party, Carol Shields does the same for men. Larry Weller, born in 1950, is an ordinary guy made extraordinary by his creator's perception, irony and tenderness. Larry's Party gives us, as it were, a CAT scan of his life, in episodes between 1977 and 1997 that flash

backward and forward seamlessly. As Larry journeys toward the new millennium, adapting to society's changing expectations of men, Shields' elegant prose transforms the trivial into the momentous. We follow this young floral designer through two marriages and divorces, his interactions with parents, friends and a son. And throughout, we witness his deepening passion for garden mazes -- so like life, with their teasing treachery and promise of reward. Among all the paradoxes and accidents of his existence, Larry moves through the spontaneity of the seventies, the blind enchantment of the eighties and the lean, mean nineties, completing at last his quiet, stubborn search for self. Larry's odyssey mirrors the male condition at the end of our century with targeted wit, unerring poignancy and faultless wisdom.

*The Word in the Wind* Bruce L. Taylor  
2019-07-26 The growing use and appreciation of the Common Lectionary (Revised) has stimulated renewed attention to the Christian calendar in

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its fullness and an enrichment of liturgical worship. In this volume, Bruce Taylor offers a collection of theologically rich, sacramentally sensitive, and biblically centered sermons for the Sundays and feast days in the first half of Year A of the Lectionary, featuring Gospel readings from Matthew with attention to the accompanying Old Testament and epistolary texts. Included is a sampling of sermons written as engaging stories, and a sermon presented during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Preachers will find here encouragement for their own homiletical observance of the liturgical year and ecumenical celebrations, and the mutual and intimate relationship between Word and Sacrament. All readers will find a thoughtful and stimulating resource for their own life of faith, witness, and devotion.

Re(dis)covering Our Foremothers Lorraine McMullen 1990 The modern literary searchlight has flushed out Canada's long neglected nineteenth century female writers. New critical

approaches are advocated and others are encouraged to take on the difficulties - and rewards - of research into the lives of our foremothers.

*Jane Austen* Carol Shields 2005-05-31 With the same sensitivity and artfulness that are the trademarks of her award-winning novels, Carol Shields explores the life of a writer whose own novels have engaged and delighted readers for the past two hundred years. In *Jane Austen*, Shields follows this superb and beloved novelist from her early family life in Steventown to her later years in Bath, her broken engagement, and her intense relationship with her sister Cassandra. She reveals both the very private woman and the acclaimed author behind the enduring classics *Sense and Sensibility*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Emma*. With its fascinating insights into the writing process from an award-winning novelist, Carol Shields's magnificent biography of Jane Austen is also a compelling meditation on how great fiction is

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created.

**Carol Shields's The Stone Diaries** Abby

Werlock 2001-09-01 Continuum Contemporaries will be a wonderful source of ideas and inspiration for members of book clubs and readings groups, as well as for literature students. The aim of the series is to give readers accessible and informative introductions to 30 of the most popular, most acclaimed, and most influential novels of recent years. A team of contemporary fiction scholars from both sides of the Atlantic has been assembled to provide a thorough and readable analysis of each of the novels in question. The books in the series will all follow the same structure: a biography of the novelist, including other works, influences, and, in some cases, an interview; a full-length study of the novel, drawing out the most important themes and ideas; a summary of how the novel was received upon publication; a summary of how the novel has performed since publication, including film or TV adaptations, literary prizes,

etc.; a wide range of suggestions for further reading, including websites and discussion forums; and a list of questions for reading groups to discuss.

**Relating Carol Shields's Essays and Fiction**

Nora Foster Stovel 2023-01-01 This collection of essays explores celebrated Canadian author Carol Shields's experimentation with the essay genre in relation to her fiction. Shields's essays clarify her iconoclastic approach to rules of narrative and illuminate her revisionist policies, elucidating the development of her fiction, both novels and stories, as her writing gradually becomes more explicitly feminist, as well as more daringly postmodernist. The dozen essays by the eminent Canadianists included in this edition throw fresh light on Shields's writing, inviting us to read it with new eyes by revealing how her essays reflect and refract the brilliance of her fiction. These essays read Shields's fiction through the lens of her essays, including those contained in the recent Giardini edition, wherein

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the author explains the creative methodologies involved in her fiction and also offers specific advice to writers of fiction.

The Republic of Love Carol Shields 2001 Fay McLeod has fallen out of love with her husband and fallen in love with a man with three failed marriages behind him. Can Fay believe in lasting love with such a man? Previous novels by Carol Shields include Mary Swann and Happenstance. Canadian Women Writing Fiction Mickey Pearlman 1993 A search for the sense of identity in the works of fourteen Canadian women writers

**The Stone Diaries** Carol Shields 2011-09-28 Winner of the Governor General's Literary Award and the Pulitzer Prize, and Shortlisted for the Booker Prize Born in 1905, Daisy Goodwill Flett drifts through the chapters of childhood, marriage, widowhood, remarriage, motherhood, and old age, bewildered by her inability to understand her own role in the unsettled decades of the twentieth century. At last,

reflecting on her unobserved and unconventional life, Daisy attempts to find a way to tell her story within a novel that is itself about the limitations of autobiography. In The Stone Diaries, one of the most successful and acclaimed novels of our time, Carol Shields weaves the strands of Daisy's life together in a rich, sensuous, and poignant work that delivers lasting insights into the nature of life—and fiction.

The Worlds of Carol Shields David Staines 2014-12-02 The Worlds of Carol Shields is the first book to examine Shields' extraordinary career and life through the lens both of close friends and of literary critics.

**Literary Culture and Female Authorship in Canada 1760-2000** Faye Hammill 2021-10-18 "There are two ladies in the province, I am told, who read," writes Frances Brooke's Arabella Fermor, "but both are above fifty and are regarded as prodigies of erudition." Brooke's The History of Emily Montague (1769) was the first work of fiction to be set in Canada, and also

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the first book to reflect on the situation of the woman writer there. Her analysis of the experience of writing in Canada is continued by the five other writers considered in this study - Susanna Moodie, Sara Jeannette Duncan, L.M. Montgomery, Margaret Atwood and Carol Shields. All of these authors examine the social position of the woman of letters in Canada, the intellectual stimulation available to her, the literary possibilities of Canadian subject-matter, and the practical aspects of reading, writing, and publishing in a (post)colonial country. This book turns on the ways in which those aspects of authorship and literary culture in Canada have been inscribed in imaginative, autobiographical and critical texts by the six authors. It traces the evolving situation of the Canadian woman writer over the course of two centuries, and explores the impact of social and cultural change on the experience of writing in Canada.

**The Canadian Short Story** John Metcalf

2018-09-25 No other person has done more to

celebrate and encourage the short story in Canada than John Metcalf. For more than five decades he has worked tirelessly as editor, anthologist, writer, critic, and teacher to help shape our understanding of the form and what it can do. The long-time editor of the yearly Best Canadian Stories anthology, as well as a fiction editor at some of the pre-eminent literary presses in the country for more than forty years, he has worked to support and champion several generations of our best writers. Literature in Canada would be far less without his efforts. Sifting through a lifetime of reading, writing, and thinking about the short story in this country, and where it fits within the larger currents of world literature, Metcalf's magisterial *The Canadian Short Story* offers the most authoritative book on the subject to date. Most importantly, it includes an expanded and reconsidered Century List, Metcalf's critical guide to the best Canadian short story collections of the last 100 years. But more than a

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critical book, *The Canadian Short Story* is a love-letter to the form, a passionate defense of the best of our literature, and a championing of those books and writers most often over-looked. It is a guide not only to what to read, but also one, its author's most fervent desire, which aims to make better readers of us all.

**Larry's Party** Carol Shields 1998-09-01 The San Diego Tribune called *The Stone Diaries* a "universal study of what makes women tick." With *Larry's Party* Carol Shields has done the same for men. Larry Weller, born in 1950, is an ordinary guy made extraordinary by his creator's perception, irony, and tenderness. *Larry's Party* gives us, as it were, a CAT scan of his life, in episodes between 1977 and 1997, that seamlessly flash backward and forward. We follow this young floral designer through two marriages and divorces, and his interactions with his parents, friends, and a son. Throughout, we witness his deepening passion for garden mazes--so like life, with their teasing treachery

and promise of reward. Among all the paradoxes and accidents of his existence, Larry moves through the spontaneity of the seventies, the blind enchantment of the eighties, and the lean, mean nineties, completing at last his quiet, stubborn search for self. Larry's odyssey mirrors the male condition at the end of our century with targeted wit, unerring poignancy, and faultless wisdom.

**American Portraits and Self-portraits** Jerzy Durczak 2002

[Encyclopedia of Post-Colonial Literatures in English](#) Eugene Benson 2004-11-30 " ...

Documents the history and development of [Post-colonial literatures in English, together with English and American literature] and includes original research relating to the literatures of some 50 countries and territories. In more than 1,600 entries written by more than 600 internationally recognized scholars, it explores the effect of the colonial and post-colonial experience on literatures in English

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*Prizing Literature* Gillian Roberts 2011-01-01  
When Canadian authors win prestigious literary prizes, from the Governor General's Literary Award to the Man Booker Prize, they are celebrated not only for their achievements, but also for contributing to this country's cultural capital. Discussions about culture, national identity, and citizenship are particularly complicated when the honorees are immigrants, like Michael Ondaatje, Carol Shields, or Rohinton Mistry. Then there is the case of Yann Martel, who is identified both as Canadian and as rootlessly cosmopolitan. How have these writers' identities been recalibrated in order to claim them as 'representative' Canadians? *Prizing Literature* is the first extended study of contemporary award winning Canadian literature and the ways in which we celebrate its authors. Gillian Roberts uses theories of hospitality to examine how prize-winning authors are variously received and honoured

depending on their citizenship and the extent to which they represent 'Canadianness.' *Prizing Literature* sheds light on popular and media understandings of what it means to be part of a multicultural nation.

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