Renovations and Other Stories

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Abstract
Renovations and Other Stories is a linked collection of ten fiction stories that examines the ways by which women renew or restore themselves. The collection is set in the imaginary city of St. Clair, South Carolina, a town balancing historical accuracy with the sensational tourist industry; Carolinians who trace their ancestries back to the American Revolution with suburban newcomers; and the notion of cherishing the past with moving forward. Many of the characters struggle with identity, whether it is regional or feminine individuality. The protagonists must challenge self-image when faced with situations that make them reconsider their places in their marriages, schools, jobs, and in their lives. Relationships among women, especially mother-daughter bonds, are an important motif throughout the collection. These stories cover the lifetimes of two generations of Carolinian women. A baker struggles to break free of her Northern transient upbringing. A history student yearns to escape her past as a victim of bullying to form a new, confident identity while saying goodbye to her estranged mother. Another girl explores the confused social politics of the South which alienate her from a childhood friend. I intend to examine, through fiction, how people come to appreciate one another, often a moment too late, and how sometimes we completely misunderstand ourselves.

Notes
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Graduation Date
2012

Semester
Spring

Advisor
Poissant, David

Degree
Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.)

College
College of Arts and Humanities

Department
English

Degree Program
Creative Writing

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5 years
The Book of Renovations is the story of a man and his wife who do battle against the Valley of the Shadow of Death and the Beasts of the Book of Revelations with only a set of floor plans and a spotless credit rating. Get A Copy. Amazon. Start your review of The Book of Renovations and Other Stories. Write a review. Ashlyn added it Jan 02, 2019. Latest stories.

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