

# Download Ebook The Fig Eater Jody Shields Read Pdf Free

The Fig Eater The Winter Station The Crimson Portrait The Fig Eater by Jody Shields The Fig Eater Nate the Great and the Big Sniff Requiem in Vienna The End of Time Strange Fits Of Passion The Dante Club Man-Eater Windmills of the Gods Sister Knot The Peacock Feast Lizzie Death and Mr. Pickwick The River of Kings The Great Longing Drinking with the Cook Freud, Dora, and Vienna 1900 In Babylon City Primeval Nate the Great on the Owl Express Make Up Wartime Recipes A Kiss from Maddalena Kissing the Beehive The Rhetoric of Death The Historian The Moonstone Sally Hemings Murder on Marble Row The ash warriors Where the Heart Beats Truth and Consequences Literature and Lives Dialect The Crimson Portrait Magic Triumphs Horsemen of the Sands

A writer returns to his hometown to look into a long-ago murder in this “gripping” literary thriller with “a smashing and surprising climax” (Kirkus Reviews). After nine books, three wives, and a massive advance for his as-yet-unwritten next

novel, Sam Bayer has run out of ideas. He tries to write but his characters are dull, lifeless. So his thoughts turn to his hometown, Crane 's View, and the tragedy he once encountered there. Bayer was fifteen when he found Pauline Ostrova floating in the Hudson River. The official verdict was murder, and the girl 's ex-boyfriend was convicted. But decades later, Bayer remains certain the killer still lives in his bucolic town—and he 's determined to write a book about what really happened. He 's come home for inspiration, but the longer he stays, the more Bayer 's investigation spirals toward madness and a final, shocking conclusion. Jonathan Lethem says of Jonathan Carroll that readers “crave his narratives like an illegal substance,” and here the celebrated author begins his addictive Crane 's View Trilogy, which continues with *The Marriage of Sticks* and the New York Times Notable Book *The Wooden Sea*, with a smart, suspenseful novel that 's “strung like a piano wire” (*Library Journal*). This ebook contains an all-new introduction by Jonathan Carroll, as well as an illustrated biography of the author including rare images from his personal collection. Over the years, Alison Lurie has earned a devoted readership for her satiric wit and storytelling acumen. With *Truth and Consequences*, described

by the New Yorker as "a comedy of adultery with a comedy of academia thrown in," Lurie returns with a modern social satire that recalls the best of David Lodge and Mary McCarthy as well as her own popular university novels *The War Between the Tates* and *Foreign Affairs*. BACKCOVER: "A wily, shapely tale of love's labors lost." -Elle "A wry, insightful, thoroughly enjoyable tale about how men and women choose their demons and their lovers, and the sacrifices they're willing to make for both." -The Atlanta Journal-Constitution "Delightful . . . Her characters are, as always, wonderfully imperfect." -The New York Review of Books

Telling stories from secondary and college English classrooms, this book explores the new possibilities for teaching and learning generated by bringing together reader-response and cultural-studies approaches. The book connects William Shakespeare, Charles Dickens, Mark Twain, and other canonical figures to multicultural writers, popular culture, film, testimonial, politics, history, and issues relevant to contemporary youth. Each chapter contains brief explications of literary scholarship and theory, and each is followed by extensive annotated bibliographies of multicultural literature, approachable scholarship and theory, and relevant Internet sites. Each chapter also

contains descriptions of classroom units and activities focusing on a particular theme, such as genocide, homelessness, race, gender, youth violence, (post)colonialism, class relations, and censorship; and discussion of ways in which students often respond to such "hot-button" topics. Chapters in the book are: (1) A Course in Contemporary World Literature; (2) Teaching about Homelessness; (3) Genderizing the Curriculum: A Personal Journey; (4) Addressing the Youth Violence Crisis; (5) Shakespeare and the New Multicultural British and World Literatures; (6) "Huckleberry Finn" and the Issue of Race in Today's Classroom; (7) Testimonial, Autoethnography, and the Future of English; and (8) Conclusion. Contains approximately 350 references. Appendixes contain an email exchange between the author and a first year, inner-city teacher; a note to teachers on the truth of Rigoberta Menchu's testimonial; a brief account of philology; a 13-item annotated bibliography of readings in literary theory for English teachers; and lists of web sites exploring literary theory and cultural studies, supporting literature teaching, and for new teachers. (NKA) From "one of the most perceptive, compassionate writers of fiction in America...immensely talented and brave" (Michael

Schaub, NPR), a historical saga about love, class, and the past we never escape. The Peacock Feast opens on a June day in 1916 when Louis C. Tiffany, the eccentric glass genius, dynamites the breakwater at Laurelton Hall—his fantastical Oyster Bay mansion, with columns capped by brilliant ceramic blossoms and a smokestack hidden in a blue-banded minaret—so as to foil the town from reclaiming the beach for public use. The explosion shakes both the apple crate where Prudence, the daughter of Tiffany 's prized gardener, is sleeping and the rocks where Randall, her seven-year-old brother, is playing. Nearly a century later, Prudence receives an unexpected visit at her New York apartment from Grace, a hospice nurse and the granddaughter of Randall, who Prudence never saw again after he left at age fourteen for California. The mementos Grace carries from her grandfather 's house stir Prudence 's long-repressed memories and bring her to a new understanding of the choices she made in work and love, and what she faces now in her final days. Spanning the twentieth century and three continents, The Peacock Feast ricochets from Manhattan to San Francisco, from the decadent mansions of the Tiffany family to the death row of a Texas prison, and from the London consultation

room of Anna Freud to a Mendocino commune. With psychological acuity and aching eloquence, Lisa Gornick has written a sweeping family drama, an exploration of the meaning of art and the art of dying, and an illuminating portrait of how our decisions reverberate across time and space. A dark, multi-layered, mesmerizing literary novel of suspense, superstition and latent eroticism set in Vienna, 1910. On a warm August night, the body of a young girl is discovered in the city's celebrated Volksgarten. She has been strangled. Using the latest forensic methods and psychological thinking, the Chief Inspector of Police begins his painstaking search for the killer. He is not alone, however. His wife becomes obsessed with the dead girl. In secret, and enlisting the help of a young English governess, she conducts her own investigation of the murder, guided by intuition, instinct and superstition... With its beautifully-evoked setting of Vienna just prior to the Great War, a city embracing the modern and yet in thrall to superstition and prejudice, and riven by corruption, perverse sexual practices and disease, **THE FIG EATER** is a rich and seductive period page-turner of a novel. The “ Moonstone ” of the title is a large but flawed diamond, looted from India at the time of the Mutiny by an unscrupulous British officer.

Many years later, estranged from his family due to his licentious lifestyle, the officer bequeaths the diamond to his sister ' s daughter, Rachel Verrinder, to be given to her on her 18th birthday. Due to the ill-omens surrounding the gem, this may have been an act of revenge rather than reconciliation. The diamond, it appears, was taken from a statue of the Moon God worshipped by a Hindu cult, and it has long been sought by a group of Brahmins determined to return it to their temple. On the night of the birthday party the gem mysteriously disappears from Rachel ' s room. While the first suspicions naturally fall on these Indians, they are eventually exculpated. Rachel becomes hysterical and angry when questioned about the theft and refuses to assist the police. Active efforts to assist them are taken up by Rachel ' s cousin (and sweetheart) Franklin Blake. These efforts simply drive Rachel into further fury, and she becomes completely estranged from him. Suspicion thus falls on her as having some secret reason for wishing to raise money on the diamond. The novel proceeds to slowly uncover the mysteries involved. Published in 1868, *The Moonstone* is often considered as one of the precursors of the modern detective novel, though this is a label which would not have been used by its author

Wilkie Collins and his contemporaries. While it is true that the plot revolves around the mystery of a theft, and that it features Sergeant Cuff “in the Detective Force of Scotland Yard,” the novel is much more about character and relationships than the mere revelation of secrets. It also has a good dose of Collins’ humour, as the story is told in large part by eccentric characters such as the old house-steward Gabriel Betteredge who regards Robinson Crusoe as an oracle; and the ultra-religious Miss Clack, determined to convert everyone to her views. Immensely popular at the time of its publication in serial form, *The Moonstone* is rightly considered to be one of Collins’ best works, and remains highly regarded today. This book is part of the Standard Ebooks project, which produces free public domain ebooks. Beginning readers are introduced to the detective mystery genre in these chapter books. Perfect for the Common Core, kids can problem-solve with Nate, using logical thinking to solve mysteries! Nate the Great solves crimes with his dog, Sludge. But this time, Sludge can’t help. Sludge is lost! Nate looks high and low. But every clue leads to a dead end until . . . Nate realizes Sludge can help after all! Check out the Fun Activities section in the back of the book! Visit Nate the Great and



Sludge! NatetheGreatBooks.com "Another satisfying entry in a consistently entertaining series."--Booklist "These simple chapter books build confidence in children who are just starting to read and who look forward to a new mystery."--Kirkus Reviews Sidney Sheldon 's eighth novel, now available in ebook format. When an explosion kills wealthy industrialist Gregory Van Dyke, Police Commissioner Teddy Roosevelt presumes that anarchists are responsible and personally asks Detective Sergeant Frank Malloy to track them down. Malloy is up to the challenge - but he faces a different kind of challenge when he encounters Sarah Brandt paying a condolence call on the Van Dykes. Faced with the impossibility of ever expressing his true feelings for Sarah, Frank had vowed never to see or work with her again." For her part, Sarah is glad to be working with Malloy once again in his hunt for a dangerous killer - though they clash over his conviction that the murder was politically motivated. " As gritty and hard-driving a thriller as you ' ll find....The action never stops, the language sings and stings. "

—Washington Post The City Primeval in Elmore Leonard 's relentlessly gripping classic noir is Detroit, the author 's much-maligned hometown and the setting for many of the Grand Master 's

acclaimed crime novels. The “ Alexander the Great of crime fiction ” (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette) shines in these urban mean streets, setting up a downtown showdown between the psychopathic, thrill-killing “ Oklahoma Wildman ” and the dedicated city cop who ’ s determined to take him down. The creator of U.S. Marshal Raylan Givens of TV ’ s Justified fame, Elmore Leonard is the equal of any writer who has ever captivated readers with dark tales of heists, hijacks, double-crosses, and murder—John D. MacDonald, Dashiell Hammett, James M. Cain, and Robert Parker included—and nobody then or now is better. A fascinating and nostalgic collection of over 40 wholesome recipes from the Second World War At a time of shortages and rationing, the British were challenged with providing nutritious meals daily for the family. This pocket-sized compendium of recipes is illustrated with contemporary propaganda notices, photographs and advertisements. Dishes such as Scotch Broth, Dumplings, Savoury Onions, Corned Beef Rissoles and Coconut Orange Pudding recall the ingenuity and camaraderie of those wartime days. Look out for more Pitkin Guides on the very best of British history, heritage and travel. Richard Feynman once quipped that "Time is what happens when nothing else does." But Julian Barbour

disagrees: if nothing happened, if nothing changed, then time would stop. For time is nothing but change. It is change that we perceive occurring all around us, not time. Put simply, time does not exist. In this highly provocative volume, Barbour presents the basic evidence for a timeless universe, and shows why we still experience the world as intensely temporal. It is a book that strikes at the heart of modern physics. It casts doubt on Einstein's greatest contribution, the spacetime continuum, but also points to the solution of one of the great paradoxes of modern science, the chasm between classical and quantum physics. Indeed, Barbour argues that the holy grail of physicists--the unification of Einstein's general relativity with quantum mechanics--may well spell the end of time. Barbour writes with remarkable clarity as he ranges from the ancient philosophers Heraclitus and Parmenides, through the giants of science Galileo, Newton, and Einstein, to the work of the contemporary physicists John Wheeler, Roger Penrose, and Steven Hawking. Along the way he treats us to enticing glimpses of some of the mysteries of the universe, and presents intriguing ideas about multiple worlds, time travel, immortality, and, above all, the illusion of motion. The End of Time is a vibrantly written and

revolutionary book. It turns our understanding of reality inside-out. The record-breaking phenomenon from Elizabeth Kostova is a celebrated masterpiece that "refashioned the vampire myth into a compelling contemporary novel, a late-night page-turner" (San Francisco Chronicle). Breathtakingly suspenseful and beautifully written, *The Historian* is the story of a young woman plunged into a labyrinth where the secrets of her family's past connect to an inconceivable evil: the dark fifteenth-century reign of Vlad the Impaler and a time-defying pact that may have kept his awful work alive through the ages. The search for the truth becomes an adventure of monumental proportions, taking us from monasteries and dusty libraries to the capitals of Eastern Europe—in a feat of storytelling so rich, so hypnotic, so exciting that it has enthralled readers around the world. "Part thriller, part history, part romance...Kostova has a keen sense of storytelling and she has a marvelous tale to tell." —Baltimore Sun An "amazing"\* debut historical novel (\*Ariana Franklin, national bestselling author of *Grave Goods*)

Paris, 1686: When The Bishop of Marseilles discovers that his young cousin Charles du Luc, former soldier and half-fledged Jesuit, has been helping heretics

escape the king's dragoons, the bishop sends him far away—to Paris, where Charles is assigned to assist in teaching rhetoric and directing dance at the prestigious college of Louis le Grand. Charles quickly embraces his new life and responsibilities. But on his first day, the school's star dancer disappears from rehearsal, and the next day another student is run down in the street. When the dancer's body is found under the worst possible circumstances, Charles is determined to find the killer in spite of being ordered to leave the investigation.

A “heroic” biography of John Cage and his “awakening through Zen Buddhism” — “a kind of love story” about a brilliant American pioneer of the creative arts who transformed himself and his culture (The New York Times) Composer John Cage sought the silence of a mind at peace with itself—and found it in Zen Buddhism, a spiritual path that changed both his music and his view of the universe. “Remarkably researched, exquisitely written,” Where the Heart Beats weaves together “a great many threads of cultural history” (Maria Popova, Brain Pickings) to illuminate Cage’s struggle to accept himself and his relationship with choreographer Merce Cunningham. Freed to be his own man, Cage originated exciting experiments that set him at the epicenter of a new avant-garde

forming in the 1950s. Robert Rauschenberg, Jasper Johns, Andy Warhol, Yoko Ono, Allan Kaprow, Morton Feldman, and Leo Castelli were among those influenced by his 'teaching' and 'preaching.' Where the Heart Beats shows the blossoming of Zen in the very heart of American culture. Two novellas from one of the most exciting writers in contemporary Russia. Horsemen of the Sands gathers two novellas by Leonid Yuzefovich: "Horsemen of the Sands" and "The Storm." The former tells the true story of R.F. Ungern-Shternberg, also known as the "Mad Baltic Baron," a military adventurer whose intense fascination with the East drove him to seize control of Mongolia during the chaos of the Russian Civil War. "The Storm" centers on an unexpected emotional crisis that grips a Russian elementary school on an otherwise regular day, unveiling the vexed emotional bonds and shared history that knit together its community of students, teachers, parents, and staff. Set in England during World War I, this haunting love story by the author of the bestselling *The Fig Eater* makes unforgettably real the ravages of love and war. Beginning readers are introduced to the detective mystery genre in these chapter books. Perfect for the Common Core, kids can problem-solve with Nate, using logical thinking

to solve mysteries! All aboard the Owl Express! Someone on the train is out to get Olivia 's pet owl, Hoot. But whooo? Nate the Great and his dog, Sludge, hit the rails to help out. Then Hoot disappears! Can Nate solve the mystery? Check out the Fun Activities section in the back of the book! Visit Nate the Great and Sludge!

NatetheGreatBooks.com "With plenty of suspects, comical plot twists, and a satisfying resolution. . . .

A strong addition to a popular series."--School Library Journal Lizzie Borden, America's most celebrated murderer, comes to vivid life in this riveting and chilling book by acclaimed author Evan Hunter as the portrait of a notorious woman unfolds with shocking clarity. Lizzie Borden took an ax And gave her mother forty whacks. When she saw what she had done She gave her father forty-one. In recreating the events of that fateful day, August 4, 1892, in Fall River, Massachusetts, and the extraordinary circumstances which led up to them, Evan Hunter spins a breathtakingly imaginative tale of an enigmatic spinster whose secret life would eventually force her to the ultimate confrontation with her stepmother and father. Here is Lizzie Borden freed of history and legend—a full-bodied woman of hot blood and passion, fighting against her prim New England

upbringing, surrendering to the late-Victorian hedonism of London, Paris and the Riviera, yet fated to live out her meager life in a placid Massachusetts town. Seething with frustration and rage, a prisoner of her appetites, Lizzie Borden finally snapped . . . but how and why she was led into her uncompromising acts is at the heart of this enthralling, suspenseful work of the imagination. Alternating the actual inquest and trial of Lizzie Borden with an account of her head-spinning, seductive trip to Europe, Evan Hunter portrays with a master craftsman's art the agony of a passionate woman and the depths of a murdering heart. Named a Must-Read Book by the NY Post

An aristocratic Russian doctor races to contain a deadly plague in an outpost city in Manchuria - before it spreads to the rest of the world. 1910: people are mysteriously dying at an alarming rate in the Russian-ruled city of Kharbin, a major railway outpost in Northern China. Strangely, some of the dead bodies vanish before they can be identified. During a dangerously cold winter in a city gripped by fear, the Baron, a wealthy Russian aristocrat and the city's medical commissioner, is determined to stop this mysterious plague. Battling local customs, an occupying army, and a brutal epidemic with no name, the Baron is torn between



duty and compassion, between Western medical science and respect for Chinese tradition. His allies include a French doctor, a black marketeer, and a charismatic Chinese dwarf. His greatest refuge is the intimacy he shares with his young Chinese wife - but she has secrets of her own. Based on a true story that has been lost to history, set during the last days of imperial Russia, **THE WINTER STATION** is a richly textured and brilliant novel about mortality, fear and love. A novel based on the life of the artist Robert Seymour—the caricaturist behind *The Pickwick Papers*, and the extraordinary events surrounding the birth of Charles Dickens' first novel—departs from the accepted origin of *Pickwick* put forward by Dickens and his publisher, Edward Chapman; and it does so for good reason—the accepted origin is a lie.

A collection of short stories by Laura Furman. A young and successful journalist working in New York, Maureen English appears to have the perfect life and family. But Maureen's husband, a highly respected fellow reporter, has in private a tendency towards alcohol and violent abuse. When the situation at home becomes intolerable, Maureen takes her baby daughter and flees. In a Maine fishing town she assumes a new identity and spends six weeks battling sub-zero temperatures,

the intrusive glare of the townsfolk - and her fears of discovery. Against the force of the wintry sea - the cawing of the gulls, the lobstermen hauling their catch, the press of waves against the rocks - Maureen settles into the rhythms of a new life. Two married men pursue her, and one captures her heart. But this calming respite ends suddenly, leaving in its wake a murder, a rape charge, a suicide and a helpless child. Nearly nineteen years later, a cache of documents regarding Maureen English - abused, accused and imprisoned - are given to her daughter by the journalist who made her name reporting the case. The truth should lie within them, but the papers raise far more questions than they answer... First published in Holland to international critical acclaim, *In Babylon* is a story of storytelling -- a novel of universal, inescapable power. When Nathan Hollander and his niece Sophie find themselves trapped by snow in a house in the mountains, Nathan passes the time by recounting their family history. In this story within the story, Nathan's tale spans generations of a Jewish family as it wanders the globe: from Magnus, who began a twenty-one-year walk from Poland to Holland in 1648, to the itinerant clockmakers who followed him, to Manhattan's Project. Here are comic embarrassments, mystical

puzzles, and grand adventure rolled together. Gloriously rich, quirky, and endlessly inventive, Marcel Möring's novel is epic on a very human scale. Twins Sam and Lisa and their brother Ralph are put into foster homes after the death of their parents - Reunited as adults they attempt to satiate the sense of longing they all experience for the family feeling that they missed. "What Sir Arthur Conan Doyle did for Victorian London and Caleb Carr did for old New York, Sydney Jones does for historic Vienna." —Karen Harper, New York Times bestselling author of the Queen Elizabeth I mystery series At first it seemed like a series of accidents plagued Vienna's Court Opera. But after a singer is killed during rehearsals of a new production, the evidence suggests something much more dangerous. Someone is trying to murder the famed conductor and composer Gustav Mahler. Worse, Mahler might not be the first musical genius to be dispatched by this unknown killer. Alma Schindler, one of Mahler's many would-be mistresses, asks the lawyer and aspiring private investigator Karl Werthen to help stop the attacks. With his new wife, Berthe, and his old friend, the criminologist Hanns Gross, Werthen delves into Vienna's rich society of musicians to discover the identity of the person who has targeted one of Austria's best-

known artists. Set during the peak of Vienna's cultural renaissance and featuring some of the city's most colorful residents, *Requiem in Vienna* is a perfect historical fiction. Rich in description and populated by vivid characters, this is a mystery that will leave readers guessing until the very last moment. The psychoanalytic encounter of Sigmund Freud, at mid-life, and Dora, an emotionally troubled adolescent suffering from hysteria, provides a glimpse into the private lives of upper-middle-class Jews in fin-de-siecle Vienna - their professional concerns, familial relations, sexual undercurrents, and responses to the social forces of anti-semitism and the derogation of women. Decker places the treatment of Dora in a larger social and historical context and pursues the lives of the two protagonists before and after their meeting. Mercenary Kate Daniels must risk all to protect everything she holds dear in this epic, can't-miss entry in the thrilling #1 New York Times bestselling urban fantasy series. Kate has come a long way from her origins as a loner taking care of paranormal problems in post-Shift Atlanta. She's made friends and enemies. She's found love and started a family with Curran Lennart, the former Beast Lord. But her magic is too strong for the power players of the world to let her be. Kate and

her father, Roland, currently have an uneasy truce, but when he starts testing her defenses again, she knows that sooner or later, a confrontation is inevitable. The Witch Oracle has begun seeing visions of blood, fire, and human bones. And when a mysterious box is delivered to Kate's doorstep, a threat of war from the ancient enemy who nearly destroyed her family, she knows their time is up. Kate Daniels sees no other choice but to combine forces with the unlikeliest of allies. She knows betrayal is inevitable. She knows she may not survive the coming battle. But she has to try. For her child. For Atlanta. For the world. When a young woman's body is discovered in the summer of 1910 Vienna, the Inspector's wife is certain the figs found in her stomach during the autopsy are the clue to the identity of the murderer -- for there are no fresh figs in Vienna at this time of year. A fictional account of the relationship between American statesman Thomas Jefferson and his slave, Sally Hemings. An incisive new look at the complex bond that exists among sisters explains how an understanding of a woman's feelings toward her sister can shape her relationships with all women, analyzing diverse facets of the sister bond from infancy through adulthood, as well as the need to differentiate oneself from one's sister

while, at the same time, dealing with the protectiveness one feels toward that same person. Chronicles the pursuit and trial of Alfred Packer, one of a crew of prospectors who, when his group became lost in the snow of the Rockies in 1873, turned to cannibalism. Two brothers travel a storied river ' s past and present in search of the truth about their father ' s death in the second novel by the acclaimed author of *Fallen Land*. Now available in a paperback edition for the first time, *Makeup: The Art of Beauty* is an elegant yet practical guide to styling makeup. From sophisticated high style to trendy freestyle, from Hollywood glamour to that wholesome just-scrubbed glow, there ' s a look here for every woman. Professional makeup artist Linda Mason takes the reader, whatever her age, step by step through the entire process of creating an unforgettable look for any occasion. Written for the individual as well as the aspiring makeup professional, *Makeup* provides readers with straightforward advice and proven tips on choosing tools and products, applying makeup for special occasions, creating a unique look, and developing a personal style. A bonus section on careers in beauty includes advice on finding the right school, assembling a portfolio, and working in the studio or

on location. Makeup is an essential for anyone interested in perfecting the art of beauty. NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • Before *The Dante Chamber*, there was *The Dante Club*: “an ingenious thriller that . . . brings Dante Alighieri’s *Inferno* to vivid, even unsettling life.” —The Boston Globe

“With intricate plots, classical themes, and erudite characters . . . what’s not to love?” —Dan Brown, author of *The Da Vinci Code* and *Origin Boston*, 1865. The literary geniuses of the Dante Club—poets and Harvard professors Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, and James Russell Lowell, along with publisher J. T. Fields—are finishing America’s first translation of *The Divine Comedy*. The powerful Boston Brahmins at Harvard College are fighting to keep Dante in obscurity, believing the infiltration of foreign superstitions to be as corrupting as the immigrants arriving at Boston Harbor. But as the members of the Dante Club fight to keep a sacred literary cause alive, their plans fall apart when a series of murders erupts through Boston and Cambridge. Only this small group of scholars realizes that the gruesome killings are modeled on the descriptions of Hell’s punishments from Dante’s *Inferno*. With the lives of the Boston elite and Dante’s literary future in the New World at

stake, the members of the Dante Club must find the killer before the authorities discover their secret.

Praise for *The Dante Club* “ Ingenious . . . [Matthew Pearl] keeps this mystery sparkling with erudition. ” —Janet Maslin, *The New York Times*

“ Not just a page-turner but a beguiling look at the U.S. in an era when elites shaped the course of learning and publishing. With this story of the Dante Club ’ s own descent into hell, Mr. Pearl ’ s book will delight the Dante novice and expert alike. ” —*The Wall Street Journal* “ [Pearl] ably meshes the . . . literary analysis with a suspenseful plot and in the process humanizes the historical figures. . . . A divine mystery. ” —*People* (Page-turner of the Week) “ An erudite and entertaining account of Dante ’ s violent entrance into the American canon. ” —*Los Angeles Times* “ A hell of a first novel . . . *The Dante Club* delivers in spades. . . . Pearl has crafted a work that maintains interest and drips with nineteenth-century atmospherics. ” —*San Francisco Chronicle* Spring 1915. On a sprawling country estate not far from London a young woman mourns her husband, fallen on a distant battlefield. The eerie stillness in which she grieves will soon be shattered as her home is transformed into a bustling military hospital. Recoiling from the chaos, unhinged by grief, the



young widow finds unexpected refuge in the plight of a young soldier whose face, concealed by bandages, she cannot see. Their affair takes a fateful turn when she seizes upon the opportunity to remake her lover in the image of her lost husband. The Crimson Portrait is a novel of glittering surfaces that belie dark truths. Its rich cast - including the elderly surgeon whose skills prove tragically insufficient, the stable boy who seeks to improve his station, and the American woman artist through whose alchemy the wounded soldiers are afforded their best hope of reclaiming their shattered lives - comes into focus as the novel peels back layers of suspense and intrigue to show the blossoming of romance and the inevitable testing of true love. One of the few remaining men in the village of Santa Cecilia during the Second World War, Vito Leone falls in love with the daughter of the town's most powerful family despite their disapproval and seeks to prove himself when Germany seizes control.

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