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# Swann Carol Shields

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It is your utterly own mature to put-on reviewing habit. in the middle of guides you could enjoy now is Swann Carol Shields below.



Mary Swann  
Random House  
With a Foreword  
by the Author  
“Before  
becoming a  
playwright I was  
a novelist, and  
one who was

often impatient into.” -- Carol  
with the requisite Shields From  
description of Shields From  
weather or one of Canada’s  
scenery or even most beloved  
with the business authors comes a  
of moving people collection of four  
from room to works written for  
room. I was more the stage,  
interested in the including her  
sound of people most popular and  
talking to each highly acclaimed  
other, reacting to play Thirteen  
each other, or Hands. The  
leaving silences theatrical form  
for others to fall allows Carol  
Shields’ strength

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as a master of dialogue to shine at its brightest, as she returns to themes she explores in her prose: love, family, friendship, and the hidden meanings and larger truths found beneath the surface of the minutiae of daily life. *Thirteen Hands and Other Plays* is an exhilarating introduction to Shields' considerable achievements as a playwright. *Departures and Arrivals* (1990) dramatizes how lives are

heightened and enlarged when taken within the frame of public spaces -- airports, train stations, public streets -- so that we all become, in a sense, actors. *Thirteen Hands* (1993), a musical, valorizes a consistently overlooked group in our society, "the blue-rinse set" -- also known as "the white glove brigade" or "the bridge club biddies" -- and has had the strongest professional run of all Shields'

plays. *Fashion, Power, Guilt and the Charity of Families* (1995), written with her daughter, Catherine Shields, interrogates the ambivalence felt towards families, the drive we all share to find or create some kind of family, and the equally strong desire to escape the family's fury. *Anniversary* (1998), written with Dave Williamson, is a domestic drama of discontented, middle class suburbanites. One couple in the play are

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married and pretending to be close to separation.

Another couple, who are separated, are pretending to be married. The additional irony is that the separated couple are still emotionally together, while the married couple have already emotionally separated.

El Secreto de Mary Swann

Vintage Canada

“ 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. ” Retawinters 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

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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.

Thirteen Hands Paw Prints 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

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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.

Susanna Moodie  
HarperCollins  
UK

This is the story of a married couple, Jocelyn and Charles, and their self-imposed separation of 10 months when Jock accepts a job in a city more than a thousand miles away from her family.  
*A Siege of Bitterns*

Fawcett Winterson enfold her seventh novel within the world of computers, and transforms the signal development of our time into a wholly human medium. The story is simple: an e-mail writer called Ali will compose anything you like, on order, provided you're prepared to enter the story as yourself and risk leaving it as someone else. You can be the hero of your own life. You can have freedom just for one night. But there is a price, and Ali discovers that she, too, will have to pay it. The PowerBook reinvents itself as it travels from London to Paris, Capri, and Cyberspace, using fairy tales, contemporary myths,

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and popular culture to weave a story of failed but requited love.

*The PowerBook*

Dundurn

\*A BookMovement Group Read\* \*\*A People Pick for Best New Books\*\* Yara Zgheib's poetic and poignant debut novel is a haunting portrait of a young woman's struggle with anorexia on an intimate journey to reclaim her life. The chocolate went first, then the cheese, the fries, the ice cream. The bread was more difficult, but if she could just lose a little more weight, perhaps she would make the soloists' list. Perhaps if she were lighter, danced better, tried harder, she would be good enough. Perhaps if she just ran for one more

mile, lost just one more pound. Anna Roux was a professional dancer who followed the man of her dreams from Paris to Missouri. There, alone with her biggest fears – imperfection, failure, loneliness – she spirals down anorexia and depression till she weighs a mere eighty-eight pounds. Forced to seek treatment, she is admitted as a patient at 17 Swann Street, a peach pink house where pale, fragile women with life-threatening eating disorders live. Women like Emm, the veteran; quiet Valerie; Julia, always hungry. Together, they must fight their diseases and face six meals a day. Every bite causes anxiety. Every flavor induces guilt. And every step Anna takes

toward recovery will require strength, endurance, and the support of the girls at 17 Swann Street.

Mary Swann

University of Toronto Press

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

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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. **Swann** McGill-Queen's Press - MQUP  
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. **The Republic of Love** University of Toronto Press

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To her neighbors, Mary Swann was a simple, hardworking farm wife; her delicate poems are discovered only after she is brutally murdered. The strange, evocative verses attract the attention of an earnestly self-absorbed feminist scholar, a pompous literary biographer, a virginal small-town librarian, and a curmudgeonly retired newspaper editor. But as interest increases, all traces of Swann's existence--her notebook, the first draft of her work, even her photograph--mysteriously vanish. In solving the puzzle of Swann's disappearing legacy, Carol Shields explores the larger mysteries of the nature of art, as well as the powerful

forces that motivate us all. Vintage Canada NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE, THE HUFFINGTON POST, AND SHELF AWARENESS • “In Hausfrau, Anna Karenina goes Fifty Shades with a side of Madame Bovary.”—Time “A debut novel about Anna, a bored housewife who, like her Tolstoyan namesake, throws herself into a psychosexual journey of self-discovery and tragedy.”—O: The Oprah Magazine “Sexy and insightful, this gorgeously written novel opens a window into one woman’s desperate

soul.”—People Anna was a good wife, mostly. For readers of The Girl on the Train and The Woman Upstairs comes a striking debut novel of marriage, fidelity, sex, and morality, featuring a fascinating heroine who struggles to live a life with meaning. Anna Benz, an American in her late thirties, lives with her Swiss husband, Bruno—a banker—and their three young children in a postcard-perfect suburb of Zürich. Though she leads a comfortable, well-appointed life, Anna is falling apart inside. Adrift and increasingly unable to connect with the emotionally unavailable Bruno or even with her own thoughts and feelings, Anna tries to rouse herself with new



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experiences: German language classes, Jungian analysis, and a series of sexual affairs she enters with an ease that surprises even her. But Anna can't easily extract herself from these affairs. When she wants to end them, she finds it's difficult. Tensions escalate, and her lies start to spin out of control. Having crossed a moral threshold, Anna will discover where a woman goes when there is no going back. Intimate, intense, and written with the precision of a Swiss Army knife, Jill Alexander Essbaum's debut novel is an unforgettable story of marriage, fidelity, sex, morality, and most especially self. Navigating the lines between lust and love, guilt and shame, excuses and reasons, Anna Benz is an electrifying heroine whose passions and choices readers will debate with recognition and fury. Her story reveals, with honesty and great beauty, how we create ourselves and how we lose ourselves and the sometimes disastrous choices we make to find ourselves. Praise for *Hausfrau* "Elegant . . . There is much to admire in Essbaum's intricately constructed, meticulously composed novel, including its virtuosic intercutting of past and present."—Chicago Tribune "For a first novelist, Essbaum is extraordinary because she is a poet. Her language is meticulous and resonant and daring."—NPR's Weekend Edition "We're in literary territory as familiar as Anna's name, but Essbaum makes it fresh with sharp prose and psychological insight."—San Francisco Chronicle "This marvelously quiet book is psychologically complex and deeply intimate. . . . One of the smartest novels in recent memory."—The Dallas Morning News "Essbaum's poignant, shocking debut novel rivets."—Us Weekly "A powerful, lyrical novel . . . *Hausfrau* boasts taut pacing and melodrama, but also a fully realized heroine as love-hateable as Emma Bovary."—The Huffington Post "Imagine Tom Perrotta's *American Nowheresvilles*

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swapped out for a tidy Zürich suburb, sprinkled liberally with sharp riffs on Swiss-German grammar and European hypocrisy.”—New York

**Coming to Canada**  
Vintage Canada  
Eighteen years old and completely alone, Rosemary arrives in New York from Tasmania with little other than her love of books and an eagerness to explore the city. Taking a job at a vast, chaotic emporium of used and rare books called the Arcade, she knows she has found a home. But when Rosemary reads a letter from someone seeking to

“place” a lost manuscript by Herman Melville, the bookstore erupts with simmering ambitions and rivalries. Including actual correspondence by Melville, *The Secret of Lost Things* is at once a literary adventure and evocative portrait of a young woman making a life for herself in the city.

**Larry's Party**  
National Geographic Books  
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

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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 appeal widely to scholars, students, and readers of Carol Shields and Canadian fiction. *Carol Shields and the Writer-Critic* Vintage Canada 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 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.

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*Collected Stories*  
Borealis  
A stunning special  
edition hardcover  
of 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 photograp  
h--gradually  
vanish as the  
characters in this  
engrossing novel  
become caught up  
in their own  
concepts of who  
Mary Swann was.  
*Random*  
*Illuminations* Vintage  
Canada  
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.

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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 autobiography, literary criticism, and feminist and critical theory.

*I Am Really a Princess* Swann Mary 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.

*Swann* Penguin  
A young girl

imagines herself a princess and contrasts her everyday life with the one she could have in a castle with infinitely permissive parents. Reprint. [The Collected Poetry of Carol Shields](#) Anchor 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

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*Two Scenes of Women's Writing*

Vintage Canada

Swann Vintage

Canada

*The Collected*

*Poetry of Carol*

*Shields* Barkhuis

The lives of four

amazingly

different

individuals

become intertwined with that of Mary Swann, a rural Canadian poet of delicate verse whose genuine talent is only discovered after she is brutally murdered.