

# White Picket Fences A Novel

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## Once White Picket Fences

Follows an upwardly mobile African American family to an affluent Connecticut suburb, where keeping up with the Joneses takes its toll

## White Picket Fences

Growing up in the seventies, our family appeared perfect to the residents of our small community. My mother was determined to have her Camelot on the

North Dakota prairie. My father was an unwilling participant in her goal of perfection; the children were props in the setting she was determined to create.

### **Raising Fences**

Penelope Ayers is a memoir about a beautiful, gracious, lonely New Orleanian who discovers one February morning that she has cancer. Penny's life to this point has included an alcoholic husband, divorce, depression, and raising two boys on her own. And yet this crisis prompts her to reach out for help. Three generations of her fractured, colorful family respond, and in so doing, they all experience grace and healing. Set in pre-Katrina New Orleans, Penelope Ayers unfolds against the backdrop of one of the world's most vibrant cities. This story offers comfort and inspiration to anyone facing a life-threatening illness, and it will also appeal to individuals wrestling with questions for God, and about God, in the midst of difficult situations. Ultimately, it is a family story about the strong and tenuous nature of hope.

### **A Good and Perfect Gift**

Revelations from inside the White Picket Fence is the second book in Inside the White Picket Fence series. Book 2 contains stories from the life of Lauri Florentine Howell, but also begins to explore topics and issues that are currently having an effect or an impact on society as a whole. The author has compiled these in a manner that she hopes will help the reader view these topics from a different

perspective. Issues that were only seen as black or white may be seen in different shades. These alternative angles can possibly offer solutions to the issues having an impact on society today. The author does not claim to have answers to these things, but hopes the stories will motivate the reader to ask questions that will eventually lead to those solutions.

### **A White Picket Fence**

The fourth Kate Daniels novel from the #1 New York Times bestselling author who “defines urban fantasy” (Fresh Fiction). Kate Daniels works for the Order of the Knights of Merciful Aid, officially as a liaison with the mercenary guild. Unofficially, she cleans up the paranormal problems no one else wants to handle—especially if they involve Atlanta’s shapeshifting community. When she’s called in to investigate a fight at the Steel Horse, a bar midway between the territories of the shapeshifters and the necromancers, Kate quickly discovers there’s a new player in town. One who’s been around for thousands of years—and rode to war at the side of Kate’s father. This foe may be too much even for Kate and Curran, the Lord of the Beasts, to handle. Because this time, Kate will be taking on family

### **Magic Bleeds**

First published in 1999, Mary Pattillo’s *Black Picket Fences* explores an American demographic group too often ignored by both scholars and the media: the black middle class. Nearly fifteen years later, this

book remains a groundbreaking study of a group still underrepresented in the academic and public spheres. The result of living for three years in “Groveland,” a black middle-class neighborhood on Chicago’s South Side, *Black Picket Fences* explored both the advantages the black middle class has and the boundaries they still face. Despite arguments that race no longer matters, Pattillo showed a different reality, one where black and white middle classes remain separate and unequal. Stark, moving, and still timely, the book is updated for this edition with a new epilogue by the author that details how the neighborhood and its residents fared in the recession of 2008, as well as new interviews with many of the same neighborhood residents featured in the original. Also included is a new foreword by acclaimed University of Pennsylvania sociologist Annette Lareau.

### **Picket Fence**

Behind *Picket Fences* is the story of how four families deal with their trials and triumphs. Sharing the same neighborhood, even spending time together, no family knows the truth about the difficulties the others face. On the outside, Sidra and Farris have the biggest house and the most expensive cars. What no one else sees, is their struggle with infertility. If their dreams do not change to compensate for the blows of fate, their unfulfilled life may lead to deception. Mariam and Morgan's modest home exudes the rich scent of family. With children playing in the yard, they seem picture perfect. But financial struggle is their continuous battle, and their only solution may give

birth to an envy which is more destructive than hunger. Summer and Porter enjoy youth and the freedom of self-employment. But discontentment and mental instability linger between them. If they are not able to build a bridge over the gap, their search for happiness may have a fatal end. May and Hasan enjoy peace and true happiness. Illness cares not, however, of letting them relish in their blessings. Only patience and time will prove if this unwelcome visitor is simply passing by, or if it will tear their world apart. An honest portrayal of love and family, Behind Picket Fences opens our eyes to the difficult truths hidden behind smiling faces.

### **Assured**

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, by Mark Twain, is a popular novel about a young boy growing up in a village on the banks of the Mississippi River. Tom Sawyer, a mischievous orphan taken in by his aunt Polly, goes through a series of adventures involving his friends, Joe Harper and Huckleberry Finn. Tom is an escape master and a small crook in a long list of adventures, as a symbol of celebration of childhood.

### **Swimming Naked**

From legendary playwright August Wilson comes the powerful, stunning dramatic bestseller that won him critical acclaim, including the Tony Award for Best Play and the Pulitzer Prize. Troy Maxson is a strong man, a hard man. He has had to be to survive. Troy Maxson has gone through life in an America where to

be proud and black is to face pressures that could crush a man, body and soul. But the 1950s are yielding to the new spirit of liberation in the 1960s, a spirit that is changing the world Troy Maxson has learned to deal with the only way he can, a spirit that is making him a stranger, angry and afraid, in a world he never knew and to a wife and son he understands less and less. This is a modern classic, a book that deals with the impossibly difficult themes of race in America, set during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 60s. Now an Academy Award-winning film directed by and starring Denzel Washington, along with Academy Award and Golden Globe winner Viola Davis.

### **Placemaker**

'Everyone has a little dirty laundry.' The darkly comic series about the secret lives of the ladies living on Wisteria Lane became an instant breakthrough hit for ABC. 21 million viewers tuned in for the first episode and this figure has steadily grown as audiences from around the globe have switched on to the shenanigans in suburbia. "Desperate Housewives" was subject to a backlash in America, where advertisers on the ABC network were lobbied by Christian groups and Parents' Associations. But the sponsorship withdrawal that resulted did little to dampen the enthusiasm of its legions of fans. Recipient of several awards including the People's Choice Award and Golden Globe for Best Television - Musical or Comedy, "Desperate Housewives" is a hit. "Reading Desperate Housewives" offers a critical

response to one of the most talked about shows on contemporary television. Leading scholars and writers dissect the appeal of "Desperate Housewives", tapping into early reactions and controversy. They consider the American sex wars, contemporary feminism, Republican politics and the rise of the Right, gender and femininity, motherhood and marriage - and that Vanity Fair shoot. The book includes an episode guide tracing all those goings-on beyond that white picket fence.

### **Behind Picket Fences**

Josefina, the main character, is a young girl destabilized by her parent's messy separation. She migrates to the United States from Colombia and lives with her mother in a single parent home in Washington Heights, New York. Her intermittent peace is brief as her parent's on and off murky relationship continues. Josefina speaks of her life as a young immigrant in New York sharing a series of anecdotes and dives into details of the destructive relationship with a neighborhood boy. She struggles to free herself of the loveless affair as her morals are compromised. She is dragged into illegal negotiations through her father and boyfriend, and takes us on a short ride through the legal system during the 80's at the height of the drug epidemic. A series of unfortunate events take place before tragedy strikes her family forever changing her belief system. Our story is unique because although we have repeatedly heard of the dangers of the drug epidemic, Josefina tells it through the eyes of a young girl who indirectly

and somewhat innocently engages in illegal dealings.

### **Reading Desperate Housewives**

On the outside, Kristy Dominiak appeared to have a seemingly perfect life. But inside, she was falling apart. Inside, she was waging war against personal demons that were looking to take everything she held precious away from her.

### **Fences**

Bianca Reynolds was torn between love and love that was lost. A helpless romantic, she believed that love would prevail through it all. Never once did she think that her life would be anything but perfect. She would have a husband, kids and a house with a white picket fence. That was a dream and she fought so hard to make this dream a reality. With love there is pain and the true measure of love is what is left of your heart once the pain is gone. Bianca knew that her lifestyle would put her in places in which she may become uncomfortable but she fought hard to overcome the obstacles that stood before her.

### **Rocking the Closet**

Lina and Phil Hunter have shared an uncanny psychic connection since they were teenagers and he saved her life, so when Lina's mother cautions her to be on guard against a new love interest she sees in her astrological chart, it confirms what Lina already suspects, her mother is crazy. Sure her marriage has

been under extra stress lately, dealing with a rebellious teenager, but she's never even looked at another man, well besides her daughter's psychiatrist, Dr. Drayton, but that's more in awe. When a betrayal shakes the foundation of her marriage, Lina begins confiding in the child psychiatrist, blurring the lines between whether she or Katie is the patient, and as a mutual attraction grows, she starts to question whether the boy she fell in love with twenty-four years earlier still exists.

### **Penelope Ayers**

While interviewing two Holocaust survivors for a sociology project, cousins Tally and Chase soon realize that the whole family is grappling with hidden secrets, echoes of the past, and the realization that ignoring tragic situations won't make them go away. Original.

### **Sugar**

This New York Times–bestselling memoir about an African American man's struggles and triumphs is “heartrending and beautiful” (Junot Diaz Pulitzer Prize–winning author of *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*). A Today Show Book Club selection, *Raising Fences* tells the story of a man whose youth was spent committing petty crimes, experimenting with sex, and developing a mortal fear of police. Like many young black men, Michael Datcher's childhood was marked by the gaping hole left by an absent father. Out of that absence grew the desire to fulfill a

dream that seemed almost a fantasy: to leave the streets behind, build a family, and become what he had wanted so badly—a good father. Moving past his self-destructive habits and taking responsibility for his mistakes wasn't easy. Datcher's journey nearly brought him to his breaking point—where he faced the threat of becoming what he feared most.

“Datcher's voice is clear, bold, daring, and welcome.” —Junot Diaz, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* “Honest, brisk and ultimately very moving . . . A beautiful story of real-life redemption.” —Kirkus Reviews “Combines attitude, honesty and romance . . . A stunning tribute to perseverance, courage and the power of positive thinking.” —Publishers Weekly “Brutally honest, hauntingly poetic . . . Heartbreaking.” —Essence “Riveting.” —USA Today “Poignant . . . Complex.” —The Seattle Times “An inspiration to all who dare to dream of a better life.” —The Star-Ledger

### **White Powder Fences**

An Honest, Hopeful Look at Unexpected Challenges  
Challenging surprises often lead to unexpected joy. Amy Julia opens eyes and softens hearts as she brings readers into her own story of disappointment turned to blessing. This is a journey of discovering strength through weakness, and the author learns to embrace the face that we are all dependent on God and one another. This books will inspire readers who appreciate beautiful writing coupled with deep insights about life and faith. "Amy Julia Becker has the courage and grace to tell the truth. Whether you are a

parent or not, whether the children in your life are 'typical' or not, this story will shake you, change you, and encourage you."--Andy Crouch, author, Culture Making

### **A Dog's Ransom**

While interviewing two Holocaust survivors for a sociology project, cousins Tally and Chase soon realize that the whole family is grappling with hidden secrets, echoes of the past, and the realization that ignoring tragic situations won't make them go away. Original.

### **Red Picket Fences: A Jennifer Temple Cozy Mystery**

The nightmare is only beginning for a wealthy Manhattan couple, the Reynolds, when they receive a note saying that their beloved poodle, Lisa, is being held for ransom.

### **Black Picket Fences, Second Edition**

Lina and Phil Hunter have shared an uncanny psychic connection since they were teenagers and he saved her life, so when Lina's mother cautions her to be on guard against a new love interest she sees in her astrological chart, it confirms what Lina already suspects, her mother is crazy. Sure her marriage has been under extra stress lately, dealing with a rebellious teenager, but Lina's never even looked at another man, well besides her daughter's psychiatrist,

Dr. Drayton, but that's more in awe. When a betrayal shakes the foundation of her marriage, Lina begins confiding in the child psychiatrist, blurring the lines between whether she or her daughter is the patient. As a mutual attraction grows, Lina begins to question whether the boy she fell in love with twenty-five years earlier still exists.

### **Beautiful Lies**

Tells the story of Sophie Scholl, a young German college student who challenges the Nazi regime during World War II as part of the White Rose, a non-violent resistance group.

### **Homewreckers**

Woman, the beholder of the Distinctive Fruit, and the victim of mans sexual immorality. The fruit of a woman has been bought and sold through prostitution, its been abused by the pedophiles who rape, and for some, loved and cherished. Here between this cover the dark hidden truth reveals the recipe of the loose female and the cheating man! You will feel the exposed devastations of the emotional ranting with the domestic confrontations! You will feel the fear of loneliness, the suffering, and the captivity of a womans tearful heartache of her own self-prisonment! Marriage is no longer respected nor honored unto The Sacred Vow, and the crisis are many. The lies, the deceit, and the broken unity of love are the seeds of the fruit of the female who does not take heed! All fruit spoils when its left out into the

open! Where do you fit between these covers? You'll see yourself, And they'll know your name! Copyright 2012 All Rights Reserved.

## **White Privilege Unmasked**

How's life? Are you lucky enough to wake up every day with everything going just as you planned, hoped and dreamed? Do you jump out of bed full of anxious enthusiasm, ready to face and embrace the life you are living? Perhaps you are lucky enough to find yourself living in a cozy home, surrounded by a delightful white picket fence, with a caring, loving and stable spouse, able to stay home every day creating the ideal life for your, oh so perfect, children. Do you have the career of your dreams which provides you power, success and financial stability? We all dream about an enchanting life behind that charming, little white picket fence but most of us discover that the fairytale life we hoped for is far from perfect. Life delivers a series of twists and turns forcing us to face many unexpected calamities. These unforeseen hardships, such as divorce, abuse, addiction and illness can upset the balance of your seamless life and force you to venture outside of your comfort zone. Join Shari Yantes as she tells her own story, and shares tips, pointers and insights about venturing out and creating a life beyond the white Picket fence.

## **Revelations from Inside the White Picket Fence**

All white people understand cultural differences from

a platform of relative privilege, affecting their personal and professional interactions. How should they respond when confronted with this knowledge? This introductory book looks at the concept of whiteness, and shows how individuals can 'unmask' their own whiteness and take meaningful steps to break down unconscious bias and structural racism. Exploring how colonial history resulted in white privilege, this book examines how that privilege manifests today in a culturally diverse world, and the links between the rise in far-right politics and anti-immigration rhetoric that led to Brexit and Donald Trump's election. It looks at the pressures on privilege and white populations, with candid reflections on how even well-meaning white people may project unconscious bias in their everyday lives. There are also dedicated chapters on training to raise awareness of white privilege in professional organizations.

### **Brave New Home**

Placemaker is a call to tend our souls, our land, and our homes--to cultivate comfort, beauty, and peace in the places God has us. Images of comfortable kitchens and flower-filled gardens stir something deep within us--we instinctively long for home. In a world of chaos and conflict, we want a place of comfort and peace. In Placemaker, Christie Purifoy invites us to notice our soul's desire for beauty, our need to create and to be created again and again. As she reflects on the joys and sorrows of two decades as a placemaker and her recent years living in and restoring a

Pennsylvania farmhouse, Christie shows us that we are all gardeners. No matter our vocation, we spend much of our lives tending, keeping, and caring. In each act of creation, we reflect the image of God. In each moment of making beauty, we realize that beauty is a mystery to receive. Weaving together her family's journey with stories of botanical marvels and the histories of the flawed yet inspiring placemakers who shaped the land generations ago, Christie calls us to cultivate orchards and communities, to clap our hands along with the trees of the fields, to step into our calling to create, to make a place in the place God made for us. Placemaker is a timely yet timeless reminder that the cultivation of good and beautiful places is not a retreat from the real world but a holy pursuit of a world that is more real than we know.

### **The Wife Picket Fence**

My friends and family seem not to know of my verses, my verse writing was unlike my action adventure novels of my off road racing days in Mexico. It gave me pleasure forming verses into the biography of my life, which could be shared with others. My verses suggest that I may have been a closed hopeless romantic, only subject to the verses I wrote for even the girl next door can tell by the reflections of my heart. Whether it's true or distorted, it can be passed through generations or the common reader. I was wise enough to know that there was certain fun in the forming and publishing. There are extremes of mood in my verses, at one extreme is in beneath me, always, and winged path, first describes my first love

and the second projects the day we met, and the loss after she left. And serious grim in Blasphemy, is the catastrophe that befell on me after my autistic sons mother denied him. A loss for my children, having a mother periodically coming into their lives a couple times a year. A couple of my other themes Saplings and Heaven are of the happiness and joy of my two youngest children laughing and smiling onto the world. Between these extremes of mood comes depression. Into me, is a verse coming from my past loves in and out of my children and my lives. There is an occasional note of explanation or background in my verses. As in the verse "Thayer" I had hoped that one day to return to white picket fences in the mid west, so I could live in peace love and happiness in my forty years remained.

### **Good Fences**

'Stories from Inside the White Picket Fence' is a book that strives to show people that there is much more to life than we see. If we open our minds, while quieting them at the same time, we will hear the universe speak. But we have to ready to listen. Life throws us curveballs. Some of these inspired Lauri Florentine Howell to write them down. These poems were her Soul Inspirations. The author hopes that the readers find the poems inspirational and enlightening and that the stories connect with whomever they need to. She hopes the reader leaves with a higher understanding of life and purpose.

### **Behind the White Picket Fence**

The all-embracing, "whaddya got?" nature of rebellion in Fifties America included pop music's unlikely challenge to entrenched notions of masculinity. Within that upheaval, four prominent artists dared to behave in ways that let the public assume—but not see—their queerness. That these artists cultivated ambiguous sexual personas often reflected an understandable fear, but also a struggle to fulfill personal and professional expectations. Vincent L. Stephens confronts notions of the closet—both coming out and staying in—by analyzing the careers of Liberace, Johnny Mathis, Johnnie Ray, and Little Richard. Appealing to audiences hungry for novelty and exoticism, the four pop icons used performance and queering techniques that ran the gamut. Liberace's flamboyance shared a spectrum with Mathis's intimate sensitivity while Ray's overwrought displays as "Mr. Emotion" seemed worlds apart from Little Richard's raise-the-roof joyousness. As Stephens shows, the quartet not only thrived in an era of gray flannel manhood, they pioneered the ways generations of later musicians would consciously adopt sexual mystery as an appealing and proven route to success.

### **White Picket Fences**

Taylor Wayland's cozy life of happiness with her husband Joseph and their three children weren't the only things going well in her life. She had a beautiful home, longtime friends, good health, happiness and prosperity, things that made one's life seem picturesque. But even being surrounded by all of

these fortunes, it didn't deter her selfish passions to fill a void. In search of what she saw as a deeper sense of self, she gives in to her thirst for an old flame, her husband's best friend. At the height of their indiscretions, their tryst is revealed during a dinner party, but is immediately outshined by a shocking misfortune involving another friend in the group. In this book, the reader is taken on Taylor's exploration of masking her indiscretions, while grievously including everyone in their inner circle. Taylor's betrayals intertwined with her evolution as a wife, friend and uninhibited lover soon reach a hard-won outcome. It reveals that her vision of a perfect life, would travel along a broken and much less than perfect road. And in receipt of this life, she'll lose just as much as she'll gain.

### **The Adventures of Tom Sawyer**

"Over the past century, American demographics and social norms have shifted dramatically. If trends continue, we should expect to see more people living alone, later-in-life marriages, fewer (and smaller) new families, and a majority-minority population that skews older and older. Americans' daily life and preferences have also changed, whether by choice or by force, to become more virtual, more mobile, and less stable. But housing today largely looks the same as it did in 1950. In *Brave New Home*, Diana Lind shows why the government-subsidized suburbs full of single-family houses are bad for us and our planet, and details the new efforts underway that better reflect the way we live now, to ensure that the way

we live next is both less lonely and more affordable. Lind takes readers into the homes and communities that are seeking alternatives to the American norm, from multi-generational living, in-law suites, and co-living to microapartments, tiny houses, and new rural communities. Drawing on Lind's expertise and the stories of Americans caught in or forging their own paths outside of our cookie-cutter housing trap, *Brave New Home* offers a diagnosis of the current crisis in American housing and a radical re-imagining of the possibilities of housing"--

### **Inside the White Picket Fence**

"Essential reading." —New York Review of Books In the spirit of *Evicted*, *Bait and Switch*, and *The Big Short*, a shocking, heart-wrenching investigation into America's housing crisis and the modern-day robber barons who are making a fortune off the backs of the disenfranchised working and middle class—among them, Donald Trump and his inner circle. Two years before the housing market collapsed in 2008, Donald Trump looked forward to a crash: "I sort of hope that happens because then people like me would go in and buy," he said. But our future president wasn't alone. While millions of Americans suffered financial loss, tycoons pounced to heartlessly seize thousands of homes—their profiteering made even easier because, as prize-winning investigative reporter Aaron Glantz reveals in *Homewreckers*, they often used taxpayer money—and the Obama administration's promise to cover their losses. In *Homewreckers*, Glantz recounts the transformation of straightforward lending into a

morass of slivered and combined mortgage “products” that could be bought and sold, accompanied by a shift in priorities and a loosening of regulations and laws that made it good business to lend money to those who wouldn’t be able to repay. Among the men who laughed their way to the bank: Trump cabinet members Steve Mnuchin and Wilbur Ross, Trump pal and confidant Tom Barrack, and billionaire Republican cash cow Steve Schwarzman. Homewreckers also brilliantly weaves together the stories of those most ravaged by the housing crisis. The result is an eye-opening expose of the greed that decimated millions and enriched a gluttonous few.

### **The Shaken Snow Globe**

I've always been the guy who plays the field. I like variety and my career ensures that I can have my pick of women. Until her I've always been the girl who wants more. I want the white picket fence, the two point five kids and the dog. That's what all little girls grow up dreaming about. Until him Why is it that she's all I can see? I no longer want the variety instead all I want is her. I won't stop until she believes that she's mine. I assure you He's not the kind of guy I usually date. He's cocky, and famous and that hair. He says I'm what he wants, but I know his type. He likes to play the field. Only with me he's different. He's assured.

### **Jumping the Picket Fence**

What is it that turns a house into a home? Finnoula O

'Grady had never had a home Growing up in foster care, Finnoula had spent her childhood longing for a little house with a white picket fence. Years later, her dreams came true when she inherited the run-down March Winds. But someone else was in love with her house, too young Emma, the lonely niece of her next-door neighbour Cade McDaniel. Cade knew nothing about being a single parent. The only love and caring he'd ever done was for old houses that he restored for a living. Then, when Emma finds a child's 150-year-old diary, a story is unearthed that brings the three wounded souls together and begins to change March Winds from a house into a home.

### **Stories from Inside the White Picket Fence**

What happens when you let go of fear, follow your inner voice and trust in something greater? Lydia Dean is at the top of her game professionally and personally, yet she is also on the verge of an emotional breakdown. She persuades her husband, John, to leave their comfortable life in Florida and take their young family on an inspirational journey around the world. The family initially settles in a quiet village in the South of France where they discover the joys of leading a simpler life. Lydia's childhood dreams of humanitarian work take her further from the comforts of home as she ventures into shelters for children across India; through the jungles of Costa Rica, Southeast Asia, and Venezuela; and to China where the Deans adopt their third child. Motivated by the simple ideal that small, personal actions can make a

difference, Lydia and a passionate team launch GoPhilanthropic Foundation, a non-profit devoted to partnering with community-based organizations providing access to education, healthcare, and basic human rights in marginalized communities around the world. Magical and entertaining, painfully raw and unsettling, Lydia Dean's book offers a beautifully balanced mixture of travel memoir, soul searching, and non-profit building. The story ultimately becomes about what each of us can experience if we take a risk and jump our own fences. Lydia Dean-founder of GoPhilanthropic Travel and co-founder of GoPhilanthropic Foundation-currently resides in Provence, France.

### **And a House with a White Picket Fence**

How well do you know your neighbors? Jennifer Temple, a true crime fanatic and stay-at-home-mom, is growing restless in her small town neighborhood. To spice things up, she's tried everything from sewing her own clothes to raising chickens. However, nothing ever changes in Pembury Acres. Until a house fire takes the lives of her new neighbors. The community is rocked, and the police move to close the case quickly. Too quickly. Using skills gained from watching endless hours of true crime TV and a compulsion to get to the bottom of things, Jennifer stumbles onto clues that put her in the middle of the investigation - and right in the sights of the killer. Will Jennifer's amateur skills and tenacity be enough to help her find the truth before the killer strikes again

## **White Rose**

Margaret Atwood puts the human heart to the ultimate test in an utterly brilliant new novel that is as visionary as *The Handmaid's Tale* and as richly imagined as *The Blind Assassin*. Stan and Charmaine are a married couple trying to stay afloat in the midst of an economic and social collapse. Job loss has forced them to live in their car, leaving them vulnerable to roving gangs. They desperately need to turn their situation around—and fast. The Positron Project in the town of Consilience seems to be the answer to their prayers. No one is unemployed and everyone gets a comfortable, clean house to live in . . . for six months out of the year. On alternating months, residents of Consilience must leave their homes and function as inmates in the Positron prison system. Once their month of service in the prison is completed, they can return to their "civilian" homes. At first, this doesn't seem like too much of a sacrifice to make in order to have a roof over one's head and food to eat. But when Charmaine becomes romantically involved with the man who lives in their house during the months when she and Stan are in the prison, a series of troubling events unfolds, putting Stan's life in danger. With each passing day, Positron looks less like a prayer answered and more like a chilling prophecy fulfilled.

## **No White Picket Fences**

Behind the White Picket Fence: Power and Privilege in a Multiethnic Neighborhood

## **White Picket Fences**

A Gentle Invitation into the Challenging Topic of Privilege The notion that some might have it better than others, for no good reason, offends our sensibilities. Yet, until we talk about privilege, we'll never fully understand it or find our way forward. Amy Julia Becker welcomes us into her life, from the charm of her privileged southern childhood to her adult experience in the northeast, and the denials she has faced as the mother of a child with special needs. She shows how a life behind a white picket fence can restrict even as it protects, and how it can prevent us from loving our neighbors well. White Picket Fences invites us to respond to privilege with generosity, humility, and hope. It opens us to questions we are afraid to ask, so that we can walk further from fear and closer to love, in all its fragile and mysterious possibilities.

## **The Heart Goes Last**

Set in a small Arkansas town in the 1950s, a tale of loyalty and friendship between two African American women finds Jude turning to the church after the death of her daughter, and to a young woman who turns out to be a prostitute.

## **Beyond the White Picket Fence**

If Ridley Jones had slept ten minutes later or had taken the subway instead of waiting for a cab, she would still be living the beautiful lie she used to call

her life. She would still be the privileged daughter of a doting father and a loving mother. Her life would still be perfect—with only the tiny cracks of an angry junkie for a brother and a charming drunk with shady underworld connections for an uncle to mar the otherwise flawless whole. But that's not what happened. Instead, those inconsequential decisions lead her to perform a good deed that puts her in the right place at the right time to unleash a chain of events that brings a mysterious package to her door—a package which informs her that her entire world is a lie. Suddenly forced to question everything she knows about herself and her family, Ridley wanders into dark territory she never knew existed, where everyone in her life seems like a stranger. She has no idea who's on her side and who has something to hide—even, and maybe especially, her new lover, Jake, who appears to have secrets of his own. Sexy and fast-paced, *Beautiful Lies* is a true literary thriller with one of the freshest voices and heroines to arrive in years. Lisa Unger takes us on a breathtaking ride in which every choice Ridley makes creates a whirlwind of consequences that are impossible to imagine . . . .

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