



Silent Retreats

By Philip F. Deaver

University of Georgia Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 240 pages. Dimensions: 8.4in. x 5.5in. x 0.8in. Caught in the middle of modern life, eyes gazing at the middle distance, the characters in Silent Retreats search, down roads paved by custom and dotted by the absurd, for escape, refuge, or, at least, merciful diversion. Many of the men in Philip Deaver's stories, having drifted out of their native Illinois to the far corners, find comfort from empty jobs and blank relationships in healing, often hilarious, seductions. In Why I Shacked Up With Martha a distracted DC executive pierces the gray blur of his glass box on Dupont Circle with illicit, painfully superficial notes passed to his beautiful, liberated coworker. In Marguerite Howe, a businessman from Texas at a cocktail party in New Haven accosts his hostess, blindly convinced that she is the woman of his college day-dreams at the University of Virginia. And, in Nebraska, a defeated legal aid attorney escapes the cold wind of failure and a near suicidal woman in the deep warmth of Fionas Rooms. Other characters, still within the radius of central Illinois, tread through the familiar scenery of the past, measuring with landmarks of memory the...



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