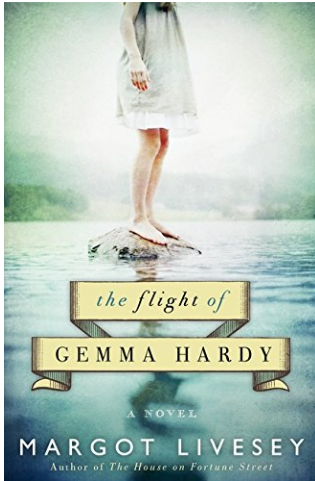


[PDF] The Flight Of Gemma Hardy: A Novel

Margot Livesey - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: The Flight of Gemma Hardy: A
Author: Margot Livesey
Released: 2012-01-24
Language:
Pages: 464
ISBN: 0062064223
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Description:

From The talented Livesey updates Jane Eyre, changing the setting to Scotland and the Orkneys during the 1950s and '60s but taking care to home in on the elements of this classic story that so resonate with readers: a resourceful orphan makes her way in an uncaring world and not only endures but also triumphs. Despite readers' familiarity with the story line, they will be held rapt as Gemma Hardy, orphaned at age 10, is taken in by a loving uncle only to lose him, too. Her aunt so cruelly shuns her in the wake of her uncle's death that she looks forward to attending boarding school, but her status as a working girl means that she has little time for her schoolwork, often laboring to the point of exhaustion. Still, Gemma's high intelligence and fierce resolve see her through many difficult experiences until she lands a dream job as an au pair on the isolated yet beautiful Orkney Islands. There she meets the family that will change her life (minus the madwoman in the attic). A sure bet for both book clubs and Brontë fans. --Joanne Wilkinson

Review "A delight....Livesey is a lovely, fluid writer." (**Sarah Towers**, *New York Times*)

Book Review)

“A cunning adaptation.” (**Liza Nelson**, *O, the Oprah Magazine*)

“Absorbing....Ms. Livesey writes lovely, understated prose...[her] treks through the novel’s pleasing natural landscapes...are almost as engaging as her navigation of Gemma’s restless psyche.” (**Sam Sacks**, *Wall Street Journal*)

“Livesey delivers a suspenseful, curl-up-by-the-fire romance with a willfully determined protagonist who’s worthy of her literary role model.” (**People**)

“Jane Eyre gets a terrific modern makeover....Livesey works some sort of magic in *The Flight of Gemma Hardy*, which is too entertaining to be superfluous, too wise in its understanding of human nature to be a mere retread.” (**Connie Ogle**, *Miami Herald*)

“Livesey has pulled off the near-impossible task that the homage begs an author to do: create an original, fresh work that shines in its own light, while bringing an established, esteemed work to the attention of new readers, and showing off previously unseen facets to its fans....” (**Meredith Maran**, *Boston Globe*)

“Livesey follows Brontë’s form, but so convincingly does she create her own character’s life and surroundings that the original soon recedes, its story a beloved, familiar body dressed in an entirely new and vibrant wardrobe.” (**Atlantic Monthly**)

“Marvelous....Gemma Hardy is one of those page turners in which you occasionally have to wrest yourself away from the plot to admire the language.” (**Kristin Ohlson**, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*)

“A brilliantly paced contemporary adventure about a headstrong orphan’s struggle to claim a place for her generous heart in a secret-laden, sometimes loveless world.” (**Lisa Shea**, *Elle*)

“Inspired by Jane Eyre, Livesey (*The House on Fortune Street*) offers vibrant prose and a feisty heroine in her fascinating sixth novel.... Captivating and moving, this book is a wonderful addition to Livesey’s body of work.” (**Publishers Weekly, starred review**)

“The portrait of a delicate, iron-willed girl, an orphan and a heroine in the grand tradition.... Here as in all of Livesey’s novels, the real treasure is her gift for exploring the unreduced human psyche with all its radiant contradictions, mercurial insights, and desperate generousities.” (**David Wroblewski**, author of *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*)

“In this modern day retelling of Jane Eyre - trade horses for private jets - novelist Margot Livesey pays homage to Brontë’s literary classic.” (Marie Claire, "Four New Page-Turners to Keep Bedside")

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Fate has not been kind to Gemma Hardy. Orphaned by the age of ten, neglected by a bitter and cruel aunt, sent to a boarding school where she was both servant and student, young Gemma seemed destined for a life of hardship and loneliness. Yet her bright spirit burns strong. Fiercely intelligent, singularly determined, Gemma overcomes each challenge and setback, growing stronger and more certain of her path. Now an independent young woman with dreams of the future, she accepts a position as an au pair on the remote and beautiful Orkney Islands. But Gemma's biggest trial is about to begin—a journey.

A Novel. Margot Livesey. www.harpercollins.com

The Hardy family. That means Will and the girls and me. She reached for the marmalade. I was good with numbers, could recognise most common birds by flight and song, was capable of passionate attachments and of daydreams so vivid that my immediate surroundings vanished, but I was hopeless at sports and had crooked handwriting; I could not act, or play an instrument, or cook, or sew. The fires I laid smoked.

"Marvelous....Gemma Hardy is one of those page turners in which you occasionally have to wrest yourself away from the plot to admire the language." - Kristin Ohlson, Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"A brilliantly paced contemporary adventure about a headstrong orphan's struggle to claim a place for her generous heart in a secret-laden, sometimes loveless world." - Lisa Shea, Elle.

In the opening of *The Flight of Gemma Hardy* we meet the orphaned Gemma as she is coping with the death of her uncle and the subsequent rejection by her aunt and cousins. Not surprisingly, Gemma is sent away to a nasty school for girls in the Borders of Scotland. The time Gemma spends at the girls' school is difficult and depressing. Gemma is real—it's as simple as that. And through her eyes we see step by step what it means . . . to take possession of one's own life.

David Wroblewski, author of *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*

Margot Livesey is the New York Times bestselling author of the novels *The Flight of Gemma Hardy*, *The House on Fortune Street*, *Banishing Verona*, *Eva Moves the Furniture*, *The Missing World*, *Criminals*, and *Homework*. Her work has appeared in the *New Yorker*, *Vogue*, and the *Atlantic*, and she is the recipient of grants from both the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation. *The House on Fortune Street* won the 2009 L. L. Winship/PEN New England Award.