

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

JOHN IRVING

*Author of *Until Furt You**



THE
HOTEL NEW
HAMPSHIRE

“WE ALL WANT TO CHECK INTO THE HOTEL NEW HAMPSHIRE, where we can be fully known, yet fully loved, and where a powerful imagination holds us fast.”

—*The New Republic*

“SPELLBINDING ... INTENSELY HUMAN ... a high-wire act of dazzling virtuosity, that puts the author of *The World According to Garp* into a literary class of his own.”

—*Cosmopolitan*

“SOME OF THE MOST UNFORGETTABLE CHARACTERS IN RECENT FICTION ... lively good fun.”

—*Newsday*

“A NOVEL OF OUTRAGEOUS EXUBERANCE AND LOVE ... Irving brings hilarity and heartbreak together like a pair of crashing cymbals to bring us to attention.”

—*American Way Magazine*

Books by John Irving

The Hotel New Hampshire

The 158-Pound Marriage

Setting Free the Bears

The Water-Method Man

The World According to Garp

Published by POCKET BOOKS

Most Pocket Books are available at special quantity discounts for bulk purchases for sales promotions, premiums or fund raising. Special books or book excerpts can also be created to fit specific needs.

For details write or telephone the office of the Vice President of Special Markets, Pocket Books, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020. (212) 245-6400, ext. 1760.

**JOHN
IRVING**

**The Hotel
New
Hampshire**

PUBLISHED BY POCKET BOOKS NEW YORK

“A Birthday Candle” Copyright © 1957 by Donald Justice. This poem first appeared in *The New Yorker*. “On the Death of Friends and Childhood” Copyright © 1959 by Donald Justice. “Love’s Stratagems” Copyright © 1958 by Donald Justice. This poem first appeared in *The New Yorker*. “To a Ten-Months’ Child” Copyright © 1960 by Donald Justice. “Tales from a Family Album” Copyright © 1957 by Donald Justice. These poems reprinted from *The Summer Anniversaries* by permission of Wesleyan University Press.

“The Evening of the Mind” Copyright © 1965 by Donald Justice. This poem first appeared in *Poetry*. “The Tourist from Syracuse” Copyright © 1965 by Donald Justice. “Men at Forty” Copyright © 1966 by Donald Justice. This poem first appeared in *Poetry*. These poems reprinted from *Night Light* by permission of Wesleyan University Press.

“I Forgot to Remember to Forget” Copyright © by permission of Stanley Kesler; Highlow Music Inc. 639 Madison Avenue, Memphis, TN. 38103.

“I Love You Because” by Leon Payne Copyright © 1949 by Fred Rose Music, Inc. Used by permission of the publisher. All rights reserved.

POCKET BOOKS, a Simon & Schuster division of

GULF & WESTERN CORPORATION

1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10020

Copyright © 1981 by Garp Enterprises, Ltd.

Published by arrangement with E. P. Dutton

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 81-2610

All rights reserved, including the right to reproduce

this book or portions thereof in any form whatsoever.

For information address E. P. Dutton,

2 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016

ISBN: 0-671-44027-6

First Pocket Books printing September, 1982

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

POCKET and colophon are trademarks of Simon & Schuster.

Printed in the U.S.A.

*For my wife Shyla,
whose love provided
the light
and the space
for five novels*

The novelist is indebted to the following works and wishes to express his gratitude to the authors: *Fin-de-Siècle Vienna*, by Carl E. Schorske; *A Nervous Splendor*, by Frederic Morton; *Vienna Inside-Out*, by J. Sydney Jones; *Vienna*, by David Pryce-Jones and the Editors of Time-Life Books; *Lucia di Lammermoor*, by Gaetano Donizetti, the Dover Opera Guide and Libretto Series (introduced and translated by Ellen H. Bleiler); and *The Interpretation of Dreams*, by Sigmund Freud.

With special thanks to Donald Justice. And with special thanks—and special affection—to Lesley Claire and the Sonoma County Rape Crisis Center of Santa Rosa, California.

On July 18, 1980, the Stanhope Hotel on Eighty-first and Fifth Avenue changed management and ownership and became the American Stanhope—a fine hotel currently not beset by the problems of the Stanhope described in this fiction.

Chapters

Chapters

1

The Bear Called State O' Maine

2

The First Hotel New Hampshire

3

Iowa Bob's Winning Season

4

Franny Loses a Fight

5

Merry Christmas, 1956

6

Father Hears from Freud

7

Sorrow Strikes Again

8

Sorrow Floats

9

[The Second Hotel New Hampshire](#)

10

[A Night at the Opera: Schlagobers and Blood](#)

11

[Being in Love with Franny; Dealing with Chipper Dove](#)

12

[The King of Mice Syndrome; the Last Hotel New Hampshire](#)