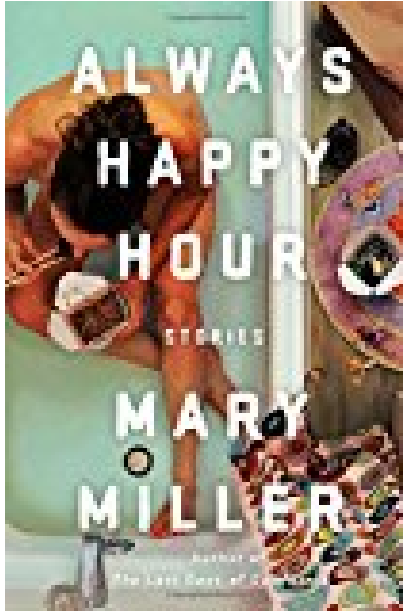


Always Happy Hour Stories



BOOK DETAILS

- Author : Mary Miller
- Pages : 256 Pages
- Publisher : Liveright
- Language : English
- ISBN : 1631492187

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BOOK SYNOPSIS

"I adore Mary Miller's stories and you will too. Read this book and then read her others. Like, now." —Tom Franklin, author of *Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter*

Combining hard-edged prose and savage Southern charm, Mary Miller showcases biting contemporary talent at its best. Fast on the heels of her "terrific" (*New York Times Book Review*) debut novel, *The Last Days of California*, she now reaches new heights with this collection of shockingly relatable, ill-fated love stories. Acerbic and ruefully funny, *Always Happy Hour* weaves tales of young women—deeply flawed and intensely real—who struggle to get out of their own way. They love to drink and have sex; they make bad decisions with men who either love them too much or too little; and they haunt a Southern terrain of gas stations, public pools, and dive bars. Though each character shoulders the weight of her own baggage—whether it's a string of horrible exes, a boyfriend with an annoying child, or an inability to be genuinely happy for a best friend—they are united in their unrelenting suspicion that they deserve better. These women seek understanding in the most unlikely places: a dilapidated foster home where love is a liability in "Big Bad Love," a trailer park littered with a string of bad decisions in "Uphill," and the unfamiliar corners of a dream home purchased with the winnings of a bitter divorce settlement in "Charts." Taking a microscope to delicate patterns of love and intimacy, Miller evokes the reticent love among the misunderstood, the gritty comfort in bad habits that can't be broken, and the beat-by-beat minutiae of fated relationships. Like an evening of drinking, *Always Happy Hour* is a comforting burn, warm and intoxicating in its brutal honesty. In an unforgettable style that distinguishes her within her generation, Miller once again captures womanhood in "a raw...and heartbreaking way" (*Los Angeles Review of Books*) and solidifies her essential role in American fiction.

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