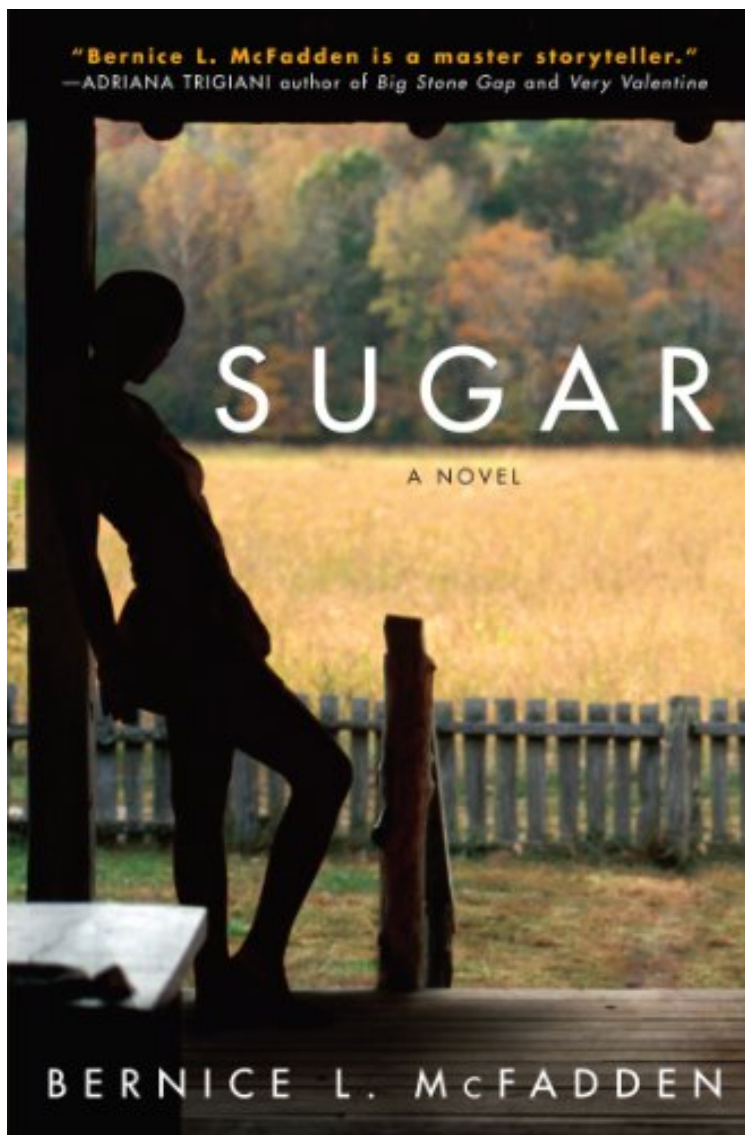


[Library ebook] Sugar: A Novel

Sugar: A Novel

Von *Bernice L. McFadden*

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Von Bernice L. McFadden : Sugar: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sugar: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Everyone Must Read This Book!Von Rhonda PalmerThe unpredictability seems to never end! What I like most was the relationship between Sugar and Pearl. I admire how they both touched each others lives. Pearl did not allow Sugar's way of life nor the people of Bigelow keep her from entering the friendship that ignited. Sugar was also able to

bring new life to a dying marriage. All I want to know is when is "Sugar, Part II" being released because there are a few issues I need closure on. Is Joe going to see his daughter again? Is Sugar going to be able to tell them about Jude's murderer? Will Seth forgive Sugar? Will Sugar stop leaving and settle down? This is movie material. Ms. McFadden, I place this on my must read/recommend list!

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Sweet, Sweet Sugar

Von Ein Kundel

If the bad girls of excellent Southern literature convened for a juke-joint romp, Alice Walker's *Shug*; Avery; Tina McElroy Ansa's *Mudear*; and Bernice L. McFadden's *Sugar* would put the antics of Harpo's clientele to shame. Bernice L. McFadden's debut novel *Sugar* is a heaping lump of sweetness for the literary palate. McFadden's flair for characterization leaves the reader convinced she is airing the dirty laundry of family members thrice removed. Set in Bigelow, Arkansas during the 1950s, the reader is swept into the lives of Sugar Lacey and Pearl Taylor; two unlikely souls that collide on life's highways of redemption, forgiveness, and restoration. With imagery and motifs as rich as Georgia clay mud, the reader is forced to evaluate her stance on morality and embrace the notion that we are more alike than different. Be prepared for an experience synonymous with wraparound porches, fresh squeezed lemonade, and "hush your mouth, child!" declarations regularly found south of the Mason Dixon line. *Sugar* is a must read!

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Fresh Literary Talent

Von Eric Payne, Author of *I See Through Eyes*

Although open minded, I naturally have a tendency to be skeptical when it comes to modern day quality literature. But I am happy to say that I was sorely proven wrong by Ms. McFadden's novel, *Sugar*. The lyrical exposition present at its beginning pulled me in and made it difficult for me to let it go. Ms. McFadden's descriptions of the ante-Civil Rights South are reminiscent of those that Langston Hughes expunged in the tales of *Simple* and *Not Without Laughter*. *Sugar* is a poignant depiction of Pearl's desire to help Sugar make her life respectable. Despite Sugar's initial resistance, she and Pearl form a bond that rekindles a maternal love in Pearl that was never fully realized because her own daughter was lost to murder many years before. Ms. McFadden does an excellent job of interweaving several plot lines together to provide the reader with a cohesive storyline that is neither confusing nor exhausting. Definitely a good read!

Kurzbeschreibung "Strong and folksy storytelling...think Zora Neale Hurston...Sugar speaks of what is real." --The Dallas Morning News

From an exciting new voice in African-American contemporary fiction comes a novel *Ebony* praised for its "unforgettable images, unique characters, and moving story that keeps the pages turning until the end." The *Chicago Defender* calls *Sugar* "a literary explosion...McFadden reveals amazing talent." The novel opens when a young prostitute comes to Bigelow, Arkansas, to start over, far from her haunting past. Sugar moves next door to Pearl, who is still grieving for the daughter who was murdered fifteen years before. Over sweet-potato pie, an unlikely friendship begins, transforming both women's lives--and the life of an entire town. Sugar brings a Southern African-American town vividly to life, with its flowering magnolia trees, lingering scents of jasmine and honeysuckle, and white picket fences that keep strangers out--but ignorance and superstition in. To read this novel is to take a journey through loss and suffering to a place of forgiveness, understanding, and grace. McFadden is the author of the novels *Gathering of Waters*, *Glorious*, and *This Bitter Earth*.

deBernice L. McFadden's first novel begins with the brief, poetic description of a crime so startling that the reader is helplessly drawn in, as if a bright red door stood ajar on a bleak and forbidding house. Pearl Taylor's daughter, Jude, has been found murdered and mutilated near a field at the edge of town. "The murder had white man written all over it," writes McFadden. "But no one would say it above a whisper. It was 1940. It was Bigelow, Arkansas. It was a black child. Need any more be said?" In the years that follow, Pearl catches sight of Jude in so many strangers that when Sugar Lacey comes to town and sets up her unwholesome "business" in the house next door, she doesn't know whether to believe what she sees in Sugar's face: a striking similarity to Jude, dead 15 years. In her sedate but supple prose--rising at times to a light, unforced lyricism in the description of landscape or character--the author perfectly renders the closed and protective society of a small Southern town, the superstitions, gossip, and prying. Although the men of Bigelow are happy enough to have Sugar around, the women do their best to drive her off. Only Pearl is drawn to Sugar, managing to look beyond the rumors surrounding her new neighbor, whose dismal life, she tells Pearl, "had no crossroads." Eventually Pearl shows Sugar the ballerina-topped jewelry box in which she keeps snapshots of her dead daughter. Sugar lifted the lid and saw herself staring back at her. She jerked as if struck. Her hands were shaking as she lifted the first of many pictures from the box. Jude rolling in the grass, Jude swimming in the lake, Jude sleeping, Jude laughing. Sugar's head was swimming. If someone had brought these pictures to her and said, 'Here you are in the life you can't recall,' she would have believed every word of it and ignored the slight differences that remained between Jude and herself. Jude's smaller nose and thinner lips, her rounder eyes and fuller brow. But the smile was the same; sure and solid. Sugar knew that smile, it was her own. Slowly, the secret connections between Jude and Sugar unfold against a backdrop of suspense and the return of violence. This is an ambitious and feeling debut from a promising writer. --Regina Marler.com

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