

APPENDICES

Synopsis of She's Come Undone

Dolores Price is a troubled young woman who undergoes unpleasant moments in her childhood. She is happy until one day her pregnant mother loses the fetus and starts to be mentally ill. Dolores' father cannot stand his wife so they get divorced. The mother is then sent to the hospital and Dolores has to live with her conventional grandmother who sends her to a Catholic school.

Dolores becomes a girl who is not confident which makes her having no friends. Once she thinks she gets a friend, he rapes her. Since then, she limits herself from the outside world. She stays in her bedroom a lot and eats a lot so she becomes overweight, which makes her less and less confident.

One day, Dolores' mother dies and it ruins her more. She does not want to stay with her grandmother so she decides to go to college. In college, she is bullied because she is fat. She is also trapped into a lesbian relationship. These things put too much stress on her so that she tries to commit suicide. She is saved but she has to spend seven years in the hospital. There, she loses her weight, recovers herself from the anger towards her parents and regains her confidence.

Out of hospital does not mean that Dolores is problem-free. She has a relationship that ends up badly and her grandmother dies. However, she does not

let herself down again, so she starts to get further education. At this point, she meets Thayer, her future lover. With Thayer, Dolores begins to have a better life.

Synopsis of White Oleander

Astrid Magnussen is a young girl who has to face hard time living with different foster families in short periods. This happens because her mother is sentenced for murdering her womanizer boyfriend with drugs and oleander.

Astrid used to fully depend on her mother because she is the only parent she has. Astrid never knows her father because he and her mother get divorced when she is only a little girl.

Astrid's condition gets worse because of the different situation in each foster house. It makes Astrid get more confused and easily tempted by bad things. In these places, Astrid is involved in adultery, violence and drugs. She befriends a prostitute and once witnesses her foster mother commit suicide.

On one occasion, Astrid suddenly remembers one moment in her life when she is abandoned by her mother. Her mother leaves her to her babysitter, Annie for more than a year. At that point, Astrid realizes it is the reason why she really depends on her mother.

Astrid realizes that she cannot be herself if she is still under her mother's influences. So, she fights her mother by not being a witness in her case. She decides that she will live her own life without her mother. She begins to find the meaning of her life. She meets Paul. They fall in love with each other. They move to Germany and live together. Astrid tries to live her life in her own ways.

Biography of Wally Lamb

Wally Lamb is an American author who was born on 17 October 1950. He was brought up 10 miles north of New London, Connecticut. Lamb took Education as his major when taking his bachelor and master degree in University of Connecticut. After finishing his master degree, he continued his study at Vermont College, where he earned an M.F.A degree in Writing.

Lamb's first novel, She's Come Undone, was first published in 1992. It later became New York Times number one bestseller and was chosen by Oprah Winfrey in her show as selective book for Oprah's Book Club. Six years later, Lamb published his second novel, I Know This Much is True. After that, he wrote some more fiction and non-fiction books. The fictions are The Hour I First Believe and Wishin' and Hopin': A Christmas Story. The non-fictions are Couldn't Keep It to Myself and I'll Fly Away.

Lamb's books has brought him some awards such as Los Angeles Times Book Awards' Art Seidenbaum Prize for first fiction, Governor's Arts Award and NEA grant for fiction.

Now Lamb settles down with his wife and their three children in Connecticut. He works in University of Connecticut's English Department as an Associate Professor of Creative Writing.

Source:

“Wally Lamb”

“Meet the Writers”

“Bio”

Biography of Janet Fitch

Janet Elizabeth Fitch was an American author who was born in Los Angeles on 9 November 1955. She studied in Reed College majoring in History and then she continued to Keele University in England. There, she learned Russian History.

Fitch has a lot of job experiences, including typesetter, proofreader, graphic artist, freelance journalist and editor. She started her writing career with the short stories which she published in literary journals. Her first novel, White Oleander, was developed from her short story under the same title. This book later became a chosen book in Oprah's Book Club and was made into a movie in 2001. Beside White Oleander, Fitch wrote another famous book entitled Paint It Black. She planned to publish her next book in the spring 2009 but unfortunately her plan has not been put into realization.

At this time, Fitch, with her husband and daughter, lives in Los Angeles. She shares her knowledge about writing fiction by teaching in the University of Southern California's Master of Professional Writing program. She also now becomes an editor of fiction manuscripts.

Source:

“Biography”

“Janet Fitch”

“Biography for Janet Fitch (II)”