



A Place Called Home: Writings On The Midwestern Small Town

Richard O. Davies

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The dynamic Midwestern small town--from its idyllic beginnings to its imminent decline--explored and celebrated in thirty-four selections of cultural history, fiction, and poetry, both classic and contemporary.

The Midwestern small town has long held an iconic place in American culture--from the imaginings of Sinclair Lewis's "Main Street" and Sherwood Anderson's "Winesburg, Ohio" to Garrison Keillor's "Lake Wobegon." But the reality is much more complex, as the small town has been a study in transition from its very inception. In *A PLACE CALLED HOME*, editors Richard O. Davies, Joseph A. Amato, and David R. Pichaske offer the first comprehensive examination of the Midwestern small town and its evolving nature from the 1800s to the present.

This rich collection, gleaned from the best writings of historians, novelists, social scientists, poets, and journalists, features not only such well-known authors as Sherwood Anderson, Carol Bly, Willa Cather, Hamlin Garland, Langston Hughes, Garrison Keillor, William Kloefkorn, Sinclair Lewis, Susan Allen Toth, and Mark Twain but also many lesser known and exceptionally talented writers. Five chronological sections trace the founding, growth, and decline of the Midwestern town, and introductory comments illuminate its ever-changing face. The result is a wide-ranging collection of writings on the community at the heart of America.

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