

Now You See It . . .: Stories from Cokesville, PA

Bathsheba Monk



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It's pretty much a straight shot from the upstate New York towns of Richard Russo's books to Bathsheba Monk's Cokesville, PA. This is coal and steel country. The sort of place where an inch of soot on the windowsill means a regular paycheck—and two inches means a fat one. And what's the best make-out spot in town? Next to the burning slag heap.

In seventeen beguiling, linked stories, spanning fourty-five years, Monk brings a corner of America alive as never before. Her world bursts with indelible characters: Mrs. Szilborski, who bakes great cake, but sprays her neighbors' dogs with mace; and Mrs. Wojic, who believes her husband was reincarnated—as one of those dogs. Then there is the younger generation: Annie Kusiak, who wants to write, and Theresa Gojuk, who dreams of stardom. Cokesville is their Yoknapatawpha; they ache to escape it and the ghosts of their ancestors and the regret of their parents. What ghosts—and what regrets! When Theresa's father Bruno falls into a vat of molten steel, the mill gives the family an ingot roughly his weight to bury.

As deliciously wry as Allegra Goodman in *The Family Markowitz*, and with the matter-of-fact humanity of Grace Paley, Bathsheba Monk leads us into a world that is at once totally surprising and recognizable. These stories glow like molten steel.



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From reader reviews:

Latrice Miller:

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Jeff Jaco:

This Now You See It . . .: Stories from Cokesville, PA is great guide for you because the content which can be full of information for you who else always deal with world and also have to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it details accurately using great coordinate word or we can state no rambling sentences inside it. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole details in it. Doesn't mean it only will give you straight forward sentences but tough core information with lovely delivering sentences. Having Now You See It . . .: Stories from Cokesville, PA in your hand like keeping the world in your arm, data in it is not ridiculous 1. We can say that no publication that offer you world in ten or fifteen small right but this e-book already do that. So , this can be good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. stressful do you still doubt that will?

Robert Williams:

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Margaret Conley:

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