



The Quicksilver Pool

Phyllis A. Whitney

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From a *New York Times*–bestselling author: After the Civil War, a young Confederate bride finds herself living in the shadow of her husband’s first love.

Having lost her fiancé in battle, Lora Blair knew it was the heartache of war, not true love, that drew her to Union soldier Wade Taylor, a grieving widower who still mourned his late wife, Virginia. Married quickly in the ravished little Southern border town where Lora was born, they headed back North to Wade’s Staten Island mansion, where he lives with his motherless son and bitterly unwelcoming family.

It’s not just Lora’s Southern roots among wealthy Yankees that are met with severe disapproval. Lora knows that she’ll forever be in the shadow of Wade’s adored, devotedly maternal, and peerlessly beautiful first wife. Though her most dangerous opposition is yet to come, Lora must face the secrets hidden in the Taylors’ past—including those Virginia took with her to an early grave.

The recipient of the Agatha Award for Lifetime Achievement, Phyllis A. Whitney is “a superb and gifted storyteller” (Mary Higgins Clark).

This ebook features an illustrated biography of Phyllis A. Whitney including rare images from the author’s estate.

The Quicksilver Pool Details

Date : Published November 28th 2017 by Open Road Media Romance (first published 1955)

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Author : Phyllis A. Whitney

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From Reader Review The Quicksilver Pool for online ebook

Alexis says

Right now i'm reading it. It's a really good book!

Deborah says

Loved Phyllis Whitney as a teen and into my twenties. Nostalgia helps the ratings, probably, but I did enjoy these way back when.

Joan Clemente says

Good for a light read.

Enjoyable read for the sake of reading, when you just want to sit and enjoy reading for the mere pleasure of an entertaining story. Phyllis Whitney has a way with making a story interesting.

Lauren says

I absolutely love gothic romances with all of the mystery and the strong female characters. Phyllis A. Whitney is an amazing author incorporating an unforgettable story with amazing characters.

C. says

This is far flung from what we expect. Civil war is outside *Lora's* home. (A reviewer thought *Wade* shot her Father. A stray bullet hit as he retrieved the crumpled soldier). Enjoyment of "**The Quicksilver Pool**", 1955 is tremendous, if you accept the story it really tells! I've long admired the dramatic layers of "*The Trembling Hills*", 1956. I'm astounded **Phyllis** wove this masterpiece too. The 1950s clearly bore creative fire. The premise: *Lori* lost a sweetheart and *Wade* was widowed in Staten Island; purveyor of the mystery. But it's one portion against a saga of remarkably complex growth; woven so believably that the entirety enthralled me.

Would we consider second fiddle, if our first loves died? *Wade*, nursed by *Lori*, befriends her. They return to New York married. Her easygoing Father and do-it-yourself work ethic are at odds with her imperious mother-in-law but we sidestep any cliché portrayals. This lets a highly original story breathe! I digested every inch of the realistic situations. *Lori* neither wants to suppress herself and her beliefs but dreads rocking the boat. She confronts some discord but keeps her comportment respectful. She befriends *Wade's* son, his maternal Grandfather, and all their neighbours. The challenges are a cardboard husband and his mother. *Lora's* discussion with her is enlightening; that the woman defies *Wade* to disobey but is disdainful of his

character lacking boldness.

I'm incredulous of the growth that occurs between platonic husband and wife, mother-in-law, and grieving stepson in 303 pages. What's more: I glimpse people's debates, the atmosphere of war approaching the north, and Staten Island's stance against it. Intricacies as palpable as these behove a motion picture. And coursing through already-rich veins, comes the gothic-toned mystery that lured us. Would it wake *Wade* up, to solve the death of his first wife?

Karri says

As a young girl, I spent the majority of my time in a library. My Grandmother was a librarian and she would take me to the library where we would spend hours just looking around. To this day, walking around a library is how I relax.

Anyway, when I was a pre-teen, I stumbled across Phyllis A. Whitney. This was the very first book I read. Since then I have read almost all of her books. Quite a few people have commented on her style, saying it is dated. I try really hard not to take offense at those comments! Ha Ha. Whitney wrote for a different generation. However, her books are timeless. She helped to pave the way for so many female writers. She has been one of my favorite authors since I was 13, and she always will be.

This book has suspense, tragedy, mystery, and romance. This isn't a feel good book. It is about relationships- the good, the bad, and the ugly. It is about people and the choices we make, and how we deal with those choices. I love the characters, they're complicated. I think Whitney out did herself with this book.

Christina says

Yes, these books are a little dated, but I still love them! No one does suspense quite like Phyllis A. Whitney.

Cathy says

Not my favorite of Whitney's books, but not a bad entry either. Set during the Civil War, primarily about relationships, though the last chapter sees romantic development and the reveal of one secret (not as dastardly as one might think).

Janifowose says

I think the idea of the books I what kept me reading it. It was certainly not the main character Lora, whose ignorance, and protested innocence throughout the novel is nauseating.

Chamrie Andrews says

Another favorite from when I was a teenager

Jackie says

LOVE her work

Martha says

The title and back cover is deceiving. It makes it sound like a mystery or a suspense novel but it isn't. It is set during the civil war on Staten Island and climaxes with the Copperhead revolt when the draft is enacted. But the main story is about a family learning to love and forgive one another. Really it was a good story.
