

First Fiction for Winter 2011

The Weird Sisters

Eleanor Brown

There is no problem that a library card can't solve. The Andreas family is one of readers. Their father, a renowned Shakespeare professor who speaks almost entirely in verse, has named his three daughters after famous Shakespearean women. When the sisters return to their childhood home, ostensibly to care for their ailing mother, but really to lick their wounds and bury their secrets, they are horrified to find the others there. *See, we love each other. We just don't happen to like each other very much.* But the sisters soon discover that everything they've been running from—one another, their small hometown, and themselves—might offer more than they ever expected.

You Know When the Men Are Gone

Siobhan Fallon

An anthology of interconnected stories tours the experiences of Fort Hood military wives who are privy to each others' lives by community housing and who share a poignant vigil during which they raise children while waiting for their husbands to return.

The Poison Tree

Erin Kelly

Picking up Rex after a 10-year prison sentence for murder, Karen remembers the bohemian summer in 1990s London when their carefree romance and excesses became subject to a complicated family history and ended in violence.

The Fates Will Find Their Way

Hannah Pittard

A teenage girl's disappearance has an indelible impact on the lives of neighborhood boys who throughout subsequent years become increasingly obsessed with rumors and suspicions, while her sister struggles with related emotional fallout.

A Cup of Friendship

Deborah Rodriguez

Running a Kabul coffee shop that is patronized by ex-pats, American Sunny reaches out to a growing circle of new friends including a pregnant rape victim, a wealthy woman who would help others, a journalist with a painful secret and a den mother who is engaged in a complicated affair.

The Still Point

Amy Sackville

As her own marriage falters, Julia discovers papers and artifacts related to her great-granduncle's Arctic expedition and subsequent disappearance—as well as his relationship with his wife—and makes a shocking discovery that shatters her long-held image of the couple's romance.

