

# Read Book Billy Phelans Greatest Game Paperback Pdf For Free

**Billy Phelan's Greatest Game** Billy Phelan's Greatest Game *Legs* William Kennedy's Albany Trilogy *Ironweed* **Social Class and Values in Ironweed and Billy Phelan's Greatest Game** *Legs* *An Albany Trio* *The Flaming Corsage* *O Albany!* *Quinn's Book* *Very Old Bones* *The Ink Truck* *The Albany Cycle* **Roscoe Chango's Beads and Two-Tone Shoes** *Bootlegger of the Soul* *Druthers* **We Were Rich and We Didn't Know It** *Riding the Yellow Trolley Car Where I Live* **The Man with the Sawed-Off Leg and Other Tales of a New York City** **Block The Flaming Corsage** *Running the Table* *Set My Heart to Five* *Go Huskies!* **1-2-3 Magic Lemons** *Reading William Kennedy* **Bluffton** *Snow White* **William Kennedy The Game of Billiards** *Rowlaway* *The China Mission*: *George Marshall's Unfinished War, 1945-1947* *Play with Us* **Marbles** *Knights vs. Dinosaurs* *Reading William Kennedy My Football Book*

A celebration of the Pulitzer Prize–winning novelist who put Albany on the world’s literary map. Award-winning novelist William Kennedy is perhaps best known for his Albany Cycle, a series of novels that put Albany on the world’s literary map alongside James Joyce’s Dublin, Gabriel García Márquez’s Macondo, and William Faulkner’s Yoknapatawpha County. *Bootlegger of the Soul* offers a fresh and authoritative overview of Kennedy’s long literary career and his astonishing trajectory from journalist to struggling novelist to Pulitzer Prize winner. Included here are reviews, interviews, and scholarly essays on Kennedy’s work, as well as essays, speeches, a play, and a short story by the author himself, together with more than fifty historical and personal photographs. Lively, readable, and brimming with the infectious wit and lyrical prose that animates Kennedy’s novels, *Bootlegger of the Soul* is a celebration of a writer still working hard at his craft at age ninety. “There are no dead sentences in [Kennedy’s] work. His language is vigorous, full of energy. He’s just a pure writer.” — Saul Bellow “William Kennedy’s cycle of Albany novels may be one of the most exuberant literary feats of the past half-century.” — Colum McCann “Kennedy’s art is an eccentric triumph, a quirky, risk-taking imagination at play upon the solid paving stones, the breweries, the politicians, and pool sharks of an all-too-actual city.” — Thomas Flanagan The collected nonfiction of the Pulitzer Prize–winning author of *Ironweed*: “A great pleasure to read no matter what the subject” (*Library Journal*). When William Kennedy arrives in Barcelona, his guidebook recommends taking the trolley around town—but the trolleys haven’t run in the city for years. He’s on his way to interview the novelist Gabriel García Márquez when, out of the corner of his eye, he sees something impossible: a yellow trolley running down the street. Márquez, however, is not surprised; like all great writers of both fiction and nonfiction, he knows that impossible things happen every day. A remarkable collection from one of America’s greatest authors, *Riding the Yellow Trolley Car* features work from all stages of Kennedy’s career. Through each piece runs the thread that ties together his greatest works: a love and deep understanding of his hometown, the city of Albany, New York, and the good and evil men who have made it what it is. Featuring interviews and essays on some of the most prominent authors of the twentieth century, from Saul Bellow and E. L. Doctorow to Norman Mailer and the legendary García Márquez—as well as insightful reflections on topics from baseball to the death of a prominent cat to Kennedy’s wife’s hiccups—*Riding the Yellow Trolley Car* is an essential book for all those who love to read, or live to write. From the moment he rescues the beautiful, passionate Maud Fallon from the icy waters of the Hudson one wintry day in 1849, Daniel Quinn is thrust into a bewildering, adventure-filled journey through the tumult of nineteenth-century America. As he quests after the beguiling and elusive Maud, Daniel will witness the rise and fall of great dynasties in upstate New York, epochal prize fights, exotic life in the theatre, visitations from spirits beyond the grave, horrific battles between Irish immigrants and the “Know-Nothings,” vicious New York draft riots, heroic passages through the Underground Railroad, and the bloody despair of the Civil War. Filled with Dickensian characters, a vivid sense of history, and a marvellously inventive humor, *Quinn’s Book* is an engaging delight by an acclaimed modern master. Now a new generation of kids can join in the fun of 101 games, from classics like *Ringer* and *Dropsies* to marble versions of football, golf, and tic tac toe. Novice shooters will learn about starting their own collections of cat’s eyes, clambroths, and corkscrews, but even seasoned “mibsters” will demand this winning book for “keepsies”. Illustrations. A favorite of library and community reading groups, William Kennedy is best known for his novels *Ironweed* and his most recent, *The Flaming Corsage*. This eminently readable book provides a helpful introduction to students and others interested in his work. With engaging candor, Michael Patrick Gillespie provides a keen analysis of Kennedy’s best-known works, a firm base for interpretation, and a better understanding of the cultural world that shapes the characters and informs the plots of Kennedy’s novels. Rather than prescribing what one should

see when reading Kennedy's works, the book moves to the next stage of exploring diverse responses to Kennedy's canon, broadening the reader's awareness of the range of alternative strategies and perspective. Gillespie begins with an introduction that outlines the imaginative context for Kennedy's work. Subsequent chapters, in three parts, provide extended treatments of his early work, key elements in the first three Albany novels, and finally the maturity of his overall fiction, including his new play, *Grand View*. Football is fun—let's play! Find all the basics in this lively guide. The markings on a football field What football players wear The positions, from quarterback to wide receiver The excitement of the kickoff The thrill of scoring a touchdown All these and more are included with a useful glossary at the end. A stylized noir retelling of *Snow White* set against the backdrop of Depression-era Manhattan. A favorite of library and community reading groups, William Kennedy is best known for his novels *Ironweed* and his most recent, *The Flaming Corsage*. This eminently readable book provides a helpful introduction to students and others interested in his work. With engaging candor, Michael Patrick Gillespie provides a keen analysis of Kennedy's best-known works, a firm base for interpretation, and a better understanding of the cultural world that shapes the characters and informs the plots of Kennedy's novels. Rather than prescribing what one should see when reading Kennedy's works, the book moves to the next stage of exploring diverse responses to Kennedy's canon, broadening the reader's awareness of the range of alternative strategies and perspective. Gillespie begins with an introduction that outlines the imaginative context for Kennedy's work. Subsequent chapters, in three parts, provide extended treatments of his early work, key elements in the first three Albany novels, and finally the maturity of his overall fiction, including his new play, *Grand View*. The search for Bigfoot gets juicy in this funny and touching story that's perfect for fans of Kate DiCamillo's *Flora & Ulysses* and the movie *Smallfoot*! Lemonade Liberty Witt's mama always told her: When life gives you lemons, make lemonade. But Lem can't possibly make lemonade out of her new life in Willow Creek, California—the Bigfoot Capital of the World—where she's forced to live with a grandfather she's never met after her mother passes away. Then she meets eleven-year-old Tobin Sky, the CEO of Bigfoot Detectives Inc., who is the sole Bigfoot investigator for their small town. After he invites Lem to be his assistant for the summer, they set out on an epic adventure to capture a shot of the elusive beast on film. But along the way, Lem and Tobin end up discovering more than they ever could have imagined. And Lem realizes that maybe she can make lemonade out of her new life after all. "Melissa Savage's astoundingly good debut novel is packed with humor, mystery, friendship, family secrets, and even Bigfoot! I think you'll love it, too." —Karen Cushman, Newbery Medalist for *The Midwife's Apprentice* Legsinaugurated William Kennedy's brilliant cycle of novels (including Billy Phelan's *Greatest Game* and *Ironweed*) set in Albany, New York. True to both life and myth, Legsbrilliantly evokes the flamboyant career of the legendary gangster Jack "Legs" Diamond, who was finally murdered in Albany. Through the equivocal eyes of Diamond's attorney, Marcus Gorman (who scraps a promising political career for the more elemental excitement of the criminal underworld), we watch as Legs and his showgirl mistress, Kiki Roberts, blaze their gaudy trail across the tabloid pages of the 1920s and 1930s. Diamond and his gangster entourage emerge as emblematic figures from an era of American innocence and corruption. A Scott O'Dell Award-winning graphic artist visualizes the story of young Henry, who in 1908 Muskegon, Michigan, bonds with a young Buster Keaton over games of baseball while the latter summers locally with a troupe of vaudeville performers. Kennedy's *O Albany!* is in part the non-fictional stories he covered in his novels, *Legs* and *Billy Phelan's Greatest Game*. Kennedy retells the exploits of the bootlegger Jack 'Legs' Diamond, the bungled 1933 kidnapping of John O'Connell, Jr., heir to the Albany Democratic machine and explores the Albany of his past, including its demographics and vanished neighborhoods. The award-winning, best selling '1-2-3 Magic' book provides practical and easy-to-learn parenting techniques that WORK for children ages 2-12. You won't need to study child psychology to understand the three simple steps in the program and get results quickly! Step 1: Control Obnoxious Behaviour. Learn a simple technique to get your kids to STOP doing what you don't want them to do (whining, arguing, tantrums, sibling rivalry, etc.); Step 2: Encourage Good Behaviour. Learn several effective methods to get your kids to START doing what you do want them to do (cleaning rooms, going to bed, homework, etc.); Step 3: Strengthen Relationships. Learn four powerful techniques that reinforce your bond with your children. You will also learn how to manage the Six Kinds of Testing and Manipulation, how to handle misbehaviour in public and how to avoid the Talk-Persuade-Argue-Yell-Hit Syndrome. When journalist Daniel Quinn meets Ernest Hemingway at the Floridita bar in Havana, Cuba, in 1957, he has no idea that his own affinity for simple, declarative sentences will change his life radically overnight. So begins William Kennedy's latest novel -- a tale of revolutionary intrigue, heroic journalism, crooked politicians, drug-running gangsters, Albany race riots, and the improbable rise of Fidel Castro. Quinn's epic journey carries him through the night clubs and jungles of Cuba and into the newsrooms and racially charged streets of Albany on he day Robert Kennedy is fatally shot in 1968. An Economist Best Book of 2018 A spellbinding narrative of the high-stakes mission that changed the course of America, China, and global politics—and a rich portrait of the towering, complex figure who carried it out. As World War II came to an end, General George Marshall was renowned as the architect of Allied victory. Set to retire, he instead accepted what he thought was a final mission—this time not to win a war, but to stop one. Across the Pacific, conflict between Chinese Nationalists and Communists threatened to suck in the United States and escalate into revolution.

His assignment was to broker a peace, build a Chinese democracy, and prevent a Communist takeover, all while staying off World War III. In his thirteen months in China, Marshall journeyed across battle-scarred landscapes, grappled with Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai, and plotted and argued with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and his brilliant wife, often over card games or cocktails. The results at first seemed miraculous. But as they started to come apart, Marshall was faced with a wrenching choice. Its consequences would define the rest of his career, as the secretary of state who launched the Marshall Plan and set the standard for American leadership, and the shape of the Cold War and the US-China relationship for decades to come. It would also help spark one of the darkest turns in American civic life, as Marshall and the mission became a first prominent target of McCarthyism, and the question of "who lost China" roiled American politics. The *China Mission* traces this neglected turning point and forgotten interlude in a heroic career—a story of not just diplomatic wrangling and guerrilla warfare, but also intricate spycraft and charismatic personalities. Drawing on eyewitness accounts both personal and official, it offers a richly detailed, gripping, close-up, and often surprising view of the central figures of the time—from Marshall, Mao, and Chiang to Eisenhower, Truman, and MacArthur—as they stood face-to-face and struggled to make history, with consequences and lessons that echo today. They stand proudly gazing across the Hudson River at the cliffs of New Jersey. Their brows are marked by ornamental pediments. Greek columns stand as sentries by their entrances and stone medallions bedeck their chests. They are seven graceful relics of Beaux Arts New York, townhouses built more than 100 years ago for a new class of industrialists, actors and scientists -- many from abroad -- who made their fortunes in the United States and shaped the lives of Americans. This book brings to life the ghosts who inhabit that row of townhouses on Manhattan's stately Riverside Drive for the first fifty years of the 20th Century, including a vicious crew of hoodlums who carried out what at the time was the largest armored car robbery in American history. It was a daring, minutely planned exploit that ended in blood, when one of the gangsters accidentally shot himself. He was taken to one of the townhouses -- then, in 1934, an underworld safehouse -- where he died and was stuffed in a steamer trunk (but his cohorts had to saw off one of his legs to fit him in it). From gangsters to industrialists, from future mayors to murderers, from movie stars to mafia dons, one block in a burgeoning city saw it all. The people who lived in each of the "Seven Sisters" reads like a mini *Who's Who*. Meet: \* Percy Geary and John Oley, two Albany gangsters with a background in kidnapping and bootlegging; \* Lucretia Davis, baking powder heiress whose parents were engaged in a bitter divorce that included allegations that her mother was trying to get her father declared insane and take over his business; \* Jokichi Takamine, the world's first biotech engineer and a rare Japanese scientist in the United States at the turn of the 19th century--He discovered diastase, an enzyme to ferment whisky and settle the stomach, and the adrenaline, a major scientific discovery; \* Marion Davies, the mistress of William Randolph Hearst, who rose to movie stardom on the back of W.R.'s publicity machine while living on the block; \* Julia Marlowe, American's greatest Shakespearean actress around 1900, just to name a few. If only the buildings could speak. \* *The Fabers of pencil fame* \* *Billy Phelan's Greatest Game* (Albany gang made famous by William Kennedy) \* *Duke Ellington, two mayors, and lurking in the background Legs Diamond...* If only the walls could talk? Dan Watkins makes it so in this unforgettable intimate glimpse into the history of New York City. Tells how to play more than one hundred games that are played by children throughout the world, ranging from board games and jacks to jumping and hand games. This comprehensive history of the University of Washington football program focuses on the major eras in Husky football history, featuring the best teams, the greatest games, the biggest comebacks, and the most exciting and unexpected moments such as when Washington forged its first national championship by defeating Minnesota in the 1961 Rose Bowl. Paying homage to iconic coaches, including Gil Dobie, Jim Phelan, Jim Owens, and Don James, this keepsake also details the greatest players and fan favorites in Husky history, including NFL Hall of Fame running back Hugh McElhenny and quarterback Warren Moon, and Super Bowl winners and NFL Pro Bowlers Corey Dillon and Lawyer Milloy. The book concludes with game day events, the many pregame activities that every Husky should experience, and a "Husky Timeline," making it a well-rounded and must-read for fans both old and new. Moving back and forth between the 1880s and 1912, this sixth novel in William Kennedy's acclaimed Albany cycle follows the lives of Edward Daugherty, a first generation Irish American who will break out beyond Albany as a playwright, and Katrina Taylor, a beautiful, seductive woman with complex attitudes towards life. Their marriage is a passionate one, but a cataclysmic hotel fire changes it into something else altogether. The *Flaming Corsage* evocatively portrays the seething, contradictory impulses of our humanity, lusts and furies that know no bounds of time or place. It is 1958 and the Phelan clan has gathered to hear Peter Phelan's will, read by the living Peter himself, an artist whose paintings about members of the family have given him belated critical recognition. The paintings illuminate the lives of his brother Francis (the exiled hero of *Ironweed*), and a family ancestor, Malachi McElhenny, a true madman beset by demons, and determined to send them back to hell. Orson Purcell, bastard son of Peter, and half-mad himself, encounters his first true solace through this obsessive and close-knit family he has never quite entered; most especially through his Aunt Molly, whose intense love affair holds secrets that only another love can resurrect. It is through Orson's modern eye that we see the tragedies, obsessions, and clandestine joys of this singular family. This is climatic work in William Kennedy's *Albany Cycle*, riding on the melody of its language and the power of its story, which is full of surprise, comedy,

terror, and earthly delight. "You don't have to be Irish to cherish this literary gift—just being human and curious and from a family will suffice." —Malachy McCourt, New York Times bestselling author of *A Monk Swimming* In the tradition of Frank McCourt's *Angela's Ashes* and Alice Taylor's *To School Through the Fields*, Tom Phelan's *We Were Rich and We Didn't Know It* is a heartfelt and masterfully written memoir of growing up in Ireland in the 1940s. Tom Phelan, who was born and raised in County Laois in the Irish midlands, spent his formative years working with his wise and demanding father as he sought to wrest a livelihood from a farm that was often wet, muddy, and back-breaking. It was a time before rural electrification, the telephone, and indoor plumbing; a time when the main modes of travel were bicycle and animal cart; a time when small farmers struggled to survive and turkey eggs were hatched in the kitchen cupboard; a time when the Church exerted enormous control over Ireland. *We Were Rich and We Didn't Know It* recounts Tom's upbringing in an isolated, rural community from the day he was delivered by the local midwife. With tears and laughter, it speaks to the strength of the human spirit in the face of life's adversities. Presents three separate novels that follows the individual characters through the dark streets of Albany, New York during the 1920s and 1930s. Soon to be a major motion picture directed by Edgar Wright (Scott Pilgrim vs. the World): "Science fiction satire in the Vonnegut mold." —Cory Doctorow Set in a 2054 where humans have locked themselves out of the internet and Elon Musk has incinerated the moon, *Set My Heart to Five* is the hilarious yet profoundly moving story of one android's emotional awakening. One day at a screening of a classic movie, Jared notices a strange sensation around his eyes. Bots are not permitted to have feelings, but as the theater lights come on, Jared discovers he is crying. Soon overwhelmed by powerful emotions, Jared heads west, determined to find others like himself. But a bot with feelings is a dangerous proposition, and Jared's new life could come to an end before it truly begins. Unless, that is, he can somehow change the world for himself and all of his kind. Unlike anything you have ever read before, *Set My Heart to Five* is a love letter to outsiders everywhere. Plus it comes uniquely guaranteed to make its readers weep a minimum of 29mls of tears.\* \*Book must be read in controlled laboratory conditions arranged at reader's own expense. Other terms and conditions may apply to this offer. "A beautiful, funny, heartfelt analysis of what it means to be human." —Simon Pegg "One of the most unique books ever crafted." —Mike Chen, New York Times–bestselling author "A funny, original, thought-provoking debut . . . It's wistful and sharp, particularly on what it really means to live." —Daily Mail An ALA Notable Title "Absurdly entertaining. Victorious on all fronts." —Booklist (starred review) Renowned for their courage, their chivalry, and their ability to fight mythical creatures, the Knights of the Round Table must face their most dangerous opponents yet—DINOSAURS! This heavily illustrated middle grade novel from award-winning author and artist Matt Phelan is a hilarious, rip-roaring tale of derring-do perfect for reluctant readers and fans of *How to Train Your Dragon* and *The Terrible Two*. Let me tell you a secret about the Knights of the Round Table: they don't have much to do. The realm is at peace and dragons are few and far between. So Merlin decides to send the knights out on a real adventure to a world filled with the most terrible lizards of all: DINOSAURS! *Knights vs. Dinosaurs* is a highly illustrated, fast-paced adventure full of uproarious knightly hijinks, surprising secrets, and terrifying dinosaurs. With art on nearly every page, including an epic fight scene depicted in several graphic-novel style spreads, this engaging story is Monty Python for young middle school readers. A great choice for reluctant readers, aspiring knights, and fans of Peter Brown's *The Wild Robot*. "This rollicking story is suspenseful and silly. An excellent choice for all readers." —School Library Journal (starred review) The beloved Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, basis of the film starring Jack Nicholson and Meryl Streep. Francis Phelan, ex-big-leaguer, part-time gravedigger, full-time bum with the gift of gab, is back in town. He left Albany twenty-two years earlier after he dropped his infant son accidentally, and the boy died. Now he's on the way back to the wife and home he abandoned, haunted at every corner by the ghosts of his violent life. Francis; his wino ladyfriend of nine years, Helen; and his stumblebum pal, Rudy, shuffle their ragtag way through the city's bleakest streets, surviving on gumption, muscatel, and black wit. estiny is not their business. 'The premise of *Ironweed* was so unpromising, that in marketing terms the writer still to this day finds it funny: the story of a bunch of itinerant alcoholics, knocking around Kennedy's hometown, falling out, having visions, trying to pass for sober to cadge a bed for the night in the homeless shelter.' Guardian 'But for all the rich variety of prose and event, from hallucination to bedrock realism to slapstick and to blessed quotidian peace, "Ironweed" is more austere than its predecessors. It is more fierce, but also more forgiving.' Quoted from the classic New York Times review of *Ironweed*, which made it an overnight sensation. A sweeping and enchanting new novel from the widely beloved, award-winning author Elizabeth McCracken about three generations of an unconventional New England family who own and operate a candlepin bowling alley From the day she is discovered unconscious in a New England cemetery at the turn of the twentieth century—nothing but a bowling ball, a candlepin, and fifteen pounds of gold on her person—Bertha Truitt is an enigma to everyone in Salford, Massachusetts. She has no past to speak of, or at least none she is willing to reveal, and her mysterious origin scandalizes and intrigues the townspeople, as does her choice to marry and start a family with Leviticus Sprague, the doctor who revived her. But Bertha is plucky, tenacious, and entrepreneurial, and the bowling alley she opens quickly becomes Salford's most defining landmark—with Bertha its most notable resident. When Bertha dies in a freak accident, her past resurfaces in the form of a heretofore-unheard-of son, who arrives in Salford claiming he is heir apparent to Truitt Alleys. Soon

it becomes clear that, even in her death, Bertha's defining spirit and the implications of her obfuscations live on, infecting and affecting future generations through inheritance battles, murky paternities, and hidden wills. In a voice laced with insight and her signature sharp humor, Elizabeth McCracken has written an epic family saga set against the backdrop of twentieth-century America. Bowlaway is both a stunning feat of language and a brilliant unraveling of a family's myths and secrets, its passions and betrayals, and the ties that bind and the rifts that divide. It's V-J Day, World War II is finally over, and Roscoe is quitting politics after twenty-six years as chief brainstruster of Albany's notorious Democratic machine. The suave, brilliant, unscrupulous Falstaffian wants to hang up his white double-breasted Palm Beach suit and drift into retirement. But how will he relax his hold on the lid without the political pot boiling over, scalding his beloved and her family? Armed with the politician's most powerful credo - 'Righteousness doesn't stand a chance against the imagination' - Roscoe fights his final political battles. Every step forward leads Roscoe into the past - to the early loss of his true love, to his own particular heroics in World War I, the takeover of City Hall and the methodical assassination of the gangster Jack 'Legs' Diamond. ROSCOE is a comic masterpiece from one of America's most revered novelists. Challenged to use her imagination on a boring, rainy day, little Penelope shares time with her daddy while envisioning herself at the zoo, as a cowgirl, flying to the moon and sailing to an island filled with dinosaurs. By the illustrator of the Newbery Medal-winning *The Higher Power of Lucky*. A "wildly funny" novel of a monumentally unsuccessful newspaper strike in 1960s upstate New York from a Pulitzer Prize-winning author (People). The newspaper strike has stretched on for more than a year. When it began, the Guild boasted over 250 members. Now, they're down to eighteen, with only three truly serious about the cause. Their leader, Bailey, is a columnist with an outsize sense of his own importance and a hatred of scabs that borders on fanaticism. Married to a roller derby queen, but smitten with one of his fellow radicals, Bailey is on a path of self-destruction that could take the entire city's newspaper establishment down along with him. And that's just what he has in mind. With the cape-wearing old-school Rosenthal at his side, Bailey embarks on a mad mission: hijacking the newspaper's entire ink shipment and dumping it in the snow. But he's hardly taken his first step when the scheme spins out of control, trapping him between armies of gypsies, scabs, and the wildest hippies New York has to offer. Set in a city closely resembling his native Albany, the fiction debut of William Kennedy is "a bawdy Celtic romp," foreshadowing the wit and imagination that marked his literary career (*Time*). Francis Phelan is, alongside 'Legs' Diamond, William Kennedy's greatest character. Ex-ball player, latterly a bum, lush and hardcase, he is central to these three Albany novels: father to the pool shark Billy who struggles with his legacy of violence and self-glorification (*BILLY PHELAN'S GREATEST GAME*); brother to artist Peter whose paintings explore the dark corners of his family history, including Francis's life (*VERY OLD BONES*); and antihero of Pulitzer Prize winning *IRONWEED*, in which Phelan returns to Albany at the end of the Depression, roaming the familiar streets with his hobo pal Helen, trying to make peace with the ghosts of the past and present. For fans of *Bringing Down the House* and *Positively Fifth*—a *Sports Illustrated* writer shares the story of a heavysset, bipolar, and charming pool hustler. In most sports the pinnacle is Wheaties-box notoriety. But in the world of pool, notoriety is the last thing a hustler desires. Such is the dilemma that faces one Danny Basavich, an affable, generously proportioned Jewish kid from Jersey, who flounders through high school until he discovers the one thing he excels at—the felt—and hits the road. *Running the Table* spins the outrageous tale of Kid Delicious and his studly—if less talented—set-up man, Bristol Bob. Never was there a more entertaining or mismatched pair of sidekicks, as together they go underground into the flavorfully seamy world of pool to learn the art of the hustle and experience the highs and lows of life on the road. Their four-year odyssey takes them from Podunk pool halls to slick urban billiard rooms across America, as they manage one night to take down as much as \$30,000, only to lose so much the next night that they lack gas money to get home. With every stop, the action gets hotter, the calls get closer, and Delicious's prowess with a cue stick becomes known more and more widely. Ultimately, Delicious sheds his cover once and for all and becomes professional pool's biggest sensation since Minnesota Fats. "A tremendously satisfying road story. What makes *Running the Table* so special is not the pool prowess of its protagonist but the unlikely bond between two wildly different young men who find each other through an exhilarating, often infuriating game."—*Los Angeles Times* In a Manhattan hotel room, the "Love Nest Killings of 1908" take place. But the mystery of who killed whom, and why, does not unravel until we explore the lives of Katrina Taylor and Edward Daughtery. He is a first-generation Irish American and a successful playwright. She is a high-born Protestant, a beautiful seductive woman with complex attitudes towards life. Their marriage is a passionate one, but a cataclysmic hotel fire changes it into something else altogether. Moving back and forth between the 1880s and 1912, *The Flaming Corsage* follows Katrina and Edward as other lives impact upon theirs—their socially opposed families; Edward's flirtatious actress paramour, Melissa Spencer; the physician Giles Fitzroy, and his wife; and Edward's friend, the cynical journalist Thomas Maginn. *The Flaming Corsage* evocatively portrays through the lens of Albany's robust Irishtown and English-Dutch aristocracy the seething, contradictory impulses of our humanity, lusts and furies that know no bounds of time or place. Billy Phelan, a slightly tarnished poker player, pool hustler, and small-time bookie, moves through the lurid nighttime glare of a tough Depression-era town. A resourceful man full of Irish pluck, Billy works the fringes of Albany sporting life with his own particular style and private code of honor until he finds himself in the dangerous position

of potential go-between in the kidnapping of a political boss's son. In relating Billy's fall from the underworld grace and his storybook redemption, Kennedy captures the seamy underside of a brassy, sweaty city that would prefer to pretend that the Depression doesn't exist. Diana loves where she lives. She loves the astronomy charts on her walls and the fact that she can wave to her best friend, Rose, from her very own window. And best of all, a wren has recently made its home right by her front door! When her family is forced to move, Diana wonders if she'll ever find that same grounded and happy feeling again. This gentle and ultimately redeeming story in poems is about those secure and fulfilling friendships that happen naturally and easily when you live right next door, and the struggles of losing the comfort of a familiar place. Matt Phelan's warm and expressive illustrations perfectly complement Eileen Spinelli's tenderhearted and unique tale that reminds us that sometimes a little uprooting and change is necessary for growth.

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