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THE DAYS OF ANNA MADRIGAL

by Armistead Maupin | ★★★★★

NOVEL

Let's start with the sad news: Maupin claims this is his last *Tales of the City* book. The good news? These final days of his San Francisco friends and lovers, gay and straight, are seriously moving—even if you're new to the treasured series. At 92, transgender landlady Anna Madrigal is intent on "leaving like a lady." Her adoring posse still includes her old tenants Michael Tolliver, Mary Ann Singleton and Brian Hawkins, but has expanded to the next generation, including Brian's novelist daughter Shawna. With San Francisco beset by economic elitism in real life and Maupin-world, it's fitting that much of the book takes place elsewhere: There are road trips to Burning Man and the dusty Nevada town the conflicted Anna fled in 1936.

Armistead Maupin offers up a bittersweet farewell to his popular *Tales of the City* series

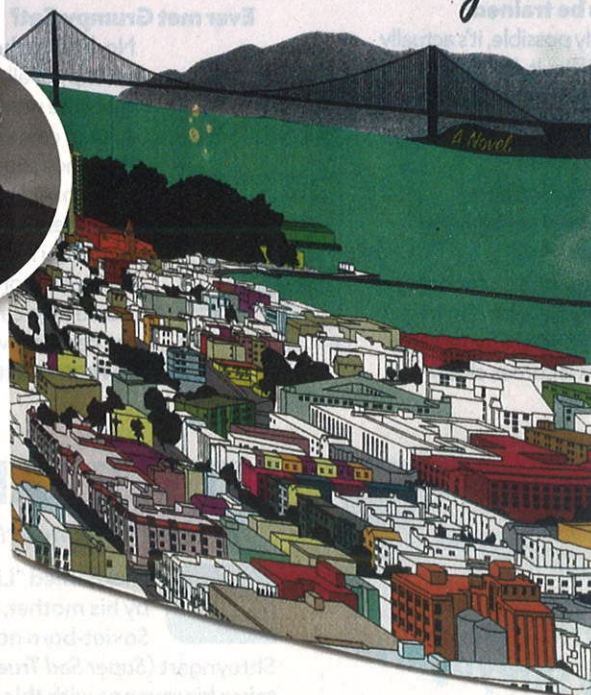
Maupin deftly illustrates how far America and the pioneering Anna have come, and nearly 40 years into the series, his writing remains wildly addictive but is deeper and richer. Which is why it hurts to be pushed out of his fictional nest.

—REVIEWED BY MARY POLS

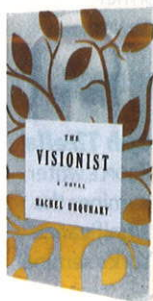


ARMISTEAD MAUPIN

The Days of Anna Madrigal

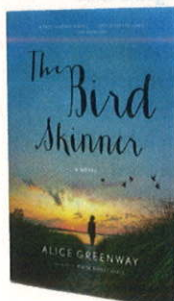


NEW IN FICTION



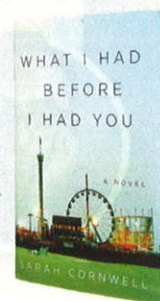
THE VISIONIST by Rachel Urquhart

Seeking shelter after setting a fire that kills her abusive father, 15-year-old Polly becomes enmeshed in the world of 1840s Massachusetts Shakers.



THE BIRD SKINNER by Alice Greenway

An irascible Maine ornithologist finds his world shaken by a visit from his old Navy buddy's daughter. Atmospheric and engrossing.



WHAT I HAD BEFORE I HAD YOU by Sarah Cornwell

Visiting the Jersey Shore with her daughter and troubled son, a newly separated woman confronts memories of her own tumultuous youth.