



The King Who Made Paper Flowers: A Novel

By Terry Kay

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The King Who Made Paper Flowers: A Novel By Terry Kay

When Arthur Benjamin steps from a Greyhound bus in Savannah, Georgia, he is immediately robbed by an affable street magician named Hamby Cahill.

It is Hamby's first act of thievery and the remorse of it so overwhelms him that he finds lodging for Arthur in The Castle, a warehouse supposedly owned by Melinda McFadden, an eccentric and fragile grande dame of imagined aristocracy who is known as Lady to the strange assembly of street people she has arbitrarily selected to be her Guests.

There, Arthur finds his family--an ex-con shoplifter, a disgruntled seamstress, a young artist suspected of being a hooker, and a former boxer known as Lightning. For Arthur, it is the company that will change his life, as he, in turn, will change the lives of everyone he encounters.

Yet, he does not know he will become entangled with political arrogance over a minor traffic mishap, or be targeted for brutality. He does not know he will encounter Wally Whitmire, proponent of the Destiny of the Dominoes, or that he will become an unqualified mayoral candidate put forth to serve as an irritant to the incumbent Harry Geiger. And he does not know he will be looked upon by the people of Savannah--fortunate and unfortunate, alike--as an icon, a beloved figure who wears a cape of invented royalty and distributes paper flowers made of cocktail napkins as gifts of comfort. Arthur knows only that he has found his place and his purpose.

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The King Who Made Paper Flowers: A Novel By Terry Kay Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #156596 in Books
- Published on: 2016-04-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.80" h x 1.40" w x 5.80" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 320 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

No one weaves a story of unique, distinctive characters quite like Terry Kay. **THE KING WHO MADE PAPER FLOWERS** will make you see the street people in your life in a different way. A truly wonderful story by a master character creator. --A.A. MacQueen, author of **A LONG FLIGHT HOME AND HARVEY'S DILEMMA...AND OTHER STORIES**

Terry Kay is more than storyteller in **THE KING WHO MADE PAPER FLOWERS**. He's a magician, much like the street performer and pickpocket, Hamby Cahill, who narrates this fairy tale novel. With the power of his gorgeous prose, Kay manages to breathe life into a ragtag collection of misfits subsisting on the seamy margins of Savannah, Georgia. By the tale's end, he'll have you believing... Yes, random acts of kindness can transform a city. Yes, a homeless man can incite revolution. Yes, heroes are born in alleyways and prison cells. So enchanting is the world of this story that you'll find your eyes misting--just as mine were--when it's time to bid farewell to the lovely Lady and her unlikely Guests. --Gail Langer Karwoski, author of **SEAMAN, THE DOG WHO EXPLORED THE WEST WITH LEWIS AND CLARK**

About the Author

Terry Kay, a member of the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame and recipient of the Governor's Award in the Humanities, is the author of sixteen works of fiction, including the classic **TO DANCE WITH THE WHITE DOG** and **THE BOOK OF MARIE**. Three of his novels have been produced as Hallmark Hall of Fame movies.

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Nancy Baumgardner:

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