

'Falling in Place' is pure Beattie

by Sherri L. Moore
Editor-in-Chief

Falling in Place
A Novel by Ann Beattie
Published by Random
House
\$10 for hard cover edition

For those who have read Ann Beattie's "Secrets and Surprises," "Distortions," and "Chilly Scenes of Winter," her latest novel "Falling in Place" is pure undiluted Beattie. The dry wit and characters that constantly mature mentally and emotionally are there.

For those people who have not read any of Beattie's works, "Falling in Place" will be a pleasant experience. Beattie has a way of making simple declarative sentences work on the reader's mood so in a sense they feel as if they are becoming one of the characters in the book. This mood persists and keeps the reader from putting the book down until the last page is finished. And even after the book is finished and put back on the shelf, the mental pictures the words paint and mood that it creates hangs with the reader so that "Falling in Place" becomes a book that can never be completely forgotten.

As in her previous novel "Chilly Scenes of Winter" and in her short stories, Beattie presents in "Falling

in Place," a wide range of not-so-normal characters. There is John Joel, a young boy who shoots his sister after a friend urges him to; Mary, the girl who was shot; John and Louise Knapp, a couple who desparately want out of their marriage, but are staying together "for the sake of the kids"; Nina, John Knapp's mistress, who plays housemother to a bunch of burned-out college cronies, and Cynthia, a summer school teacher who tries to instruct a classroom of apathetic students the right way to approach literature

These characters' lives intertwine in the most unexpected way to make "Falling in Place" read like a suspense story. The tension builds and builds until finally relief is found in a most unexpected way.

"Falling in Place" could very well be the answer to many of the questions posed by children of the seventies and eighties, just as "Chilly Scenes of Winter" tried to answer the questions posed by adults that grew up in the turbulent sixties. The questions of "Who am I?" "What am I doing here?" and "Where's my niche in life?" are present throughout the entire novel. The answers are ultimately left up to the reader, as Beattie leaves these questions unans-

wered in most all of her short stories and in her previous novel, "Chilly Scenes of Winter."

"'Falling in Place' " is funny and sad, satirical, but never condensending," wrote literary critic Leo Lerman. "It is a novel about missed connections and accidental collisions, about couples who can never say what they mean, and more often say what they shouldn't." However, it is safe to say that Beattie has invaded Cheever and O'Hara country and with perfect timing and dry humor, made the country her own. And this is all for the best for her readers.

Emanons return concert tonight

by Sue Hoggard

The Emanons of Elon will give a concert today at 8 p.m. in Whitley Auditorium. This is the ensemble's first appearance since returning from their Winter Tour '83. The band, under the direction of Dr. Jack O. White and Dr. David Bragg, traveled over 7,000 miles from Salisbury, Md., to St. Petersburg, Fla., during Winter Term.

While on tour, the band performed at over 25 high schools where they entertained the students with pop, big band, and jazz sounds. The Emanons also entertained at four Elon alumni functions in Virginia Beach, Richmond, Washington, D.C., and Maryland.

But probably the highlight of the tour was their performance at Disney World in Orlando, Fla. The band was able to enjoy the park amusements and shows, as well as gain professional playing experience.

Tonight's concert at Elon will consist of a variety of musci styles, and no admission will be charged.

Burnham to present recital Feb. 27 ; Elon faculty, guests to be included

by Kathy Hensley
Staff Writer

The Department of Fine Arts, under the direction of Cardon V. Burnham, will present a faculty recital at 4 p.m. Sunday in Whitley Auditorium. There will be no admission charge.

Faculty participants will include Terrell Cofield, soprano; David Bragg, bassoonist; James Glenn, tenor; Paulette Glenn, pianist; Elaine Bingerheimer, pianist; and Barbara Jacobson.

Guests will include Sarah Sohiner, violinist, who is the artist in residence for the county for 1982-1983. The Alamance Chamber Orchestra and the newly-formed Alamance Woodwind Quartet will also participate. All compositions were written by Burnham.

A number of composition periods will be featured in the recital. The recital will revolve around chamber music with a piano sonatina and two alto saxophone and two

trombone contrasts and other selections.

The main reason for this recital is to showcase the talent of the faculty, Burnham said.

Three of the compositions to be heard will receive their premiere performances: "Suite for Woodwind Quintet," "Concerto for Brass Choir and Percussion" and "Narrative" for solo violin and string orchestra. The program is open to the public without charge.

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'Gents' promote respect, new concept of love

by Vicky Jiggetts
Staff Writer

The students at Elon College are usually trying to decide which fraternity or sorority to join. Now, there is another organization to consider, The Gents.

Who are The Gents? The name may sound unfamiliar, but they were recognized as a campus organization in May, 1982. The Gents are composed of both males and females, who strive to present "Genuine Exuberant Natural Togetherness."

According to the president, Garry Pierce, the whole idea behind this organization is to attain a "concept of love, unity, and student dependability, as well as historical events and serviceable love for others." Pierce also stresses that they are a disciplined organization which promotes friendship, respect and togetherness, while looking out for other people as well.

Pierce explains that The Gents are simply a group whose members want to help others "through good will and concern."

The Gents will hopefully participate in student activities such as the Special Olympics, paper drives, CROP walks, and other fund raisers for the needy. They will be active in other benefits to aid the community.

The qualifications of prospective Gents include a G.P.A. of at least 2.2, good character, interest, and motivation. Pierce says that no one will be discriminated against regardless of race, creed, sex, or class.

The members of The Gents are Garry Pierce, president; Mitchell Ryan, vice president; Deidre Richardson, secretary; Anne Lindsay Scott, treasurer; Jessie Jones, Del Ray Anthony, Darrell Wallace, and Daryl Smith.

The advisers are Dr. Robert Blake and Captain Perman McIntosh.

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