

“The Star Family” by Theresa Crater

[Book Reviews](#) /

September 23, 2015

2015 TISBA FICTION Category Winner

Theresa Crater certainly knows how to paint vivid pictures with words. Her scenes unfold in great detail in the mind's eye as the story progresses. In Crater's rich work of visionary fiction we also see the unfolding of the Divine Plan in a refreshingly new way. Even if one has never heard of Moravians prior to reading this engrossing, fast-moving mystery, she will find herself fascinated with their history.

The protagonist, Jane, is a middle-aged woman raised in the Moravian faith who left early on to pursue success in the corporate world of high finance. When the story begins she has been unceremoniously booted from her glamorous, well-paying job with absolutely no idea what to do next.

Seemingly alone in the world Jane immediately learns she is to inherit a gothic mansion in the small town in the Carolinas where she had lived as a child. The home was where she had taken music lessons as a child; she is quite surprised to learn her childless music teacher is leaving it to her. The mansion has many secrets to reveal which are related to the ancient mystery schools, and upon accepting the gift of the house, Jane is off for the ride of her life. This surprising ride takes her on a spiritual quest which unfolds with unexpected twists and turns.

Jane's recently widowed high-school sweetheart handily shows up to help her with this search which takes them to exotic sites: locations in eastern Europe of which most of us have never heard.

The theme is deeply spiritual, wildly fascinating, and covers beautifully some heavy subjects like William Blake's art and its relationship to the mystical teachings of his time, including sexual mysteries. Woven in are the Rosicrucian's teachings, the Masonic involvement with the Moravians, as well as much involving sacred geometry.

This is a powerfully written, visually rich and exciting tale that the reader will find hard to put down.