



Home to Big Stone Gap: A Novel (Big Stone Gap Novels)

Adriana Trigiani

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Millions of readers around the world have fallen in love with the novels of the New York Times bestselling author Adriana Trigiani. In *Home to Big Stone Gap*, she tells her most powerful story yet, full of humor and heart, wisdom and hope.

Nestled in the lush Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, the town of Big Stone Gap has been home for Ave Maria Mulligan Machesney and her family for generations. She's been married to her beloved Jack for nearly twenty years, raised one child and buried another, and run a business that binds her community together, all while holding her tight circle of family and friends close.

But with her daughter, Etta, having flown the nest to enchanting Italy, Ave Maria has reached a turning point. When a friend's postcard arrives with the message "It's time to live your life for you," Ave Maria realizes that it's time to go in search of brand-new dreams. But before she can put her foot on the path, her life is turned upside down.

Ave Maria agrees to helm the town musical, a hilarious reunion of local talent past and present. A lifelong friendship collapses when a mysterious stranger comes to town and reveals a long-buried secret. An unexpected health crisis threatens her family. An old heartthrob reappears, challenging her marriage and offering a way out of her troubles. An opportunistic coal company comes to town and threatens to undermine the town's way of life and the mountain landscape Ave Maria has treasured since she was a girl. Now she has no choice but to reinvent her world, her life, and herself, whether she wants to or not.

Trigiani is at her best in this exquisite page-turner. *Home to Big Stone Gap* is an emotional and unforgettable journey that reminds us that you can go home again and again.

From *BOOKLIST*

***STAR* Trigiani, Adriana.** Home to Big Stone Gap. Nov. 2006. 301p. Random, \$25.95 (1-4000-6008-7). Tucked in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia is Big Stone Gap, the bucolic backdrop for Trigiani's popular series. In this fourth entry, Ave Maria Mulligan MacChesney and her husband, Jack, must come to terms with the absence of daughter Etta, newly married and living in Italy. (The country holds a special place in Ave Maria's heart: her biological father, Mario, whom she learned of and met only after her mother's death, is Italian). Ave Maria has plenty to keep her mind off missing her only child (the MacChesney's son, Joe, died of leukemia at age four). She's a full-time pharmacist and the newly appointed director of the town's annual musical. Then comes news that her longtime friend, glamorous librarian Iva Lou, has been keeping a startling secret for nearly 20 years. Other developments, including a health scare for Jack and a Christmas visit from a colorful former resident, move the plot along briskly. With her original cast of characters, playwright and television writer Trigiani blends playfulness and pathos in this evocative portrait of a small southern town. Fans of the Big Stone Gap series can look forward to a feature film; Trigiani has written the screenplay and is slated to direct. —*Allison Block*

"Is there ever trouble for Ave Maria Mulligan MacChesney, heroine of Trigiani's beloved Big Stone Gap novels, starting with her married daughter's move to Italy and leading right up to a stranger's disturbing appearance in town."—*Library Journal*

Praise for the Big Stone Gap novels:

"Delightfully quirky . . . chock-full of engaging, oddball characters and unexpected plot twists."

–*People* (Book of the Week)

“Funny, charming, and original.”

–Fannie Flagg

“Satisfying reading . . . As skillfully as Ms. Trigiani makes us laugh, she makes us cry.”

–*Richmond Times-Dispatch*

“Heartwarming . . . Everything that really matters is here: humor, romance, wisdom, and drama.”

–*The Dallas Morning News*

From the Hardcover edition.

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