

If You Like Clyde Edgerton

You may like these stories featuring down-home humor and compassion.

[Bed and Breakfast](#) by Lois Battle

The four Taternal sisters--Josie, Cam, Lila, and Evie--come together to celebrate the holidays and heal ten years of family secrets, misunderstandings, and recriminations that have kept them apart.

[Cold Sassy Tree](#) by Olive Ann Burns

When Grandpa Rucker suddenly marries his store's young milliner barely three weeks after his wife's death, 14-year-old Will Tweddy watches as his small, turn-of-the-century Georgia town is set on its ear. Also try the sequel: [Leaving Cold Sassy](#).

[The Persian Pickle Club](#) by Sandra Dallas

For Queenie Bean, a young farmwife, the highlight of each week in Depression-era Kansas is the gathering of the Persian Pickle Club, a group of local ladies dedicated to improving their minds, exchanging gossip, and putting their well-honed quilting skills to use. Also try [Alice's Tulips](#).

[Jim the Boy](#) by Tony Earley

It's 1934, and Jim Glass is just turning 10. Aliceville, North Carolina, where Jim lives with his mother and three uncles, doesn't seem too affected by the Great Depression. But it might just be that life in this little southern town has always been hard. This is a deceptively gentle, nostalgic look at childhood during an era when life was by turns harsh and hopeful.

[What the Deaf-Mute Heard](#) by G.D. Gearino

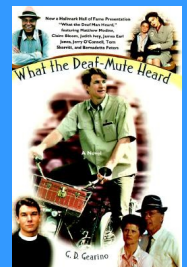
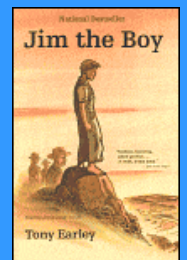
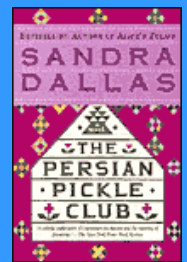
This entertaining tale by a local author tells of a deaf-mute who sees and "hears" everything in his small Southern town--and spends a lifetime guarding a shocking, dark secret.

[Old Dogs and Children](#) by Robert Inman

Making use of artfully constructed flashbacks, Inman allows readers to live alongside protagonist Bright Birdsong during her 68 years in a small Southern town. Her story reminds us that mistakes are a part of life, correcting them both an obligation and an opportunity. Also try [Captain Saturday](#) and [Dairy Queen Days](#).

[Lake Wobegon Days](#) by Garrison Keillor

Garrison Keillor's fictional Midwestern town, Lake Wobegon, has long since passed into literary legend. *Lake Wobegon Days*, his first unforgettable portrait of life in the American small-town named after an Indian word meaning 'Here we are!' or 'We sat all day in the rain waiting for you', is a modern classic of warmth, humor and tenderness which introduces the reader to 'a cast of characters to rival Mark Twain'. Also try [Lake Wobegon: Summer 1956](#) and [Leaving Home](#).



[The Secret Life of Bees](#) by Sue Monk Kidd

After her "stand-in mother," a bold black woman named Rosaleen, insults the three biggest racists in town, Lily Owens joins Rosaleen on a journey to Tiburon, South Carolina, where they are taken in by three black, bee-keeping sisters.

[All The Pretty Horses](#) by Cormac McCarthy

Cut off from the life of ranching he has come to love by his grandfather's death, John Grady Cole flees to Mexico, where he and his two companions embark on a rugged and cruelly idyllic adventure.

[Off for the Sweet Hereafter](#) by T.R. Pearson

Tells the Bonnie and Clyde story of Raeford Benton Lynch and Jane Elizabeth Firesheets in the mythic town of Neely, North Carolina.

[Miss Julia Speaks Her Mind](#) by Ann B. Ross

Miss Julia, a recently bereaved and newly wealthy widow, is only slightly bemused when one Hazel Marie Puckett appears at her door with a youngster in tow and announces that the child is the bastard son of Miss Julia's late husband. Suddenly, this longtime church member and pillar of her small Southern community finds herself in the center of an unseemly scandal-and the guardian of a wan nine-year-old whose mere presence turns her life upside down. Also try the rest of the [Miss Julia](#) series.

[Run With the Horsemen](#) by Ferrol Sams

A boy's account of growing up in the South during the depression era. Both a rare first novel and a new American classic, Sams' novel has been compared to [Tom Sawyer](#) and [To Kill a Mockingbird](#).

[On Agate Hill](#) by Lee Smith

Discovered in the ruins of a North Carolina plantation, an old box of mementos brings to life the world of young Molly Petree, an orphan growing up in the smoldering remains of the post-Civil War American South.

[Olive Kitteridge](#) by Elizabeth Strout

At the edge of the continent, in the small town of Crosby, Maine, lives Olive Kitteridge, a retired schoolteacher who deplors the changes in her town and in the world at large but doesn't always recognize the changes in those around her.

[Big Stone Gap](#) by Adriana Trigiani

Filled with big-time eccentrics and small-town shenanigans, Big Stone Gap is a jewel box of original characters, including sexpot Bookmobile librarian Iva Lou Wade; Fleeta Mullins, the chain-smoking pharmacy cashier with a penchant for professional wrestling; the dashing visionary Theodore Tipton; Elmo Gaspar, the snake-handling preacher; Jack MacChesney, a coal-mining bachelor looking for true love; and Pearl Grimes, a shy mountain girl on the verge of a miraculous transformation. Also try the next novels in this series: [Big Cherry Holler](#) and [Milk Glass Moon](#).

[Big Fish](#) by Daniel Wallace

When his attempts to get to know his dying father fail, William Bloom makes up stories that recreate his father's life in heroic proportions.

[Quite a Year for Plums](#) by Bailey White

Interconnected stories of the peculiar yet lovable inhabitants of a small town in southern Georgia. Also try [Mama Makes Up Her Mind](#) and [Sleeping at the Starlite Motel](#) (both Nonfiction: 814 WHITE).

