



Rhett Butler's People

By Donald McCaig

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Fully authorized by the Margaret Mitchell estate, *Rhett Butler's People* is the astonishing and long-awaited novel that parallels the Great American Novel, *Gone With The Wind*. Twelve years in the making, the publication of *Rhett Butler's People* marks a major and historic cultural event.

Through the storytelling mastery of award-winning writer Donald McCaig, the life and times of the dashing Rhett Butler unfolds. Through Rhett's eyes we meet the people who shaped his larger than life personality as it sprang from Margaret Mitchell's unforgettable pages: Langston Butler, Rhett's unyielding father; Rosemary his steadfast sister; Tunis Bonneau, Rhett's best friend and a onetime slave; Belle Watling, the woman for whom Rhett cared long before he met Scarlett O'Hara at Twelve Oaks Plantation, on the fateful eve of the Civil War.

Of course there is Scarlett. Katie Scarlett O'Hara, the headstrong, passionate woman whose life is inextricably entwined with Rhett's: more like him than she cares to admit; more in love with him than she'll ever know...

Brought to vivid and authentic life by the hand of a master, *Rhett Butler's People* fulfills the dreams of those whose imaginations have been indelibly marked by *Gone With The Wind*.

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Rhett Butler's People By Donald McCaig Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Margaret Mitchell's story of Scarlett O'Hara's and Rhett Butler's beguiling, twisted love for each other, set against the gruesome background of a nation torn apart by war, is by all accounts epic--so much so that it feels untouchable. Yet McCaig's take on what many would consider a sacred cow of 20th-century American literature is a worthy suitor for Mitchell's many ardent fans, for reasons that may not be altogether obvious. It would be easy to look at *Gone With the Wind* and *Rhett Butler's People* side by side and catalog what is accurate and what isn't and tally up the score. In doing so, however, the fan is apt to miss out on the best part of this whole book: Rhett Butler himself. McCaig's Rhett is thoroughly modern, both a product of his Charleston plantation and an emphatic rejection of it. He is filled with romance and ingenuity, grit and wit, and a toughness matched only by a sense of humility that evokes so gracefully the hardship and heartbreak of a society falling apart. It's not hard to love Rhett in his weakness for Scarlett's love, but it is entirely amazing to love him as he rescues Belle Watling, mentors her bright young son Tazewell, adores his sister Rosemary, dotes on dear Bonnie Blue, and defends his best friend Tunis Bonneau to the very end.

To pluck a character from a beloved book and recalibrate the story's point-of-view isn't an easy thing to do. Ultimately, the new must ring true with the old, and this is where *Rhett Butler's People* succeeds beyond measure. In the spirit of Mitchell's masterpiece, McCaig never questions that love--of family, lover, land, or country--is the tie that binds these characters to life, for better or worse. --Anne Bartholomew

From Publishers Weekly

Was it strictly necessary to our understanding of *Gone With the Wind*'s dashing hero to flesh out his backstory, replay famous GWTW scenes from his perspective, and crank the plot past the original's astringent denouement? Perhaps not, but it's still a fun ride. In this authorized reimagining, Rhett, disowned son of a cruel South Carolina planter, is still a jauntily worldwise charmer, roguish but kind; Scarlett is still feisty, manipulative and neurotic; and the air of besieged decorum is slightly racier. (Rhett: "My dear, you have jam at the corner of your mouth." Scarlett: "Lick it off.") But it says much about the author's sure feel for Margaret Mitchell's magnetic protagonists that they still beguile us. McCaig (Jacob's Ladder) broadens the canvas, giving Rhett new dueling and blockade-running adventures and adding intriguing characters like Confederate cavalier-turned-Klansman Andrew Ravanel, a rancid version of Ashley Wilkes who romances Rhett's sister Rosemary. He paints a richer, darker panorama of a Civil War-era South where poor whites seethe with resentment and slavery and racism are brutal facts of life that an instinctive gentleman like Rhett can work around but not openly challenge. McCaig thus imparts a Faulknerian tone to the saga that sharpens Mitchell's critique of Southern nostalgia without losing the epic sweep and romantic pathos. The result is an engrossing update of GWTW that fans of the original will definitely give a damn about.

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Review

"'Rhett Butler's People' covers the period from 1843 to 1874, nearly two decades more than are chronicled in 'Gone With the Wind.' Readers will...get inside Rhett's head as he meets and courts Scarlett O'Hara in one of the most famous love affairs of all time."--*The New York Times*

"McCaig is a bred-in-the bones storyteller." --Pulitzer Prize-winning author Geraldine Brooks.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

William Nix:

Reading a publication tends to be new life style in this era globalization. With reading through you can get a lot of information that could give you benefit in your life. Using book everyone in this world could share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their particular reader with their story or their experience. Not only situation that share in the publications. But also they write about the information about something that you need example. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors these days always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write to their book. One of them is this Rhett Butler's People.

Adrian Kester:

Often the book Rhett Butler's People has a lot info on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was published by the very famous author. The author makes some research before write this book. That book very easy to read you can find the point easily after scanning this book.

Lorri Nicholson:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to receive information. The information will make you to definitely understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon. You can view that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. Often the book that recommended to you personally is Rhett Butler's People this guide consist a lot of the information of the condition of this world now. This specific book was represented how can the world has grown up. The vocabulary styles that writer require to explain it is easy to understand. The particular writer made some analysis when he makes this book. That's why this book suitable all of you.

Stella Neal:

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