



A Sampling of Quotes from the Many Rave Reviews for *Jo Joe* by Sally Wiener Grotta

Press Contact:

Cynthia Dadson, Cynthia@PixelHallPress.com

"A riveting read. Astute, psychologically believable and moving." – Rabbi Peg Kershenbaum

"I read [*Jo Joe*] through in a single sitting.... a really compelling story with enough suspense woven into it to hold the reader to the very end. The array of characters and the slow unfolding of secrets was masterfully developed." Dr. Claire Herschfeld, Professor Emeritus, Pennsylvania State University

"A highly readable book... an important neglected subject in American fiction" – Dr. Alma Bond (a Reviewer's Choice in Midwest Book Review)

"A compelling and poignant story that touched on everything from love and hate, to prejudice and compassion, and did so in a totally engaging way.... It should make a great book for book clubs to discuss. I've discussed it with myself over and over. Love and loss. Love reignited. Tainted memories. Forgiveness. You will carry the well developed characters of *Black Bear* around in your heart and soul for quite some time after reading *Jo Joe*. - Nancy A. Nasielski Foster

"If I tell you this book is just good or great, then I am doing you such a grave injustice... This is one of the most beautifully written, introspective and captivating stories that will not only grab your heart but ... [also] peak your literary senses." - Michelle Bowles

"Great book! ... absolutely loved it! I highly recommend it! ... heartwarming, sad, insightful, and encouraging. It's a tale of finding out who we are and how we evolve through faith and our experiences; how sometimes we assume the worst in some and the best in others, for no other reason than our own prejudices." -- Pat Viera

(over)

"Engaging... both simple & complex... brought me to tears.... A page turner for sure."
– L.E. Ryan

"Storytelling at it's Best!... This is one of those books that will stay with me for a long time. Ms. Grotta is a compelling writer whose style and descriptions are so phenomenal I could SEE the woods, sculptures, farmhouse, buildings, photographs, and pottery, SMELL the trees, woods, foods and perfumes and FEEL the raw emotions, love, hate, prejudice, shock and fear and the resolution of the hurt... Ms. Grotta is truly a remarkable story teller and writer." Dottie Resnick

"A great book about an important topic (several actually) from a writer with a gift for description and storytelling. It played like a movie in my mind and should be made into one." – Leon Erlanger

"In beautifully written prose with a compelling style, emotional descriptions hit with a visceral punch, and stay long after the book is shelved." - Gaele Hince

"Engrossing read. The novel is powerful, intentionally small in scope - it's about the circumstances that have made Judith (Jo) who she is.... This book would be a good choice for reading groups." - J. Rodriguez

Jo Joe is thought provoking and the characters will inspire the reader to seek out the good in people even in the worst of times". - Margo Crispino Azzarelli

"I couldn't stop reading - I needed to know how it ended." Bonnie Fladung

"There is so much to love about *Jo Joe*: the well defined characters; the wonderful descriptions of the farm and surrounding forest; the exploration of the relationships between the characters. I was particularly enthralled by the relationship between Judith and her grandmother - how "hidden agendas" can alter people's lives and perceptions. I hope that Sally Wiener Grotta writes more novels that are set in Black Bear - I would certainly read them!" – Angela Thomas

"An amazing perceptive story... fast-paced... and gripping until the very last page." - Barbara Heckendorn

"*Jo Joe* is a heartwrenching book that unfolds as a mystery.... I could not put this book down, every page brought a new surprise a new shock. A beautifully written emotionally rich book." - Rhonda Lomazow