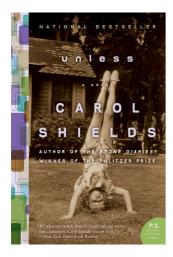
Author Essay



Carol Shields

Unless ISBN13: 9780060874407

Dear Booksellers,

I would like to thank you for all you've done to support my novel *Unless*. This book speaks to things that are very close to my heart, and I suspect it took me a lifetime of thinking and living before I was prepared to do the story justice. Therefore its reception has meant a great deal.

Over a long career as a writer, I have always valued the role the bookseller has in that alchemical act of placing the right book in the hands of the right reader. Hearing from so many readers who found something to move them in *Unless* has clearly shown me how much effort you have put into making this happen.

Regards, Carol Shields June 18, 2003