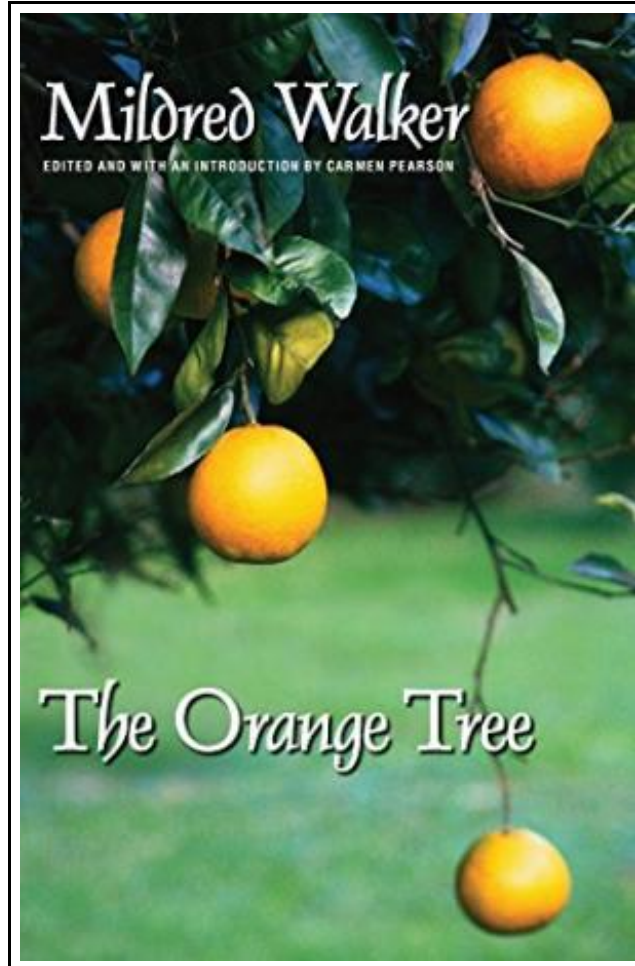


The Orange Tree



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THE ORANGE TREE



University of Nebraska Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Orange Tree, Mildred Walker, Carmen Pearson, As in Chekhov's play "The Three Sisters", the characters in Mildred Walker's "Orange Tree" search for meaning and happiness in their often uneventful middle-class lives - and yet from such a seemingly ordinary premise, subtle and defining drama ensues. Editing Walker's last novel, which the author reworked for nearly two decades, Carmen Pearson has found indications that the Chekhov play had in fact been a template that Walker contemporized in "The Orange Tree". The novel centers on two families living in Boston in the 1970s: an older couple, Tiresa and Paulo Romano, and the newlyweds Olive and Ron Fifer. The fragile state of the older woman's health and the younger woman's marriage brings these two couples together in their separate and quietly desperate isolation, producing a combination of insight and compassion that only the finest story can evoke. In "The Orange Tree", Walker explores the relationships between men and women and offers an absorbing commentary on literature, writing, education, middle-class life, and the nature of friendship and of death. Mildred Walker (1905-98), a highly regarded chronicler of New England and the American West, is the author of numerous novels including "The Southwest Corner", "Fireweed", and "Winter Wheat", which was chosen in 2003 by the Montana Center for the Book as the One Book Montana selection; it is available in a Bison Books edition. Carmen Pearson recently completed the first book-length critical consideration of Walker's work, forthcoming from the University of Nebraska Press.



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