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**SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2002 WHITBREAD NOVEL AWARD
WINNER ANNOUNCED 8 JANUARY 2003**

THE STORY OF LUCY GAULT

WILLIAM TREVOR

Published by Viking/Penguin in the UK, £16.99 and Viking Press in the USA, \$24.95

“Trevor writes with fine implacable quietness. His touch is almost flawless, and without ego.... *The Story of Lucy Gault* is an outstanding book, a troublingly perfected piece of work”

Galen Strawson, *Financial Times*

The novel opens in rural Cork, 1921, as tensions are running high and wealthy Protestant landowners are driven out of Ireland. The Gault family is one of the last remaining families. One night, as intruders attack, Captain Gault fires his shotgun, an impulsive action that affects his entire life thereafter. The family is forced to leave and follow their neighbours into exile. Eight-year-old Lucy Gault does not want to go, however, and, on the day of departure, she disappears. The subsequent tragedy that unfolds blights the Gault family forever. In this poignant story of love, loss and hope, William Trevor brilliantly captures the atmosphere of a country in turmoil and the heart-rending emotions of a family torn apart. Hermione Lee wrote in the *Guardian* that William Trevor's latest novel was a “gravely beautiful, subtle and haunting Irish novel” and Peter Kemp of *The Sunday Times* referred to it as “a delicately rendered account of damage, guilt and grief”.

William Trevor was born in 1928 at Mitchelstown, County Cork. He attended Trinity College, Dublin, and is a member of the Irish Academy of Letters. He now lives in Devon. Penguin has published William Trevor's books for 36 years. He has been shortlisted three times for the Booker Prize: For *Mrs Eckdorf in O'Neill's Hotel* (1970); *The Children of Dynmouth* (1976), which also won the Whitbread Fiction Award and *Reading Turgenev* (1991). His many novels include: *The Old Boys*, winner of the Hawthornden Prize; *Fools of Fortune*, winner of the Whitbread Novel Award; *The Silence in the Garden*, winner of the Yorkshire Post Book of the Year Award; *Felicia's Journey*, which won both the Whitbread Book of the Year and Sunday Express Book of the Year Awards; and, most recently, *Death in Summer*. He is also a celebrated short-story writer, and his most recent collection, *The Hill Bachelors*, won both the Macmillan Silver Pen Award and the Irish Times Literature Prize. In 1977, William Trevor was awarded an honorary CBE in recognition of his valuable services to literature. In 1999 he received the prestigious David Cohen British Literature Prize in recognition of a lifetime's literary achievements and in 2002 he was awarded an honorary knighthood. *The Story of Lucy Gault* was shortlisted for The Man Booker Prize 2002.

www.whitbread-bookawards.co.uk

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