

Book Description (Extended Version) – *Letting the House Go*

An aging novelist living in Connecticut learns from his former wife's attorney that she's entered a Long Island hospice and wishes to see him before she dies. Though Richard and Irene Morris had been college sweethearts whose 10-year marriage ended in amicable divorce, they've spoken only rarely in decades. Thus, sadness turns to surprise when the lawyer adds that Irene has named Richard her executor.

In response to her message, he travels to an eastern Long Island community—still redolent of its colonial origins and old social structures—where memories are resurrected as Richard and Irene discover the confusing permanence of a doomed marriage.

*Letting the House Go*—a story of love, memory and acceptance—is an intense and relevant new work of literary fiction.

As he embraces his duties, and visits Irene each day, Richard becomes a witness to life's fragility and feels the metaphysical weight of time running out. Attempting to reconcile with their son, Henry, he struggles against well-worn habits of emotional detachment.

Yet, escape becomes impossible as the end nears. Richard enters more deeply into the lives of his family members and their friends, each of whom loves Irene in a particular way that will make her passing a life-defining event. But his own place in this web of sorrow and loss will remain uncertain until the final moments of his journey when he must relinquish his antiquated sense of entitlement and learn the stunning truth of his past.