

# Black Picket Fences: The Second Edition



## Black Picket Fences, Second Edition: Privilege and Peril among the Black Middle Class

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1691 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 350 pages
Lending	: Enabled



Black Picket Fences is a novel that explores the complexities of race, class, and gender in America. The novel tells the story of two families, one black and one white, who live in the same neighborhood. The novel's title refers to the picket fence that separates the two families' homes, and it is a powerful symbol of the racial divide that exists in America.

The novel was written by Kelly Loy Gilbert, and it was first published in 2008. The novel was a critical and commercial success, and it has been translated into more than 20 languages.

In 2020, the novel was re-released with a new byline by Gilbert. In her , Gilbert discusses the novel's enduring relevance in the wake of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Black Picket Fences is a powerful and moving novel that sheds light on the complex issues of race, class, and gender in America. The novel is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the challenges that our country faces today.

## Characters

The novel's characters are complex and well-developed. The main characters are:

- **John and Mary Smith:** A white couple who live in the house next door to the Johnsons.
- **Paul and Sarah Johnson:** A black couple who live in the house next door to the Smiths.
- **Emily Smith:** John and Mary's daughter.
- **David Johnson:** Paul and Sarah's son.

The novel follows the lives of these characters as they navigate the challenges of race, class, and gender in America.

## Themes

Black Picket Fences explores a number of important themes, including:

- **Race:** The novel explores the different ways that race affects the lives of the characters. The Smiths are white, and they benefit from the privileges that come with being white in America. The Johnsons are black, and they face discrimination and prejudice on a daily basis.

- **Class:** The novel also explores the role that class plays in the lives of the characters. The Smiths are wealthy, and they live in a comfortable home in a desirable neighborhood. The Johnsons are working-class, and they live in a modest home in a less desirable neighborhood.
- **Gender:** The novel also explores the role that gender plays in the lives of the characters. The Smiths are traditional gender roles, with John being the breadwinner and Mary being the homemaker. The Johnsons have a more egalitarian relationship, with Paul and Sarah both working outside the home.

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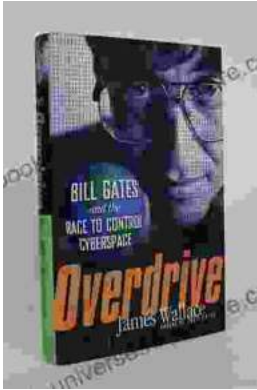


## Black Picket Fences, Second Edition: Privilege and Peril among the Black Middle Class

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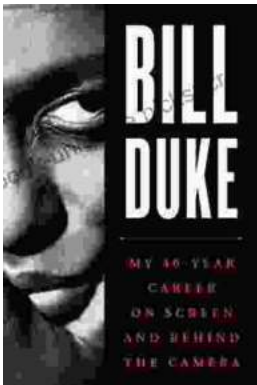
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