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Where is midnight in the garden of good and evil statue

If the citizens of Savannah Georgia had to choose a single, iconic image to represent the city, you would be hard pressed to find a Savannahian that would not choose photographer Jack Leigh's 1993 image titled "Midnight." Leigh's photograph depicts a grave monument in Bonaventure cemetery featuring a bronze statue of a slender girl in a full length dress, holding a pair of bowls in outstretched arms. Commonly known as the "Bird Girl," the statue is one of four, originally cast in 1936 by sculpture Sylvia Shaw Judson. Savannah's "Bird Girl" was purchased by a local family, who named it "Little Wendy" and set it up at their family plot in Bonaventure Cemetery. Little Wendy sat in Bonaventure Cemetery for over half a century, virtually unnoticed, until Random House Publishing commissioned Leigh to shoot the cover image of John Berendt's new book, *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*. Berendt suggested Leigh search Bonaventure Cemetery for a suitable subject. After two days of searching, Leigh located Little Wendy on a family plot towards the back of the cemetery. Since it was nearly dusk, Leigh had to compose quickly to get his shot, but the resulting image would make Leigh famous. When "The Book" (as it's known to local Savannahian's) was released, it became an immediate international hit, and the eerie cover photo only added to the book's legacy and mystique. Berendt called Leigh's image "one of the strongest book covers I've ever seen." As the book became a runaway best seller, fans soon began flocking to Bonaventure Cemetery to see the Bird Girl for themselves. Out of concern about possible vandalism or theft of the statue, not to mention increased foot traffic the grave plot was receiving, the family removed Little Wendy from Bonaventure, and donated her to the Telfair Museum of Art in Savannah for public display. In December of 2014, the statue was moved from the Telfair, to the nearby Jepson Center for the Arts, at 207 W York Ln, Savannah, where it is currently on public display as of May, 2015. As of the writing of this, you can even catch a glimpse of Wendy from the back side at the corners of Oglethorpe Avenue, and Barnard Street. "Little Wendy the Bird Girl" on display at the Jepson Center for the Arts, May 2015 The Bird Girl as seen from street level, at the corners of Oglethorpe Avenue and Barnard Street. A non-fiction work by John Berendt This article is about the non-fiction book. For the 1997 film, see *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* (film).Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil The cover of the 1994 book, which features the Bird Girl sculpture.Author|John BerendtCountry|United StatesLanguage|EnglishGenre|Non-fiction novelPublisher|Random HousePublication date|January 1994Media type|Print (hardback and paperback)Pages|389ISBN|0-679-42922-0OCLC|27975809Dewey Decimal|975.8/724 20LC ClassF294.S2 B48 1994 Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil is a non-fiction novel by John Berendt. The book, Berendt's first, was published in 1994 and follows the story of an antiques dealer on trial for the murder of a male prostitute. Subtitled *A Savannah Story*, with an initial printing of 25,000 copies,[1] the book became a *New York Times* Best-Seller for 216 weeks following its debut and remains the longest-standing *New York Times* Best-Seller.[2] The book was adapted for Clint Eastwood's 1997 film, with several characters' names changed to protect their privacy. Background In tone, *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* is atmospherically Deep South coastal (Savannah, Georgia, and Beaufort, South Carolina) and Southern Gothic, depicting a wide range of eccentric personalities in and around the city of Savannah, Georgia. The central narrative concerns the shooting of Danny Hansford, a local male prostitute (characterized as "a good time not yet had by all" by Prentiss Crowe, a Savannah socialite), by respected antiques dealer Jim Williams, who was also his employer. This resulted in four murder trials, with the fourth ending in acquittal after the judge finally agreed to a change of venue to move the case away from the Savannah jury pool. The book describes Williams' version of the killing, which is that it was in "self-defense"—the result of Hansford, who was prone to fits of rage, shooting at Williams with a gun that was on display, and Williams shooting back to protect himself—and not murder, pre-meditated or otherwise, by Williams. The death occurred in Williams' Mercer House home.[1] The book highlights many other notable Savannah residents, including The Lady Chablis, a local transgender woman, club performer, and entertainer. Chablis provides both a Greek chorus of sorts as well as a light-hearted contrast to the more serious action. Chablis was given a dedicated chapter, as was Emma Kelly, the "lady of 6,000 songs." [1] Characters and events The book's plot is based on real-life events that occurred in the 1980s and is classified as non-fiction. Because it reads like a novel (and rearranges the sequence of true events in time), it is sometimes referred to as a "non-fiction novel." Mercer House. The alleged murder of Danny Hansford occurred in Williams' study - the bottom left room in this photograph. The house is now known as the Mercer Williams House Museum Although the book's timeline is set to coincide with the entire saga of Jim Williams' arrest and four trials for murder, in reality Berendt did not meet Williams for the first time until 1982 — after the millionaire had already been convicted of murder the first time and released pending appeal. Berendt also did not move to Savannah to collect material for his book until 1985 — after Williams' second conviction for the murder. Williams was a free man and living in Mercer House during Berendt's five years in Savannah.[1] In the first chapter, Berendt and Williams are interrupted by Hansford's screaming entrance; this happened prior to their meeting. "Jim was having drinks with somebody else," explains Berendt. "Jim told me about it and so did somebody else. So I reconstructed it, put myself in there. The first evening in Mercer House is a combination of a lot of stories he told me. Then afterward, I meet all these people — Joe Odom, Chablis, Lee Adler. I met all these people, obviously, after the murder, but they don't impact the murder at all, so I simply put them right after my meeting with Jim, and it seems as though I met them before the shooting and I didn't, but so what? All of those meetings with people were actual meetings. They took place in '85 or later, and they are pretty much verbatim what happened with those people and me." [1] Nancy Hillis, who appears as Mandy Nichols, later explained that, contrary to Berendt's portrayal of her, she did not meet Joe Odom until he had moved from 16 East Jones Street to 101 East Oglethorpe Avenue. She also clarified that there was no romantic relationship between her and Odom, largely because Odom was gay. Odom died in 1991, over two years before the book was published, but this is not mentioned in its narrative.[1] The person represented by the character Serena Dawes (real name Helen Drexel)[3] died in 1974, over twenty years before the book's release.[1] Minerva is based on root doctor Valerie Boles.[4] Title The title alludes to the hoodoo notion of "midnight," the period between the time for good magic (11:30 P.M. to midnight) and the time for evil magic (midnight to 12:30 A.M.).[1] Although Bonaventure Cemetery is the focus in the book, "the garden of good and evil" refers principally to the cemetery in Beaufort, South Carolina, where Dr. Louis Buzzard, the husband of Minerva, the folk-magic practitioner who figures in the story, is buried. It is over his grave that Minerva performed the incantations to ensure a more successful result in the retrial for the case of Jim Williams. (The marriage between Minerva and Dr. Buzzard was the invention of John Berendt. Dr. Buzzard was based on Stephen Robinson, who died in 1947, aged 86.)[5] Cover The famous Bird Girl statue, originally designed both as art and as a birdseed holder, was originally located at Savannah's historic Bonaventure Cemetery. A Savannah photographer, Jack Leigh, was commissioned to take a photograph for the cover of the book. The cover image became immediately iconic, with author John Berendt calling it "one of the strongest covers I've ever seen", and the statue became a popular stop for tourists. Owing to rising concerns about the integrity of the statue and the cemetery's privacy, Bird Girl was relocated in 1997 for display in Telfair Museums in Savannah. Legacy In 1993, the year before the book's publication, Savannah had five million visitors, who spent almost \$600 million during their time in the city.[6] Two years after the book's release, Savannah was seeing a 46% increase in tourism.[1] Twenty years later, the number of visitors to the city had jumped to 12.5 million, spending \$2.2 billion.[6] Awards The book won the 1995 Boeke Prize and was one of the finalists for the 1995 Pulitzer Prize for non-fiction.[7] References ^ a b c d e f g h i "MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF FACT AND FICTION" ^ Washington Examiner, December 29, 1996 ^ "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil". *New Georgia Encyclopedia*. ^ "The Museum Next Door". *Garden & Gun*. 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