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“Here is what I love about **Patricia Hampl**: Sentence for sentence she writes the best prose of any American writer, period. The rest of us cannot touch her.”

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“Thoughtful and elegant.”

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# **THE FLORIST’S DAUGHTER**

***A Memoir***

**By Patricia Hampl**

**On Sale: October 1, 2007**

As the child of a debonair Czech father, whose floral work gave him entrée into St. Paul society, and a distrustful Irishwoman with an uncanny ability to tell a tale, Patricia Hampl remained a daughter – primarily and steadfastly – well into adulthood. But it is during the long farewell of her mother’s dying, that Hampl revisits her childhood and writes her most personal memoir: **THE FLORIST’S DAUGHTER (Harcourt; October 1, 2007; ISBN 978-015-101257-2; \$24.00; 230 pages).**

Written in the elegant prose style for which she is lauded for, Hampl traces the arc of faithfulness and struggle that comes with the role of dutiful daughter from the postwar

years past the turbulent sixties. More than a memoir of one family's life, **THE FLORIST'S DAUGHTER** is a tribute to supposedly ordinary people and a historic testament to mid-century Middle America. At the heart of this book is the humble passion of people who struggled out of the Depression into a better life, not only for themselves but for the common good.

**PATRICIA HAMPL** is the author of four memoirs—*A Romantic Education*, *Virgin Time*, *I Could Tell You Stories*, and *Blue Arabesque*—and two collections of poetry. She has received a MacArthur Fellowship, among many other awards. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, she lives in St. Paul and is Regents Professor at the University of Minnesota. Visit [www.PatriciaHampl.com](http://www.PatriciaHampl.com) for more information.

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