



# Anne Tyler (Twayne's United States Authors Series)

*Elizabeth Evans*

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## **Anne Tyler (Twayne's United States Authors Series)** Elizabeth Evans

Anne Tyler was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1941; her family moved frequently, generally living in Quaker communities in the Midwest and South, before settling in North Carolina. Tyler attended Duke University, where she majored in Russian. In her first year, she became a pupil of Reynolds Price, who himself would become a major novelist and long-time friend. Price encouraged Tyler to pursue writing more vigorously, but she instead dedicated most of her attention to Russian. She graduated in 1961 then entered Columbia University to continue her studies. In 1962, she returned to Duke as Russian bibliographer for the library. The following year, Tyler married Taghi Modarressi, a psychologist from Iran. In 1964, the two moved to Montreal, where Tyler worked as an assistant librarian at McGill University Law School and wrote her first two novels *If Morning Ever Comes* (1964) and *The Tin Can Tree* (1965). In 1967, she and her husband moved to Baltimore, the setting for most of Tyler's subsequent novels. With the publication of *A Slipping-Down Life* (1970) and *The Clock Winder* (1972), Tyler began to receive more serious and positive critical attention, but only in the mid-seventies, when such writers as Gail Godwin and John Updike called attention to her, did her novels benefit from widespread recognition. Tyler's stature as an important literary figure was confirmed by the success of *Morgan's Passing* (1980), which was nominated for the National Book Critics Circle award and received the Janet Heidinger Kafka Prize. *Dinner at Homesick Restaurant* (1982) won the PEN/ Faulkner Award for fiction and was nominated for a National Book Critics Circle award and the 1983 Pulitzer Prize. *The Accidental Tourist* (1985) and *Breathing Lessons* (1988) were honored respectively with a National Book Critics Circle Award and a Pulitzer Prize. Read more: <http://www.answers.com/topic/anne-tyler#ixzz1t4fmOALx>

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