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## Glad News Of The Natural World

By Pearson, T. R.

Riverside, New Jersey, U.S.A.: Simon & Schuster, Riverside, New Jersey, U.S.A., 2005. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. From Publishers Weekly: Louis Benfield is back and grown up (more or less) in this hilarious if meandering tale of a modern-day Southern slacker, the sequel to *A Short History of a Small Place*. The book follows Louis as he moves to New York City from Neely, N.C., to start his first real job, at Meridian Life and Casualty, where he quickly works his way down from trainee to assistant handyman. Surprisingly, the demotion doesn't much bother him because, as Louis describes himself, "I'd gone to college halfway across the state, had come home with a degree but precious little professional ambition." After he loses his job at Meridian, Louis falls into a nominal career as a commercial actor. He supplements his income driving for a Yemeni car service and making occasional repairs to stolen merchandise for a low-level mob boss. At one point, the mob boss decides Louis would be the perfect match for his preening daughter, but when she rejects him out of hand, nothing of consequence happens. The problem with focusing on such a shiftless narrator is...



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### Reviews

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