ABSTRACT

THESIS: Putting on Your Sunday Best

STUDENT: Matthew Balk

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This thesis is a series of seven realistic fiction short stories that follow the life of a central protagonist, Julian Thomas. The stories were written with the capacity to stand alone, but when combined together, they tell the larger narrative of Julian’s constantly tumultuous relationships with his divorced parents, Roger and Jill Thomas. They also reveal the evolution of his relationship with his eventual wife, Sandra. In addition, each story deals with some conflict of faith, either spiritual or between persons. The thesis is focused on combining the personal challenges of faith with family relationships to explore how they can complicate a person’s life. Any resemblance to real persons, living or deceased, is purely coincidental.