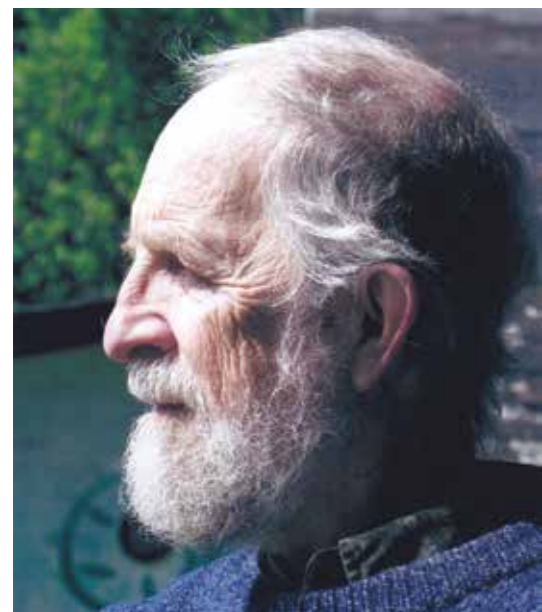


Born in 1938, David Helwig was raised in Toronto and in Niagara-on-the-Lake. He studied English at the University of Toronto. After receiving an M.A. from Liverpool University, he returned to Canada to teach at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. From 1974 to 1976 he worked for CBC TV Drama in Toronto.

He has been a freelance since 1980, one of the new generation of Canadian writers: Atwood, Ondaatje, Carrier, Blais, forming Canada's present identity during the nascent separatist politics of Québec and the urbane nationalism of Pierre Elliot Trudeau.

David Helwig is the author of more than forty books. He is a founder and long-time editor of the *Best Canadian Stories* annual, his journalism and reviews have been widely published and his radio and television scripts have been produced by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. He has been a jury member for the Canada Council, the Governor-General's Awards, and the Arts Councils of Ontario, Manitoba, New Brunswick and PEI. He is the recipient of the Belmont short-story award, the CBC Poetry Prize and the Atlantic Poetry Prize and received an award for lifetime achievement from the Writer's Development Trust. He is a member of the Order of Canada.

He lives in the maritime province of Prince Edward Island.



Judy Gaudet

"David Helwig is one of Canada's wisest and most versatile writers, a master of clarity, realism and character-development. He is at his best in *Clyde*, examining the turbulent business life and love life of a Southern Ontario man who grows up and succeeds by his wits in the last half of the Twentieth Century. It's a vivid and disturbing portrait, the female characters are especially appealing, and Helwig even makes golf exciting. Bravo!"

— Dave Williamson, author of *Dating: A Novel*, shortlisted for the 2012 Manitoba Book of the Year Award.

"Handsome, cool and disciplined, the man at the centre of David Helwig's splendid new novel, Ottawa political consultant Clyde Bryanton, seems emblematic of a class of Men of a Certain Age who make our world go round. As the story opens, however, the ghosts of past indiscretions — both his own and others' — are threatening to knock Clyde from his comfortable perch, and he flees the city for his isolated cottage. A weekend of solitary introspection by an aging businessman and political operative may not seem like the stuff of great fiction, but Helwig spins the story of Clyde's years in small-town Ontario and "the big city," Ottawa, into a profound exploration of success and failure in life and love, business and politics. Be it a real estate transaction or a lovers' tryst, few writers can bring you into a scene — and make you want to be there — as well as Helwig. Clyde treats universal themes of loyalty, love, death, and the search for meaning, while remaining wonderfully readable and entertaining."

— Simon Lloyd, Special Collections, Robertson Library, University of Prince Edward Island



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CLYDE

Betrayed by his oldest friend, a boyhood companion, his gingerly constructed career at stake, Clyde Bryanton, property developer and Ottawa political consultant, unpeels layers and layers of memory, a half century of getting along by going along. Fatherless, his sire a casualty of the Dieppe raid, Clyde is as baffled by the emotions that occasionally sound from his depths as he is by his mentors, the banker and the senator who manipulate money and power in a small Canadian city.

A stranger even to his wife, who dubs him 'Joe the Silent,' he navigates social, familial, political and commercial obligations with the same cool skills he exhibits on the golf courses that weave in and out of the fabric of his life. The darkest of secrets becomes no more to Clyde than the bunkers and sand traps he avoids with gritty tactics and clever selection of irons.

This latest novel by distinguished Canadian author David Helwig, describes a North America of eyes on the ground and noses to the grindstone, of business as politics and politics as business, of kindness and malice and nameless fear. *CLYDE* is an incisive portrait of the generation that came of age in the 1960s, and of our post post-modern culture of opportunism and rootless communication.

Clyde DAVID HELWIG

CLYDE

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