



# Schmidt Steps Back: A Novel

*Louis Begley*

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**Schmidt Steps Back: A Novel** Louis Begley

**“Tragic and redemptive . . . Updike had Rabbit, Roth has Zuckerman, Richard Ford has Bascombe and Begley has Schmidt. . . . [Schmidt Steps Back] is the most ambitious novel [yet] in the Schmidt cycle.”**—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

Full of dark humor, compassion, and heart, *Schmidt Steps Back* is the most romantic installment yet of the drama that began with the acclaimed *About Schmidt*. Now seventy-eight, and just as passionate, sharp, and endearingly prickly as ever, Albert Schmidt faces a life alone, with only the crumbs of grandfatherly status and a less-than-demanding position at an international organization to sustain him. His only hope is Alice Verplanck, the French widow of a former partner, as elusive as she is beautiful. Whether his rusty seduction skills can lure her from Paris to the Hamptons won’t be known, though, until Schmidt endures one more ordeal by fire. Hilarious, engrossing, and deeply poignant, *Schmidt Steps Back* is Louis Begley’s finest novel yet.

**Look for special features inside. Join the Random House Reader’s Circle for author chats and more.**

BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from Louis Begley’s *Memories of a Marriage*.

## Praise for *Schmidt Steps Back*

“Engaging . . . Begley gets as close to Schmidt as a diarist, inhabiting this man who has been seasoned by a long life.”—*The New York Times Book Review*

“Begley gets inside Schmidt’s fertile WASP brain . . . with subtlety, intelligence, and wit.”—*The Philadelphia Inquirer*

“The novel grows in Begley’s excellent intricacy . . . to the level of art rather than manners. . . . One cannot read one of the Schmidt novels without laughing.”—*San Francisco Chronicle*

“Thoroughly absorbing . . . [a] cause for celebration.”—Salon

“[A] superb tragicomedy . . . seductive, subversive, and commanding.”—*Booklist* (starred review)

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#### **Brandi Anderson:**

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#### **Louise Villanueva:**

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or all their friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book can be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the publication untitled Schmidt Steps Back: A Novel can be excellent book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

#### **Eli Benton:**

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or go to the outside with them family or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read any book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent the entire day to reading a publication. The book Schmidt Steps Back: A Novel it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book possesses high quality.

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