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NYTimes

New Books

FICTION

A Brief Life, by Juan Carlos Onetti, translated from the Spanish by Hortense Carpentier (Grossman Publishers: Viking, \$10). A man's imaginings of other lives.

A Home Is Not A Home: Life Within a Nursing Home, by G. Janet Tulloch, foreword by Senator Charles H. Percy of Illinois (Seabury Press, \$6.95).

A Lion's Share, by Mark Steadman (Holt, Rinehart & Winston, \$8.95). What happened to a high school football hero.

New Road, by Judy Cooke (St. Martin's Press, \$7.95). A group's fight against a redevelopment plan.

The Revenge of Moriarty, by John Gardner (Putnam, \$8.95). Further adventures of the master criminal.

The Show Gypsies, by Leigh Brown (Mason/Charter, \$8.95). Life on the horse show circuit.

Star Mother, by Sydney J. Van Scyoc (Putnam, \$6.95). Methods of raising children bring on war.

The Temple, by Jerome Weidman (Simon & Schuster, \$9.95). Building a synagogue in "anti-Semitic Wasmland."

GENERAL

Living in Fear: A History of Horror in the Mass Media, by Les Daniels (Scribners, \$12.95). A critique with several short stories and many illustrations.

Robespierre: Portrait of a Revolutionary Democrat, by George Rudé (Viking Press, \$10.95). Biographical study of the Frenchman.

The Peter Plan: A Proposal for Survival, by Laurence J. Peter, illustrated by Walter Griba (Morrow, \$6.95).

The Time of Illusion, by Jonathan Schell (Knopf, \$10). An analysis of Presidential acts, January 1969-August 1974.