

PERFECT LIVES

by POLLY SAMSON

Virago £7.99

The interconnected lives of characters in a tranquil English seaside town are further linked in these accomplished stories by a theme of hidden disturbance lurking beneath the surface of enviable-seeming existences. Focusing, sometimes comically, sometimes compassionately, on apparently well-organised, prospering, civilised and contented people, Samson traces tremors of disruption threatening the stability of her characters' relationships and themselves.

Peter Kemp