

ALAN CHEUSE

Born in [Perth Amboy, New Jersey](#), Cheuse grew up in a Jewish family, the son of a Russian immigrant father and a mother of Russian and [Romanian](#) descent. He graduated from [Rutgers University](#) in 1961. He returned to Rutgers to study for a Ph.D. in [Comparative Literature](#) which he received in 1974. He took posts at [The University of the South](#), the [University of Virginia](#), and the [University of Michigan](#) before joining the faculty at [George Mason University](#) in the M.F.A. program, teaching fiction. For over 25 years, he taught summers at the [Community of Writers at Squaw Valley](#) and also served on its Board of Directors.

He was a regular book reviewer for the [NPR](#) radio program [All Things Considered](#). In 1999, he also helped to found Fall for the Book, a nonprofit literary festival.