

Slouching Towards Bethlehem Didion L

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Miami - Joan Didion 2014-02-06

This is a surprising portrait of the pastel city, a masterly study of Cuban immigration and exile, and a sly account of vile moments in the Cold War. Miami may be the sunniest place in America but this is Didion's darkest book, in which she explores American efforts to overthrow the Castro regime, Miami's civic corruption and racist treatment of its large black community.

The White Album - Joan Didion 1979

First published in 1979, "The White Album" is a mosaic "of the late sixties and seventies. It includes, among other bizarre artifacts and personalities, the dark journeys and impulses of the Manson family, a Black Panther Party press conference, the story of John Paul Getty's museum, the romance of water in an arid landscape, and the swirl and confusion of the sixties. With commanding sureness of mood and language, Joan Didion exposes the realities and dreams of that age of self-discovery whose spiritual center was California.

Play it as it Lays, a Novel - Joan Didion 1979

Bangkok Wakes to Rain - Pitchaya Sudbanthad 2020-02-18

"Recreates the experience of living in Thailand's aqueous climate so viscerally that you can feel the water rising around your ankles." —Ron

Charles, Washington Post "Important, ambitious, and accomplished."

—Mohsin Hamid, New York Times bestselling author of *Exit West* A missionary doctor pines for his native New England even as he succumbs to the vibrant chaos of nineteenth-century Siam. A post-World War II society woman marries, mothers, and holds court, little suspecting her solitary fate. A jazz pianist in the age of rock, haunted by his own ghosts, is summoned to appease the house's resident spirits. In the present, a young woman tries to outpace the long shadow of her political past. And in a New Krungthep yet to come, savvy teenagers row tourists past landmarks of the drowned old city they themselves do not remember. Time collapses as these lives collide and converge, linked by the forces voraciously making and remaking the amphibious, ever-morphing capital itself. *Bangkok Wakes to Rain* is an elegy for what time erases and a love song to all that persists, yearning, into the unknowable future.

Second Read - James Marcus 2012

"[...] Distinguished journalists revisiting key works of reportage. The authors address such ongoing concerns as the conflict between narrative flair and accurate reporting, the legacy of New Journalism, the need for reporters to question their political assumptions, the limitations of participatory journalism, and the temptation to substitute 'truthiness' for hard, challenging fact. Second read embodies the diversity and

dynamism of contemporary nonfiction while offering fresh perspectives on works by Norman Mailer, Tom Wolfe, Rachel Carson, and Gabriel García Márquez, among others. It also highlights pivotal moments and movements in journalism as well as the innovations of award-winning writers"--Back cover.

Slouching Towards Los Angeles - Steffie Nelson 2020-02-11

In *The White Album*, Joan Didion famously wrote that "a place belongs forever to whoever claims it hardest, remembers it most obsessively...loves it so radically that he remakes it in his image." Cruising in her Daytona yellow Corvette Stingray, taking it all in behind dark glasses, Joan Didion claimed California for all time. *Slouching Towards Los Angeles* is a multi-faceted portrait of the literary icon who, in turn, belongs to us. This collection of original essays covers the turf that made Didion a sensation--Hollywood and Patty Hearst; Malibu, Manson and the Mojave; the Summer of Love and the Central Park Five--while bringing together some of the finest voices of today's Los Angeles and beyond. *Slouching Towards Los Angeles* is a love letter and thank you note; personal memoir and social commentary; cultural history and literary critique. Fans of Didion, lovers of California, and fellow writers alike will all find something to dig into, in this rich exploration of the inner and outer landscapes Joan Didion traveled, shaping our own journeys in the process. Featuring essays by Ann Friedman Jori Finkel Margaret Wappler Jessica Hundley Christine Lennon Catherine Wagley Su Wu Joshua Wolf Shenk Lauren Sandler Michelle Chihara Sarah Tomlinson Linda Immediato Tracy McMillan Dan Crane Steph Cha Caroline Ryder Joe Donnelly Monica Corcoran Harel Alysia Abbott Stacie Stukin Heather John Fogarty Marc Weingarten Scott Benzel Ezra Jean Black

South and West - Joan Didion 2017-03-07

NATIONAL BESTSELLER • "One of contemporary literature's most revered essayists revives her raw records from a 1970s road trip across the American southwest ... her acute observations of the country's culture and history feel particularly resonant today." —Harper's Bazaar
Joan Didion, the bestselling, award-winning author of *The Year of*

Magical Thinking and *Let Me Tell You What I Mean*, has always kept notebooks—of overheard dialogue, interviews, drafts of essays, copies of articles. Here are two extended excerpts from notebooks she kept in the 1970s; read together, they form a piercing view of the American political and cultural landscape. "Notes on the South" traces a road trip that she and her husband, John Gregory Dunne, took through Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. Her acute observations about the small towns they pass through, her interviews with local figures, and their preoccupation with race, class, and heritage suggest a South largely unchanged today. "California Notes" began as an assignment from *Rolling Stone* on the Patty Hearst trial. Though Didion never wrote the piece, the time she spent watching the trial in San Francisco triggered thoughts about the West and her own upbringing in Sacramento. Here we not only see Didion's signature irony and imagination in play, we're also granted an illuminating glimpse into her mind and process.

Slouching Towards Bethlehem - Joan Didion 1990-10-01

Universally acclaimed when it was first published in 1968, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem* has become a modern classic. More than any other book of its time, this collection captures the mood of 1960s America, especially the center of its counterculture, California. These essays, keyed by an extraordinary report on San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury, all reflect that, in one way or another, things are falling apart, "the center cannot hold." An incisive look at contemporary American life, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem* has been admired for several decades as a stylistic masterpiece. Contents: I. LIFE STYLES IN THE GOLDEN LAND "Some Dreamers of the Golden Dream" "John Wayne: A Love Song" "Where the Kissing Never Stops" "Comrade Laski, C.P.U.S.A. (M.-L.)" "7000 Romaine, Los Angeles 38" "California Dreaming" "Marrying Absurd" "Slouching Towards Bethlehem II. PERSONALS" "On Keeping a Notebook" "On Self-Respect" "I Can't Get That Monster out of My Mind" "On Morality" "On Going Home III. SEVEN PLACES OF THE MIND" "Notes from a Native Daughter" "Letter from Paradise, 21 19' N., 157 52' W" "Rock of Ages" "The Seacoast of Despair" "Guaymas, Sonora" "Los Angeles Notebook" "Goodbye to All That"

Black Swans - Eve Babitz 2018-04-01

"Babitz's talent for the brilliant line, honed to a point, never interferes with her feel for languid pleasures." —The New York Times Book Review
A new reissue of Babitz's collection of nine stories that look back on the 1980s and early 1990s—decades of dreams, drink, and glimpses of a changing world. *Black Swans* further celebrates the phenomenon of Eve Babitz, cementing her reputation as the voice of a generation. With an introduction by Stephanie Danler, bestselling author of *Sweetbitter*. "On the page, Babitz is pure pleasure—a perpetual-motion machine of no-stakes elation and champagne fizz." —The New Yorker

Run River - Joan Didion 2011-02-23

The iconic writer's electrifying first novel is a story of marriage, murder and betrayal that only she could tell with such nuance, sympathy, and suspense—from the bestselling, award-winning author of *The Year of Magical Thinking* and *Let Me Tell You What I Mean*. Everett McClellan and his wife, Lily, are the great-grandchildren of pioneers, and what happens to them is a tragic epilogue to the pioneer experience—a haunting portrait of a marriage whose wrong turns and betrayals are at once absolutely idiosyncratic and a razor-sharp commentary on the history of California.

Political Fictions - Joan Didion 2002-08-27

NATIONAL BESTSELLER • In these coolly observant essays, the iconic bestselling writer looks at the American political process and at "that handful of insiders who invent, year in and year out, the narrative of public life." Through the deconstruction of the sound bites and photo ops of three presidential campaigns, one presidential impeachment, and an unforgettable sex scandal, Didion reveals the mechanics of American politics. She tells us the uncomfortable truth about the way we vote, the candidates we vote for, and the people who tell us to vote for them. These pieces build, one on the other, into a disturbing portrait of the American political landscape, providing essential reading on our democracy.

State of the Arts - Barbara Isenberg 2005

Celebrates California artists of all sorts and examines their relationship

to their environment. Features 54 interviews with visual and performing artists, musicians, screenwriters, novelists, actors, and others. From Dave Brubeck's childhood on a Concord, CA, ranch to Clint Eastwood on his first memories of Carmel, to Luis Valdez's farmworkers' theater and Maxine Hong Kingston's writing of Chinese myth, these wide-ranging and revealing interviews shed light on the creative life in the land of plenty.--From publisher description.

Slouching Towards Bethlehem - Joan Didion 2017-03-21

The "dazzling" and essential portrayal of 1960s America from the author of *South and West* and *The Year of Magical Thinking* (The New York Times). Capturing the tumultuous landscape of the United States, and in particular California, during a pivotal era of social change, the first work of nonfiction from one of American literature's most distinctive prose stylists is a modern classic. In twenty razor-sharp essays that redefined the art of journalism, National Book Award-winning author Joan Didion reports on a society gripped by a deep generational divide, from the "misplaced children" dropping acid in San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury district to Hollywood legend John Wayne filming his first picture after a bout with cancer. She paints indelible portraits of reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes and folk singer Joan Baez, "a personality before she was entirely a person," and takes readers on eye-opening journeys to Death Valley, Hawaii, and Las Vegas, "the most extreme and allegorical of American settlements." First published in 1968, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem* has been heralded by the New York Times Book Review as "a rare display of some of the best prose written today in this country" and named to Time magazine's list of the one hundred best and most influential nonfiction books. It is the definitive account of a terrifying and transformative decade in American history whose discordant reverberations continue to sound a half-century later.

Forty-one False Starts - Janet Malcolm 2013-05-07

A National Book Critics Circle Finalist for Criticism A deeply Malcolman volume on painters, photographers, writers, and critics. Janet Malcolm's *In the Freud Archives* and *The Journalist and the Murderer*, as well as her books about Sylvia Plath and Gertrude Stein, are canonical in the

realm of nonfiction—as is the title essay of this collection, with its forty-one "false starts," or serial attempts to capture the essence of the painter David Salle, which becomes a dazzling portrait of an artist. Malcolm is "among the most intellectually provocative of authors," writes David Lehman in *The Boston Globe*, "able to turn epiphanies of perception into explosions of insight." Here, in *Forty-one False Starts*, Malcolm brings together essays published over the course of several decades (largely in *The New Yorker* and *The New York Review of Books*) that reflect her preoccupation with artists and their work. Her subjects are painters, photographers, writers, and critics. She explores Bloomsbury's obsessive desire to create things visual and literary; the "passionate collaborations" behind Edward Weston's nudes; and the character of the German art photographer Thomas Struth, who is "haunted by the Nazi past," yet whose photographs have "a lightness of spirit." In "The Woman Who Hated Women," Malcolm delves beneath the "onyx surface" of Edith Wharton's fiction, while in "Advanced Placement" she relishes the black comedy of the Gossip Girl novels of Cecily von Ziegesar. In "Salinger's Cigarettes," Malcolm writes that "the pettiness, vulgarity, banality, and vanity that few of us are free of, and thus can tolerate in others, are like ragweed for Salinger's helplessly uncontaminated heroes and heroines." "Over and over," as Ian Frazier writes in his introduction, "she has demonstrated that nonfiction—a book of reporting, an article in a magazine, something we see every day—can rise to the highest level of literature." One of Publishers Weekly's Best Nonfiction Books of 2013

The Year of Magical Thinking: The Play - Joan Didion 2009-04-02
In this dramatic adaptation of her award-winning, bestselling memoir, Joan Didion transforms the story of the sudden and unexpected loss of her husband and their only daughter into a stunning and powerful one-woman play. "This happened on December 30, 2003. That may seem a while ago but it won't when it happens to you . . ." Michiko Kakutani in *The New York Times* called the memoir that was the basis for the play, "an indelible portrait of loss and grief . . . a haunting portrait of a four-decade-long marriage." The first theatrical production of *The Year of Magical Thinking* opened at the Booth Theatre on March 29, 2007,

starring Vanessa Redgrave and directed by David Hare.

Salvador - Joan Didion 1994-04-26

"Terror is the given of the place." The place is El Salvador in 1982, at the ghastly height of its civil war. Didion "brings the country to life" (*The New York Times*), delivering an anatomy of a particular brand of political terror—its mechanisms, rationales, and intimate relation to United States foreign policy. As ash travels from battlefields to body dumps, Didion interviews a puppet president, and considers the distinctly Salvadoran grammar of the verb "to disappear." Here, the bestselling, award-winning author of *The Year of Magical Thinking* and *Let Me Tell You What I Mean* gives us a book that is germane to any country in which bloodshed has become a standard tool of politics.

The Book of Common Prayer - 1683

Joan Didion: The 1960s & 70s (LOA #325) - Joan Didion 2019-11-12
Library of America launches a definitive collected edition of one of the most original and electric writers of our time with a volume gathering her five iconic books of the 1960s & 70s. Joan Didion's influence on postwar American letters is undeniable. Whether writing fiction, memoir, or trailblazing journalism, her gifts for narrative and dialogue, and her intimate but detached authorial persona, have won her legions of readers and admirers. Now Library of America launches its multi-volume edition of Didion's collected writings, prepared in consultation with the author, that brings together her fiction and nonfiction for the first time. Collected in this first volume are Didion's five iconic books from the 1960s and 1970s: *Run River*, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem*, *Play It As It Lays*, *A Book of Common Prayer*, and *The White Album*. Whether writing about countercultural San Francisco, the Las Vegas wedding industry, Lucille Miller, Charles Manson, or the shopping mall, Didion achieves a wonderful negative sublimity without condemning her subjects or condescending to her readers. Chiefly about California, these books display Didion's genius for finding exactly the right language and tone to capture America's broken twilight landscape at a moment of headlong conflict and change.

Slouching Towards Bethlehem - Joan Didion 1968

Twenty essays on such diverse topics as John Wayne, the Haight-Ashbury culture, and the Newport mansions

Salvador - Joan Didion 1983

Where I was from - Joan Didion 2003

The essayist explores American ideals of independence and self-reliance by probing her own life and those of her relatives, discussing how the character of California's settlers created the state as it exists today.

Eve's Hollywood - Eve Babitz 2015-10-06

Journalist, party girl, bookworm, artist, muse: by the time she'd hit thirty, Eve Babitz had played all of these roles. Immortalized as the nude beauty facing down Duchamp and as one of Ed Ruscha's Five 1965 Girlfriends, Babitz's first book showed her to be a razor-sharp writer with tales of her own. Eve's Hollywood is an album of vivid snapshots of Southern California's haute bohemians, of outrageously beautiful high-school ingenues and enviably tattooed Chicanas, of rock stars sleeping it off at the Chateau Marmont. And though Babitz's prose might appear careening, she's in control as she takes us on a ride through an LA of perpetual delight, from a joint serving the perfect taquito, to the corner of La Brea and Sunset where we make eye contact with a roller-skating hooker, to the Watts Towers. This "daughter of the wasteland" is here to show us that her city is no wasteland at all but a glowing landscape of swaying fruit trees and blooming bougainvillea, buffeted by earthquakes and the Santa Ana winds—and every bit as seductive as she is.

Play It as It Lays - Joan Didion 2017-05-09

A "scathing novel" of one woman's path of self-destruction in 1960s Hollywood—by the New York Times–bestselling author of *The White Album* (*The Washington Post Book World*). Spare, elegant, and terrifying, *Play It as It Lays* is the unforgettable story of a woman and a society come undone. Raised in the ghost town of Silver Wells, Nevada, Maria Wyeth is an ex-model and the star of two films directed by her estranged husband, Carter Lang. But in the spiritual desert of 1960s Los Angeles, Maria has lost the plot of her own life. Her daughter, Kate, was born with

an "aberrant chemical in her brain." Her long-troubled marriage has slipped beyond repair, and her disastrous love affairs and strained friendships provide little comfort. Her only escape is to get in her car and drive the freeway—in the fast lane with the radio turned up high—until it runs out "somewhere no place at all where the flawless burning concrete just stopped." But every ride to nowhere, every sleepless night numbed by pills and booze and sex, makes it harder for Maria to find the meaning in another day. Told with profound economy of style and a "vision as bleak and precise as Eliot's in 'The Wasteland'," *Play It as It Lays* ruthlessly dissects the dark heart of the American dream (*The New York Times*). It is a searing masterpiece "from one of the very few writers of our time who approaches her terrible subject with absolute seriousness, with fear and humility and awe" (Joyce Carol Oates, *The New York Times Book Review*).

The Lost Art of Reading - David L. Ulin 2018-09-04

The new introduction and afterword bring fresh relevance to this insightful rumination on the act of reading—as a path to critical thinking, individual and political identity, civic engagement, and resistance. The former LA Times book critic expands his short book, rich in ideas, on the consequence of reading to include the considerations of fake news, siloed information, and the connections between critical thinking as the key component of engaged citizenship and resistance. Here is the case for reading as a political act in both public and private gestures, and for the ways it enlarges the world and our frames of reference, all the while keeping us engaged.

Where I Was From - Joan Didion 2012-01-27

In this moving and unexpected book, Joan Didion reassesses parts of her life, her work, her history, and ours. *Where I Was From*, in Didion's words, "represents an exploration into my own confusions about the place and the way in which I grew up, confusions as much about America as about California, misapprehensions and misunderstandings so much a part of who I became that I can still to this day confront them only obliquely." The book is a haunting narrative of how her own family moved west with the frontier from the birth of her great-great-great-

great-great-grandmother in Virginia in 1766 to the death of her mother on the edge of the Pacific in 2001; of how the wagon-train stories of hardship and abandonment and endurance created a culture in which survival would seem the sole virtue. In *Where I Was From*, Didion turns what John Leonard has called "her sonar ear, her radar eye" onto her own work, as well as that of such California writers as Frank Norris and Jack London and Henry George, to examine how the folly and recklessness in the very grain of the California settlement led to the California we know today—a state mortgaged first to the railroad, then to the aerospace industry, and overwhelmingly to the federal government, a dependent colony of those political and corporate owners who fly in for the annual encampment of the Bohemian Club. Here is the one writer we always want to read on California showing us the startling contradictions in its—and in America's—core values. Joan Didion's unerring sense of America and its spirit, her acute interpretation of its institutions and literature, and her incisive questioning of the stories it tells itself make this fiercely intelligent book a provocative and important tour de force from one of our greatest writers. From the Hardcover edition.

Eat the Mouth That Feeds You - Carribean Fragoza 2021-03-30

One of the year's most anticipated books by *The Millions*, *Colorlines* and *Remezcla*! Carribean Fragoza's debut collection of stories reside in the domestic surreal, featuring an unusual gathering of Latinx and Chicana voices from both sides of the U.S./Mexico border, and universes beyond. "Eat the Mouth that Feeds You renders the feminine grotesque at its finest."—Myriam Gurba, author of *Mean* "Eat the Mouth that Feeds You will establish Fragoza as an essential and important new voice in American fiction."—Héctor Tobar, author of *The Barbarian Nurseries* "The writing is sharp and unexpected, and full of vivid turns."—David Ulin, Books editor, *Alta Magazine* In visceral, embodied prose, Fragoza's imperfect characters are drawn with a sympathetic tenderness as they struggle against circumstances and conditions designed to defeat them. A young woman returns home from college, only to pick up exactly where she left off: a smart girl in a rundown town with no future. A mother reflects on the pain and pleasures of being inexorably consumed by her

small daughter, whose penchant for ingesting grandma's letters has extended to taking bites of her actual flesh. A brother and sister watch anxiously as their distraught mother takes an ax to their old furniture, and then to the backyard fence, until finally she attacks the family's beloved lime tree. Victories are excavated from the rubble of personal hardship, and women's wisdom is brutally forged from the violence of history that continues to unfold on both sides of the US-Mexico border. "Fragoza's surreal and gothic stories, focused on Latinx, Chicana, and immigrant women's voices, are sure to surprise and move readers."—Zoe Ruiz, *The Millions* "Fragoza's debut collection delivers expertly crafted tales of Latinx people trying to make sense of violent, dark realities. Magical realism and gothic horror make for effective stylistic entryways, as Fragoza seamlessly blurs the lines between the corporeal and the abstract."—Publishers Weekly "Fierce and feminist, *Eat the Mouth That Feeds You* is a soul-quaking literary force."—Dontaná McPherson-Joseph, *The Foreword* "The magic realism of *Eat the Mouth that Feeds You* is thoroughly worked into the fabric of the stories themselves . . . a wonderful debut."—Brian Evenson, author of *Song for the Unraveling of the World* "Fragoza's prose, a switchblade of a magical glow, cauterizes as it cuts. In a setting of barren citrus trees, poison-filled balloons, and stuccos haunted by the menace of the past, *Eat the Mouth That Feeds You* reinvents the sunny noir."—Salvador Plascencia, author of *The People of Paper* "Carribean Fragoza goes deep. This book makes central the lives of women, whether sourced locally or rooted in Mexico, whether alive or dead to the world, surrealistic or hyper realistic, in the flesh or as spirits centuries old. This is storytelling that astonishes . . ."—Sesshu Foster, author of *Atomik Aztex* "I felt this collection deep in my bones. Like the Chicana women whose voices she centers, Carribean Fragoza's writing doesn't flinch. It is sharp and dream-like, tender-hearted and brutal, carved from the violence and resilience of generations past and present."—Natalia Sylvester, author of *Everyone Knows You Go Home* **A Book of Common Prayer** - Joan Didion 1977

Writing with the telegraphic swiftness and microscopic sensitivity that have made her one of our most distinguished journalists, Joan Didion

creates a shimmering novel of innocence and evil. *A Book of Common Prayer* is the story of two American women in the derelict Central American nation of Boca Grande. Grace Strasser-Mendana controls much of the country's wealth and knows virtually all of its secrets; Charlotte Douglas knows far too little. "Immaculate of history, innocent of politics," she has come to Boca Grande vaguely and vainly hoping to be reunited with her fugitive daughter. As imagined by Didion, her fate is at once utterly particular and fearfully emblematic of an age of conscienceless authority and unfathomable violence.

Joan Didion: The 1980s & 90s (LOA #341) - Joan Didion 2021-04-20
Library of America continues its definitive edition of one of the most electric writers of our time with a volume gathering her iconic reporting and novels from mid-career. This second volume in Library of America's definitive Didion edition includes two novels and three remarkable essay collections with which she extended the compass of the extraordinary journalistic eye first developed in the celebrated books *Slouching Towards Bethlehem* and *The White Album*. Gather here are *Salvador*, a searing look at terror and Cold War politics in the Central American civil war of the early 1980s; *Miami*, a portrait not just of a city but of immigration, exile, the cocaine trade, and political violence; and *After Henry*, in which she reports on Patty Hearst, Nancy Reagan, the case of the Central Park Five, and the Los Angeles she once called home. The novels *Democracy* and *The Last Thing He Wanted*, the latter recently adapted for film by Netflix, are fast-paced, deftly observed narratives of power, conspiracy, and corruption in American political life. Taken together, these five books mark the remarkable mid-career evolution of one of the most dynamic writers of our time.

Collected Essays - Joan Didion 2018-03-06
Three essential works that redefined the art of journalism by "one of our sharpest and most trustworthy cultural observers" (*The New York Times*). In these masterpieces of razor-sharp reportage, the National Book Award-winning and *New York Times*-bestselling author proves herself one of the premier essayists of the twentieth century, "an articulate witness to the most stubborn and intractable truths of our

time" (Joyce Carol Oates, *The New York Times Book Review*). *Slouching Towards Bethlehem: America in the 1960s*—a pivotal era of social change and generational divide. Here is Joan Didion on the "misplaced children" of Haight-Ashbury as well as John Wayne in Hollywood; folk singer Joan Baez and reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes; the extremes of both Death Valley and Las Vegas. Named to *Time* magazine's list of the one hundred best and most influential nonfiction books, this is "a rare display of some of the best prose written today in this country" (*The New York Times Book Review*). *The White Album: A New York Times* bestseller, this landmark essay collection confronts the dark aftermath of the 1960s. From a jailhouse visit to Huey Newton, cofounder of the Black Panther Party, to a recording session with The Doors, from the culture of shopping malls to the contradictions of the women's movement, Joan Didion captures the paranoia and absurdity of the era with irony and insight. And in the iconic title essay, she documents her uneasy state of mind during the years leading up to and following the Manson murders—a terrifying crime that, in her memory, surprised no one. *After Henry: Whether reporting on a Hollywood murder or the "sideshows" of foreign wars*, Joan Didion crystalizes her reputation as a brilliant essayist. Highlights include a portrait of the White House under the Reagans, two "actors on location"; an unexpected meditation on the Patty Hearst case; and an exposé on the racial divisions and class fault lines of New York City following the rape of the Central Park jogger. An indispensable collection from a writer on whom we can rely "to get the story straight" (*Los Angeles Times*).

Goodbye to All That (Revised Edition) - Sari Botton 2021-04-06
From Roxane Gay to Leslie Jamison, thirty brilliant writers share their timeless stories about the everlasting magic—and occasional misery—of living in the Big Apple, in a new edition of the classic anthology. In the revised edition of this classic collection, thirty writers share their own stories of loving and leaving New York, capturing the mesmerizing allure the city has always had for writers, poets, and wandering spirits. Their essays often begin as love stories do, with the passion of something newly discovered: the crush of subway crowds, the streets filled with

manic energy, and the sudden, unblinking certainty that this is the only place on Earth where one can become exactly who she is meant to be. They also share the grief that comes like a gut-punch, when the grand metropolis loses its magic and the pressures of New York's frenetic life wear thin for even the most dedicated dwellers. As friends move away, rents soar, and love—still—remains just out of reach, each writer's goodbye is singular and universal, just like New York itself.

The Last Love Song - Tracy Daugherty 2015-08-25

Biography of the American novelist, Joan Didion (1934).

Democracy - Joan Didion 1995-04-25

From the bestselling, award-winning author of *The Year of Magical Thinking* and *Let Me Tell You What I Mean*—a gorgeously written, bitterly funny look at the relationship between politics and personal life. Moving deftly between romance, farce, and tragedy, from 1970s America to Vietnam to Jakarta, *Democracy* is a tour de force from a writer who can dissect an entire society with a single phrase. Inez Victor knows that the major casualty of the political life is memory. But the people around Inez have made careers out of losing track. Her senator husband wants to forget the failure of his last bid for the presidency. Her husband's handler would like the press to forget that Inez's father is a murderer. And, in 1975, America is doing its best to lose track of its one-time client, the lethally hemorrhaging republic of South Vietnam. As conceived by Joan Didion, these personages and events constitute the terminal fallout of democracy, a fallout that also includes fact-finding junkets, senatorial groupies, the international arms market, and the Orwellian newspeak of the political class.

Blue Nights (Enhanced Edition) - Joan Didion 2012-01-17

This enhanced eBook edition of *Blue Nights* includes three short films directed by Griffin Dunne and starring Joan Didion. Each film blends Didion's incisive prose with images and mementos from her daughter's life. From one of our most powerful writers, *Blue Nights* is a work of stunning frankness about losing a daughter. Richly textured with bits of her own childhood and married life with her husband, John Gregory Dunne, and daughter, Quintana Roo, this new book by Joan Didion

examines her thoughts, fears, and doubts regarding having children, illness, and growing old. *Blue Nights* opens on July 26, 2010, as Didion thinks back to Quintana's wedding in New York seven years before. Today would be her wedding anniversary. This fact triggers vivid snapshots of Quintana's childhood—in Malibu, in Brentwood, at school in Holmby Hills. Reflecting on her daughter but also on her role as a parent, Didion asks the candid questions any parent might about how she feels she failed either because cues were not taken or perhaps displaced. "How could I have missed what was clearly there to be seen?" Finally, perhaps we all remain unknown to each other. Seamlessly woven in are incidents Didion sees as underscoring her own age, something she finds hard to acknowledge, much less accept. *Blue Nights*—the long, light evening hours that signal the summer solstice, "the opposite of the dying of the brightness, but also its warning"—like *The Year of Magical Thinking* before it, is an iconic book of incisive and electric honesty, haunting and profoundly moving.

Raise, Race, Rays, Raze - Amiri Baraka 1971

This book contains essays on race relations in America since 1965.

We Tell Ourselves Stories in Order to Live - Joan Didion 2006-10-17

From the bestselling, award-winning author of *The Year of Magical Thinking* and *Let Me Tell You What I Mean*, this collection includes seven books in one volume: the full texts of *Slouching Towards Bethlehem*; *The White Album*; *Salvador*; *Miami*; *After Henry*; *Political Fictions*; and *Where I Was From*. As featured in the Netflix documentary *Joan Didion: The Center Will Not Hold*. Joan Didion's incomparable and distinctive essays and journalism are admired for their acute, incisive observations and their spare, elegant style. Now the seven books of nonfiction that appeared between 1968 and 2003 have been brought together into one thrilling collection. *Slouching Towards Bethlehem* captures the counterculture of the sixties, its mood and lifestyle, as symbolized by California, Joan Baez, Haight-Ashbury. *The White Album* covers the revolutionary politics and the "contemporary wasteland" of the late sixties and early seventies, in pieces on the Manson family, the Black Panthers, and Hollywood. *Salvador* is a riveting look at the social and

political landscape of civil war. Miami exposes the secret role this largely Latin city played in the Cold War, from the Bay of Pigs through Watergate. In *After Henry* Didion reports on the Reagans, Patty Hearst, and the Central Park jogger case. The eight essays in *Political Fictions*—on censorship in the media, Gingrich, Clinton, Starr, and “compassionate conservatism,” among others—show us how we got to the political scene of today. And in *Where I Was From* Didion shows that California was never the land of the golden dream.

After Henry - Joan Didion 2017-05-09

Incisive essays on Patty Hearst and Reagan, the Central Park jogger and the Santa Ana winds, from the New York Times–bestselling author of *South and West*. In these eleven essays covering the national scene from Washington, DC; California; and New York, the acclaimed author of *Slouching Towards Bethlehem* and *The White Album* “capture[s] the mood of America” and confirms her reputation as one of our sharpest and most trustworthy cultural observers (*The New York Times*). Whether dissecting the 1988 presidential campaign, exploring the commercialization of a Hollywood murder, or reporting on the “sideshows” of foreign wars, Joan Didion proves that she is one of the premier essayists of the twentieth century, “an articulate witness to the most stubborn and intractable truths of our time” (Joyce Carol Oates, *The New York Times Book Review*). Highlights include “In the Realm of the Fisher King,” a portrait of the White House under the stewardship of Ronald and Nancy Reagan, two “actors on location;” and “Girl of the Golden West,” a meditation on the Patty Hearst case that draws an unexpected and insightful parallel between the kidnapped heiress and the emigrants who settled California. “Sentimental Journeys” is a deeply felt study of New York media coverage of the brutal rape of a white investment banker in Central Park, a notorious crime that exposed the city’s racial and class fault lines. Dedicated to Henry Robbins, Didion’s friend and editor from 1966 until his death in 1979, *After Henry* is an indispensable collection of “superior reporting and criticism” from a writer on whom we have relied for more than fifty years “to get the story straight” (*Los Angeles Times*).

The White Album - Joan Didion 2017-05-09

New York Times Bestseller: An “elegant” mosaic of trenchant observations on the late sixties and seventies from the author of *Slouching Towards Bethlehem* (*The New Yorker*). In this landmark essay collection, Joan Didion brilliantly interweaves her own “bad dreams” with those of a nation confronting the dark underside of 1960s counterculture. From a jailhouse visit to Black Panther Party cofounder Huey Newton to witnessing First Lady of California Nancy Reagan pretend to pick flowers for the benefit of news cameras, Didion captures the paranoia and absurdity of the era with her signature blend of irony and insight. She takes readers to the “giddily splendid” Getty Museum in Los Angeles, the cool mountains of Bogotá, and the Jordanian Desert, where Bishop James Pike went to walk in Jesus’s footsteps—and died not far from his rented Ford Cortina. She anatomizes the culture of shopping malls—“toy garden cities in which no one lives but everyone consumes”—and exposes the contradictions and compromises of the women’s movement. In the iconic title essay, she documents her uneasy state of mind during the years leading up to and following the Manson murders—a terrifying crime that, in her memory, surprised no one. Written in “a voice like no other in contemporary journalism,” *The White Album* is a masterpiece of literary reportage and a fearless work of autobiography by the National Book Award–winning author of *The Year of Magical Thinking* (*The New York Times Book Review*). Its power to electrify and inform remains undiminished nearly forty years after it was first published.

Slouching Towards Bethlehem - Joan Didion 1990

A RICH DISPLAY OF SOME OF THE BEST PROSE WRITTEN TODAY IN THE USA.

Let Me Tell You What I Mean - Joan Didion 2021-01-26

A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF THE YEAR • NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER • From one of our most iconic and influential writers, the award-winning author of *The Year of Magical Thinking*: a timeless collection of mostly early pieces that reveal what would become Joan Didion's subjects, including the press, politics, California robber

barons, women, and her own self-doubt. With a forward by Hilton Als, these twelve pieces from 1968 to 2000, never before gathered together, offer an illuminating glimpse into the mind and process of a legendary figure. They showcase Joan Didion's incisive reporting, her empathetic gaze, and her role as "an articulate witness to the most stubborn and intractable truths of our time" (The New York Times Book Review). Here, Didion touches on topics ranging from newspapers ("the problem is not so much whether one trusts the news as to whether one finds it"), to the fantasy of San Simeon, to not getting into Stanford. In "Why I Write," Didion ponders the act of writing: "I write entirely to find out what I'm thinking, what I'm looking at, what I see and what it means." From her admiration for Hemingway's sentences to her acknowledgment that Martha Stewart's story is one "that has historically encouraged women in this country, even as it has threatened men," these essays are acutely and brilliantly observed. Each piece is classic Didion: incisive, bemused,

and stunningly prescient.

The Lost Art of Reading - David L. Ulin 2010-06-01

Reading is a revolutionary act, an act of engagement in a culture that wants us to disengage. In *The Lost Art of Reading*, David L. Ulin asks a number of timely questions - why is literature important? What does it offer, especially now? Blending commentary with memoir, Ulin addresses the importance of the simple act of reading in an increasingly digital culture. Reading a book, flipping through hard pages, or shuffling them on screen - it doesn't matter. The key is the act of reading, and it's seriousness and depth. Ulin emphasizes the importance of reflection and pause allowed by stopping to read a book, and the accompanying focus required to let the mind run free in a world that is not one's own. Are we willing to risk our collective interest in contemplation, nuanced thinking, and empathy? Far from preaching to the choir, *The Lost Art of Reading* is a call to arms, or rather, to pages.