

# Download File Sophies Choice William Styron Pdf Free Copy

*Sophie's Choice Sophie's Choice Sophie's Choice William Styron's Sophie's Choice* **Lie Down in Darkness** Sophie's Choice by William Styron (Book Analysis) *This Quiet Dust* **Reading My Father** Set This House on Fire **The Confessions of Nat Turner** **William Styron Selected Letters of William Styron My Generation** *Darkness Visible* **William Styron's Sophie's Choice Conversations with William Styron The Novels of William Styron: From Harmony to History Sophie's Choice William's Styron's "Sophie's Choice" Havanas in Camelot** Inheritance of Night **William Styron's Sophie's Choice A Study Guide for William Styron's "Sophie's Choice" In Paradise** *The Suicide Run Study Guide* **William Styron's "Sophie's Choice" Everything Beautiful Began After** Holocaust Fiction **Letters to My Father** The Achievement of William Styron **Sophie's Choice** *New Directions in Jewish American and Holocaust Literatures* *The Book of Daniel* The Root of All Evil **A Cynthia Ozick Reader** NOVELS FOR STUDENTS **Shiloh and Other Stories The Collected Novels Depression**

After the great success in 1990 of *Darkness Visible*, his memoir of depression and recovery, William Styron wrote more frequently in an introspective, autobiographical mode. *Havanas in Camelot* brings together fourteen of his personal essays, including a reminiscence of his brief friendship with John F. Kennedy; memoirs of Truman Capote, James Baldwin, and Terry Southern; a meditation on Mark Twain; an account of Styron's daily walks with his dog; and an evocation of his summer home on Martha's Vineyard. These essays, which reveal a reflective and humorous side of Styron's nature, make possible a fuller assessment of this enigmatic man of American letters. SuperSummary, a modern alternative to SparkNotes and CliffsNotes, offers high-quality study guides for challenging works of literature. This 55-page guide for "Sophies Choice" by William Styron includes detailed chapter summaries and analysis covering 16 chapters, as well as several more in-depth sections of expert-written literary analysis. Featured content includes commentary on major characters, 25 important quotes, essay topics, and key themes like Destructive Guilt and Fatal Choices. A vital, illuminating collection of the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winner's elegant, passionately engaged nonfiction *My Generation* is the definitive gathering of William Styron's nonfiction, exposing the core of this greatly gifted, highly convivial, and profoundly serious artist from his literary emergence in the 1950s to his death in 2006. Here are fifty years of Styron's essays, memoirs, reviews, op-eds, articles, eulogies, and speeches, reflecting the same brilliant style and informed thinking that he brought to his towering fiction and to a deeply committed public life. Including many newly collected and never-before-published items, this compendium ranges from the original mission statement of *The Paris Review*, which Styron helped found in 1953, to a 2001 tribute to his friend Philip Roth—creating an essential overview of arts and letters during the post-World War II years. In these pages, Styron writes vividly of childhood days in Tidewater Virginia spent going to movies, not reading books. ("It does not mean the death of literacy or creativity if one is drenched in popular culture at an early age.") He recalls being among the group of soldiers who would have been sent to invade Japan and were saved by Truman's decision to drop the atomic bomb, which Styron feels was the right choice, "even though its absolute rightness can never be proved." And he writes as few others have about midlife battles with clinical depression, "a pain that is all but indescribable, and therefore to everyone but the sufferer almost meaningless." Here, too, are Styron's personal encounters with world leaders, fellow authors, and friends, each of whom comes memorably to life. Styron recalls sharing contraband Cuban cigars with JFK ("a naughty

memento, a conversation piece with a touch of scandal”), getting lost in the snow with Robert Penn Warren, and party-hopping with the young James Jones (an experience he likens to “keeping company with a Roman emperor”). The beginnings of his masterpieces *The Confessions of Nat Turner* and *Sophie’s Choice* are chronicled here, along with the controversy that greeted the former upon its 1967 publication. Throughout, Styron celebrates the men and women of his generation, whose lives were forged in the crucible of World War II. Whether he’s recounting a walk with his dog, musing on the Modern Library’s list of the hundred best English-language novels of the twentieth century, or contemplating America’s fraught racial legacy from his point of view as the grandson of a woman who owned slaves, William Styron writes always in urgent, finely calibrated prose. These fascinating pieces bring readers closer to this great writer and the world he observed, interacted with, and changed. Praise for *My Generation*

“William Styron’s *My Generation: Collected Nonfiction* is both unsurpassably charming and unflinchingly honest, whether recounting the fallout from *The Confessions of Nat Turner* or reminiscing about the slave-owning grandmother who warned him never to forget he was a Southerner.”—*Vogue*

“At its most accomplished, Styron’s non-fiction mixes a conscientious, richly traditional prose style with a strong current of fellow feeling, a certain awe at the human condition, which is what gives power to his best fiction. . . . Styron stood tall in his generation, and the best of him will stand up over time.”—*USA Today*

“A must for every Styron fan’s library.”—*BBC*

The publication of *Sophie’s Choice*, one of William Styron’s greatest literary achievements, generated a new spark in the critical discussion of the author and is the main emphasis of the interview with Styron and one of the additional essays in this revised edition. The interview was conducted by Robert K. Morris; the essay on *Sophie’s Choice* by Richard Pearce. Other essays include Jane Flanders on Styron’s southern myth, Philip W. Leon on Styron’s narrative technique, and Ardner R. Cheshire, Jr., and Mary S. Strine on *The Confessions of Nat Turner*. Originally published in 1975, *The Achievement of William Styron* was the first collection of critical essays on one of America’s most distinguished contemporary fiction writers, and it has become a standard work. Essays from the original edition which are included in this revised edition are those by the editors, and by Louis D. Rubin, Jr., John O. Lyons, Jan B. Gordon, Robert Phillips, and George Core. A “mesmerizing” biography of the #1 *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Sophie’s Choice*, *The Confessions of Nat Turner*, and *Darkness Visible* (*Entertainment Weekly*). William Styron was one of the most highly regarded and controversial authors of his generation. In this illuminating biography, James L. W. West III draws upon letters, papers, and manuscripts as well as interviews with Styron’s friends and family to recount in rich detail the experiences that shaped each of his groundbreaking books. From Styron’s Southern upbringing, which deeply influenced the Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Confessions of Nat Turner* and National Book Award-winning *Sophie’s Choice*, to his feud with Norman Mailer and the clinical depression that led to his acclaimed memoir *Darkness Visible*, West’s remarkable biography provides invaluable insight into the life and works of a giant of American literature. “I’ve finally pretty much decided what to write next—a novel based on Nat Turner’s rebellion,” twenty-six-year-old William Styron confided to his father in a letter he wrote on May 1, 1952. Styron would not publish his Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Confessions of Nat Turner* until 1967, but this letter undercuts those critics who later attacked the writer as an opportunist capitalizing on the heated racial climate of the late 1960s. From 1943 to 1953, Styron wrote over one hundred letters to William C. Styron, Sr., detailing his adventures, his works in progress, and his ruminations on the craft of writing. In *Letters to My Father*, Styron biographer James L. W. West III collects this correspondence for the first time, revealing the early, intimate thoughts of a young man who was to become a literary icon. Styron wrote his earliest letters from Davidson College, where he was very much unsure of himself and of his prospects in life. By the last few letters, however, he had achieved a great deal: he had earned a commission in the Marine Corps, survived World War II, published the novel *Lie Down in Darkness* (1951) and the novella *The Long March* (1953), and won the Prix de Rome. He had also recently married and was about to return to the United States from an expatriate period in Paris and Rome. The letters constitute a portrait of the artist as a young man. They read like an epistolary novel, with movement from location to location and

changes in voice and language. Styron was extremely close to his father and quite open with him. His story is a classic one, from youthful insecurity to artistic self-discovery, capped by recognition and success. There are challenges along the way for the hero—poor academic performance, a syphilis scare, writer’s block, temporary frustration in romance. But Styron overcomes these difficulties and emerges as a confident young writer, ready to tackle his next project, the novel *Set This House on Fire* (1960). Rose Styron, the author’s widow, contributes a prefatory memoir of the senior Styron. West has provided comprehensive annotations to the correspondence, and the volume also has several illustrations, including facsimiles of some of the letters, which survive among Styron’s papers at Duke University. Finally, there is a selection of Styron’s apprentice fiction from the late 1940s and early 1950s. In all of American literature, no other extended series of such letters—son to father—exists. *Letters to My Father* offers a unique glimpse into the formative years of one of the most admired and controversial writers of his time. "These stories will last," said Raymond Carver of *Shiloh and Other Stories* when it was first published, and almost two decades later this stunning fiction debut and winner of the PEN/Hemingway Award has become a modern American classic. In *Shiloh*, Bobbie Ann Mason introduces us to her western Kentucky people and the lives they forge for themselves amid the ups and downs of contemporary American life, and she poignantly captures the growing pains of the New South in the lives of her characters as they come to terms with feminism, R-rated movies, and video games. "Bobbie Ann Mason is one of those rare writers who, by concentrating their attention on a few square miles of native turf, are able to open up new and surprisingly wide worlds for the delighted reader," said Robert Towers in *The New York Review of Books*. The New York Times–bestselling memoir of crippling depression and the struggle for recovery by the Pulitzer Prize–winning author of *Sophie’s Choice*. In the summer of 1985, William Styron became numbed by disaffection, apathy, and despair, unable to speak or walk while caught in the grip of advanced depression. His struggle with the disease culminated in a wave of obsession that nearly drove him to suicide, leading him to seek hospitalization before the dark tide engulfed him. *Darkness Visible* tells the story of Styron’s recovery, laying bare the harrowing realities of clinical depression and chronicling his triumph over the disease that had claimed so many great writers before him. His final words are a call for hope to all who suffer from mental illness that it is possible to emerge from even the deepest abyss of despair and “once again behold the stars.” This ebook features a new illustrated biography of William Styron, including original letters, rare photos, and never-before-seen documents from the Styron family and the Duke University Archives. In 1950, at the age of twenty-four, William Clark Styron, Jr., wrote to his mentor, Professor William Blackburn of Duke University. The young writer was struggling with his first novel, *Lie Down in Darkness*, and he was nervous about whether his “strain and toil” would amount to anything. “When I mature and broaden,” Styron told Blackburn, “I expect to use the language on as exalted and elevated a level as I can sustain. I believe that a writer should accommodate language to his own peculiar personality, and mine wants to use great words, evocative words, when the situation demands them.” In February 1952, Styron was awarded the Prix de Rome of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, which crowned him a literary star. In Europe, Styron met and married Rose Burgunder, and found himself immersed in a new generation of expatriate writers. His relationships with George Plimpton and Peter Matthiessen culminated in Styron introducing the debut issue of *The Paris Review*. Literary critic Alfred Kazin described him as one of the postwar “super-egotists” who helped transform American letters. His controversial *The Confessions of Nat Turner* won the 1968 Pulitzer Prize, while *Sophie’s Choice* was awarded the 1980 National Book Award, and *Darkness Visible*, Styron’s groundbreaking recounting of his ordeal with depression, was not only a literary triumph, but became a landmark in the field. Part and parcel of Styron’s literary ascendance were his friendships with Norman Mailer, James Baldwin, John and Jackie Kennedy, Arthur Miller, James Jones, Carlos Fuentes, Wallace Stegner, Robert Penn Warren, Philip Roth, C. Vann Woodward, and many of the other leading writers and intellectuals of the second half of the twentieth century. This incredible volume takes readers on an American journey from FDR to George W. Bush through the trenchant observations of one of the country’s greatest writers. Not only will

readers take pleasure in William Styron's correspondence with and commentary about the people and events that made the past century such a momentous and transformative time, they will also share the writer's private meditations on the very art of writing. Advance praise for *Selected Letters of William Styron* "I first encountered Bill Styron when, at twenty, I read *The Confessions of Nat Turner*. Hillary and I became friends with Bill and Rose early in my presidency, but I continued to read him, fascinated by the man and his work, his triumphs and troubles, the brilliant lights and dark corners of his amazing mind. These letters, carefully and lovingly selected by Rose, offer real insight into both the great writer and the good man."—President Bill Clinton "The Bill Styron revealed in these letters is altogether the Bill Styron who was a dear friend and esteemed colleague to me for close to fifty years. The humor, the generosity, the loyalty, the self-awareness, the commitment to literature, the openness, the candor about matters closest to him—all are on display in this superb selection of his correspondence. The directness in the artful sentences is such that I felt his beguiling presence all the while that I was enjoying one letter after another."—Philip Roth "Bill Styron's letters were never envisioned, far less composed, as part of the Styron oeuvre, yet that is what they turn out to be. Brilliant, passionate, eloquent, insightful, moving, dirty-minded, indignant, and hilarious, they accumulate power in the reading, becoming in themselves a work of literature."—Peter Matthiessen

Four novels—including a Pulitzer Prize winner and a National Book Award winner—by the #1 New York Times–bestselling master. *Lie Down in Darkness* is William Styron's stunning debut: a classic portrait of one Southern family's tragic spiral into destruction. *Set This House on Fire* is a story of evil and redemption involving three American men whose paths converge on a film shoot in Italy at the close of the 1940s, hailed as "one of the finest novels of our time" by the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Gripping and unforgettable, *The Confessions of Nat Turner* is the Pulitzer-winning portrait of the leader of America's bloodiest slave revolt. And *Sophie's Choice* is the National Book Award-winning novel of love, survival, and regret, set in Brooklyn in the wake of the Second World War. Taken together, these four novels—exploring themes of good and evil, sin and atonement, and the ineradicable bonds of place and family—represent Styron at the pinnacle of his literary brilliance. PART MEMOIR AND PART ELEGY, *READING MY FATHER IS THE STORY OF A DAUGHTER COMING TO KNOW HER FATHER AT LAST— A GIANT AMONG TWENTIETH-CENTURY AMERICAN NOVELISTS AND A MAN WHOSE DEVASTATING DEPRESSION DARKENED THE FAMILY LANDSCAPE*. In *Reading My Father*, William Styron's youngest child explores the life of a fascinating and difficult man whose own memoir, *Darkness Visible*, so searingly chronicled his battle with major depression. Alexandra Styron's parents—the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Sophie's Choice* and his political activist wife, Rose—were, for half a century, leading players on the world's cultural stage. Alexandra was raised under both the halo of her father's brilliance and the long shadow of his troubled mind. A drinker, a carouser, and above all "a high priest at the altar of fiction," Styron helped define the concept of The Big Male Writer that gave so much of twentieth-century American fiction a muscular, glamorous aura. In constant pursuit of The Great Novel, he and his work were the dominant force in his family's life, his turbulent moods the weather in their ecosystem. From Styron's Tidewater, Virginia, youth and precocious literary debut to the triumphs of his best-known books and on through his spiral into depression, *Reading My Father* portrays the epic sweep of an American artist's life, offering a ringside seat on a great literary generation's friendships and their dramas. It is also a tale of filial love, beautifully written, with humor, compassion, and grace. *Sophie's Choice* has met a tremendous success since publication in 1979 and has been translated in many languages, including Japanese and Russian; it has been made into a movie by Alan Pakula, with Meryl Streep in the unforgettable leading role, and even gave birth to an opera. As usual William Styron gets down to brass tacks with one of the most awe-inspiring themes of the twentieth century : the final solution and the horror of the death-camps. In this bilingual study the emphasis is laid on the complexity of the narrative technique, the link between sexuality and violence, and the entanglement of historical, religious, philosophical and psychoanalytical references that make up the fabric of personal drama and human tragedy that *Sophie's Choice* represents. Patrick BADONNEL is a full professor of American literature at the Sorbonne

Nouvelle University (Paris III) and former chair of the Agrégation. He is the author of several books on American contemporary writers (with C. Maisonnat) and has already published a book and several papers on William Styron's work. Also interested in the contemporary short story he is the author (with C. Maisonnat) of *La Nouvelle Anglo-saxonne. Initiation à une lecture psychanalytique* (Hachette Supérieur, 1998). Cet ouvrage est le fruit de la collaboration entre les éditions Armand Colin et le Centre National d'Enseignement à Distance, établissement public d'enseignement qui dispense des formations de tous niveaux à plus de 350 000 inscrits répartis dans le monde entier. Cette contribution scientifique d'enseignants chercheurs de l'Université française s'intègre dans les préparations assurées par le CNED aux CAPES et aux agrégations d'anglais qui comprennent aussi des conseils méthodologiques et des entraînements aux épreuves des concours avec correction personnalisée. General context and historical background. Narrative strategies at work in *Sophie's Choice*. The aesthetics of perversion and the European axis of evil in *Sophie's Choice*. Sexuality, textuality and liquidity. La confrontation pathologique des désirs. Totalitarisme et schizophrénie. Théologie et téléologie dans *Sophie's Choice*. Éthique et esthétique du texte. A Study Guide for William Styron's "*Sophie's Choice*," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed *Novels for Students*. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust *Novels for Students* for all of your research needs. Unlock the more straightforward side of *Sophie's Choice* with this concise and insightful summary and analysis! This engaging summary presents an analysis of *Sophie's Choice* by William Styron, which follows the young and inexperienced Stingo as he meets and befriends Sophie, a Polish Catholic now living in Brooklyn, and her violent, schizophrenic lover Nathan. As Stingo grows closer to Sophie, he learns that she survived the Nazi concentration camp of Auschwitz, but was forced to make the terrible choice that gives the novel its title. Now, she is racked by guilt and seems unable to escape the shadow of her past, leading her to self-destruct. *Sophie's Choice* is perhaps William Styron's best-known work, and was adapted into an Academy Award-winning film starring Meryl Streep. Find out everything you need to know about *Sophie's Choice* in a fraction of the time! This in-depth and informative reading guide brings you:

- A complete plot summary
- Character studies
- Key themes and symbols
- Questions for further reflection

Why choose BrightSummaries.com? Available in print and digital format, our publications are designed to accompany you on your reading journey. The clear and concise style makes for easy understanding, providing the perfect opportunity to improve your literary knowledge in no time. See the very best of literature in a whole new light with BrightSummaries.com! *Sophie's Choice* is an opera in four acts based upon the post-war dramatic novel by William Styron, and commissioned by BBC Radio 3 in association with the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. The opera was first performed by the artists and orchestra of the Royal Opera House in December 2002. A critical overview of the work features the writings of Nancy Chinn, William Heath, Elisabeth Herion-Sarafidis, Richard G. Law, Gideon Telpaz, and Janet M. Stanford. Although *Sophie's Choice* by William Styron won the American Book Award for fiction, it met with some very mixed reviews. Some critics regarded the novel as bombastic and melodramatic—in short, a colossal failure. In William Styron's "*Sophie's Choice*," Rhoda Sirlin demonstrates that *Sophie's Choice* is Styron's most audacious, original, and artistically successful novel to date. First, this book will counter the many critics who have assailed the novel as anti-Semitic. Sirlin then counters the argument that *Sophie's Choice* is a sexist novel and that Styron and his youthful alter ego, Stingo, are misogynists. Finally, Sirlin explores the novel's powerful theme—absolute evil, showing that while insisting on the power and inextinguishability of evil in human beings and nature, Styron ultimately provides a compassionate vision of humanity struggling for meaning in an indifferent universe. Through this examination, Sirlin shows that Styron must be appreciated as one of the most audacious and humane voices in contemporary literature. A New York Times bestseller by the author of *Sophie's Choice*: Two Americans search for the truth about a mysterious long-ago murder in Italy. Shortly after World War II, in the village of Sambuco, Italy, two men—Virginia attorney Peter Leverett and South Carolina artist Cass Kinsolving—crossed paths with Mason Flagg. They both had their own

reactions to the gregarious and charismatic movie mogul's son. For the impressionable Peter, it was something close to awe. For the alcoholic Cass, it was unsettled rage. Then, after the rape and murder of a peasant girl, Mason's body was found at the base of a cliff—an apparent suicide. He'd been distraught, the authorities said, over committing such a heinous crime. Peter and Cass went their separate ways, and never spoke of it again. Now, years later, Peter is still haunted by what he knows—and by what he doesn't. He's sought out Cass in Charleston for closure, and something close to the truth. Together both men will share their tales of that terrible season in Italy, each with their own ghosts—and their own reasons to exorcise them. But neither Peter nor Cass is prepared for where this path of revenge, complicity, and atonement will take them. A profound exploration of the evil that men do, and what the innocent must endure to accommodate it, *Set This House on Fire* is more than a byzantine murder mystery, it's "one of the finest novels of our times" from the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Confessions of Nat Turner*, *Darkness Visible*, and other modern classics (*San Francisco Chronicle*). This ebook features a new illustrated biography of William Styron, including original letters, rare photos, and never-before-seen documents from the Styron family and the Duke University Archives. "It's fascinating for me to read, for the first time in over forty years, the stumbling starts toward the creation of "Lie Down in Darkness." These passages show how, in my early twenties, I may have been in possession of a luminous vision for a novel but how it was a luminosity clouded by much indecision and awkwardness. . . . "Inheritance of Night," then, is made up of fragments of a beginning, bits of fruitful inspiration mingled with conceits that were stillborn."--William Styron, from the Preface ""[Ozick's] range of influences is obvious in the fine selections of poems and short stories as well as essays from *Art & Ardor* (1983) and *Metaphor and Memory* (1989) that Kauvar has so sensitively chosen."" --Booklist ""[This collection reflects] the imaginative, inventive, and insightful Ozick. Some of the best of Ozick as poet, essayist, and fiction writer is represented in *A Cynthia Ozick Reader*."" --Library Journal ""Gathered here are some bristling, incandescent tales and thorny essays that show Ozick at her finest."" --The Seattle Times Cynthia Ozick is among the ten most important writers in North America today. This Reader brings her manifold talents together in a sampler of the many genres she explores. The poems, stories, and essays in this collection burst with all the energy of her capacious imagination. For those who have always lauded her, the Reader offers a representative selection; those new to Cynthia Ozick's work will revel in the discovery of a major writer. The bestselling final novel by a writer of incomparable range, power, and achievement, a three-time winner of the National Book Award. Peter Matthiessen was a literary legend, the author of more than thirty acclaimed books. In this, his final novel, he confronts the legacy of evil, and our unquenchable desire to wrest good from it. One week in late autumn of 1996, a group gathers at the site of a former death camp. They offer prayer at the crematoria and meditate in all weathers on the selection platform. They eat and sleep in the sparse quarters of the Nazi officers who, half a century before, sent more than a million Jews in this camp to their deaths. Clements Olin has joined them, in order to complete his research on the strange suicide of a survivor. As the days pass, tensions both political and personal surface among the participants, stripping away any easy pretense to resolution or healing. Caught in the grip of emotions and impulses of bewildering intensity, Olin is forced to abandon his observer's role and to bear witness, not only to his family's ambiguous history but to his own. Profoundly thought-provoking, *In Paradise* is a fitting coda to the luminous career of a writer who was "for all readers. He was for the world" (*National Geographic*). *Sophie's Choice: A Contemporary Casebook* is a collection of interpretations and reactions to William Styron's famous 1979 novel of the Holocaust. *Sophie's Choice* won the American Book Award and sold more than three million copies worldwide, but the novel has remained controversial— for its perceived treatment of women, its mixing of sexual comedy with high tragedy, and its legitimacy as an examination of the Holocaust. The items in the casebook are divided into three sections: Sexual Politics, Anti-Semitism and the Holocaust, and Silence. Contributors include Pearl K. Bell, Gloria Steinem, Carolyn A. Durham, Barbara T. Lupack, Richard L. Rubenstein, Cynthia Ozick, Bertram Wyatt-Brown, and Elie Wiesel. The collection is framed by a foreword and an afterword, both by Styron. This

casebook will be useful to teachers, students, and scholars; it brings together important commentaries on Sophieâ (TM)s Choice, focuses discussion on key themes and issues, and argues for the central place of the novel in late twentieth-century literature. Surveys the current state of Jewish American and Holocaust literatures as well as approaches to teaching them. What does it mean to read, and to teach, Jewish American and Holocaust literatures in the early decades of the twenty-first century? New directions and new forms of expression have emerged, both in the invention of narratives and in the methodologies and discursive approaches taken toward these texts. The premise of this book is that despite moving farther away in time, the Holocaust continues to shape and inform contemporary Jewish American writing. Divided into analytical and pedagogical sections, the chapters present a range of possibilities for thinking about these literatures. Contributors address such genres as biography, the graphic novel, alternate history, midrash, poetry, and third-generation and hidden-child Holocaust narratives. Both canonical and contemporary authors are covered, including Michael Chabon, Nathan Englander, Anne Frank, Dara Horn, Joe Kupert, Philip Roth, and William Styron. □The range of critical approaches and authors examined makes this a valuable resource for scholars and teachers. Particularly in this troubling political moment, meditations on the new and continued relevance of Jewish American and Holocaust literatures for scholars, students, and the American public in general are invaluable.□ □ Sharon B. Oster, author of *No Place in Time: The Hebraic Myth in Late Nineteenth-Century American Literature*

“A powerful meditation on the undying nature of love and the often cruel beauty of one’s own fate. This is a novel you simply must read!” —Andre Dubus III, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Townie*

Simon Van Booy, the award-winning author of *Love Begins in Winter* and *The Secret Lives of People in Love*, comes a debut novel of longing and discovery amidst the ruins of Athens. With echoes of Nicole Krauss’s *The History of Love* and Charles Baxter’s *The Feast of Love*, Van Booy’s resonant tale of three isolated, disaffected adults discovering one another in Greece is the compelling product of an inquisitive, visionary talent. In the words of Robert Olen Butler, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain*, “Simon Van Booy knows a great deal about the complex longings of the human heart.” The central figure of this novel is a young man whose parents were executed for conspiring to steal atomic secrets for Russia. His name is Daniel Isaacson, and as the story opens, his parents have been dead for many years. He has had a long time to adjust to their deaths. He has not adjusted. Out of the shambles of his childhood, he has constructed a new life—marriage to an adoring girl who gives him a son of his own, and a career in scholarship. It is a life that enrages him. In the silence of the library at Columbia University, where he is supposedly writing a Ph.D. dissertation, Daniel composes something quite different. It is a confession of his most intimate relationships—with his wife, his foster parents, and his kid sister Susan, whose own radicalism so reproaches him. It is a book of memories: riding a bus with his parents to the ill-fated Paul Robeson concert in Peekskill; watching the FBI take his father away; appearing with Susan at rallies protesting their parents’ innocence; visiting his mother and father in the Death House. It is a book of investigation: transcribing Daniel’s interviews with people who knew his parents, or who knew about them; and logging his strange researches and discoveries in the library stacks. It is a book of judgments of everyone involved in the case—lawyers, police, informers, friends, and the Isaacson family itself. It is a book rich in characters, from elderly grand- mothers of immigrant culture, to covert radicals of the McCarthy era, to hippie marchers on the Pentagon. It is a book that spans the quarter-century of American life since World War II. It is a book about the nature of Left politics in this country—its sacrificial rites, its peculiar cruelties, its humility, its bitterness. It is a book about some of the beautiful and terrible feelings of childhood. It is about the nature of guilt and innocence, and about the relations of people to nations. It is *The Book of Daniel*. The “magnificent” Pulitzer Prize-winning and #1 *New York Times*-bestselling novel about the preacher who led America’s bloodiest slave revolt (*The New York Times*). *The Confessions of Nat Turner* is William Styron’s complex and richly drawn imagining of Nat Turner, the leader of the 1831 slave rebellion in Virginia that led to the deaths of almost sixty men, women, and children. Published at the height of the civil rights movement, the novel draws upon the historical Nat Turner’s

confession to his attorney, made as he awaited execution in a Virginia jail. This powerful narrative, steeped in the brutal and tragic history of American slavery, reveals a Turner who is neither a hero nor a demon, but rather a man driven to exact vengeance for the centuries of injustice inflicted upon his people. Nat Turner is a galvanizing portrayal of the crushing institution of slavery, and Styron's deeply layered characterization is a stunning rendering of one man's violent struggle against oppression. This ebook features a new illustrated biography of William Styron, including original letters, rare photos, and never-before-seen documents from the Styron family and the Duke University Archives. "Thoughtful, candid" essays from the author of the #1 New York Times bestseller *Sophie's Choice* (The Christian Science Monitor). This *Quiet Dust* is a compilation of William Styron's nonfiction writings that confront significant moral questions with precision and vigor. He examines topics as diverse as the Holocaust, the American Dream, and the controversy that raged around his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *The Confessions of Nat Turner*. In each entry, Styron expertly wields his powers of insight to slice through the most complex issues. This *Quiet Dust* offers a window into the philosophical underpinnings of Styron's greatest novels and is the ideal entry for readers seeking a greater understanding into the work of one of America's most celebrated authors. This ebook features a new illustrated biography of William Styron, including original letters, rare photos, and never-before-seen documents from the Styron family and the Duke University Archives. The works of William Styron reflect a central theme, best identified in his book dealing with the Holocaust "*Sophie's Choice*." He propounds a theory of individual development based on egoism, which leads one to attempt to remold men and events to one's will, losing moral scruples in the process. Antisemitism, Southern racism, and anti-feminism can all be explained by this theory. How does a writer compose a suicide note? This was not a question that the prize-winning novelist William Styron had ever contemplated before. In this true account of his depression, Styron describes an illness that reduced him from a successful writer to a man arranging his own destruction. He lived to give us this gripping description of his descent into mental anguish, and his eventual success in overcoming a little-understood yet very common condition. The unabridged text of *Darkness Visible* by William Styron VINTAGE MINIS- GREAT MINDS. BIG IDEAS. LITTLE BOOKS. A series of short books by the world's greatest writers on the experiences that make us human Also in the Vintage Minis series- *Swimming* by Roger Deakin *Babies* by Anne Enright *Calm* by Tim Parks *Work* by Joseph Heller *The Suicide Run* collects five of William Styron's meticulously rendered narratives based on his real-life experiences as a U.S. Marine. In "Blankenship," Styron draws on his stint as a guard at a stateside military prison at the end of World War II. "Marriott, the Marine" and "The Suicide Run"—which Styron composed as part of an intended novel that he set aside to write *Sophie's Choice*—depict the surreal experience of being conscripted a second time, after World War II, to serve in the Korean War. "My Father's House" captures the frustration of a soldier trying to become a civilian again. In "Elobey, Annobón, and Corisco," a soldier attempts to exorcise the dread of an approaching battle by daydreaming about far-off islands, visited vicariously through his childhood stamp collection. Perhaps the last volume from one of literature's greatest voices, *The Suicide Run* brings to life the drama, absurdity, and heroism that forever changed the men who served in the Marine Corps. Examining the controversies that have accompanied the publication of novels representing the Holocaust, this compelling book explores such literature to analyze their violently mixed receptions and what this says about the ethics and practice of millennial Holocaust literature. The novels examined, including some for the first time, are: \* *Time's Arrow* by Martin Amis \* *The White Hotel* by D.M. Thomas \* *The Painted Bird* by Jerzy Kosinski \* *Schindler's List* by Thomas Keneally \* *Sophie's Choice* by William Styron \* *The Hand that Signed the Paper* by Helen Darville. Taking issue with the idea that the Holocaust should only be represented factually, this compelling book argues that Holocaust fiction is not only legitimate, but an important genre that it is essential to accept. In a growing area of interest, Sue Vice adds a new, intelligent and contentious voice to the key debates within Holocaust studies. - Presents the most important 20th-century criticism on major works from "*The Odyssey through modern literature*"- The critical essays reflect a variety of schools of criticism- Contains critical biographies, notes on the

contributing critics, a chronology of the author's life, and an index- Introductory essay by Harold Bloom In this collection of 25 interviews "Mr. Styron proves to be a consistently thoughtful & cooperative subject, freely discussing his southern origins, literary influences, writing habits, political views & other topics related to his fiction"--New York Times Book Review. This award-winning novel of love, survival, and agonizing regret in post-WWII Brooklyn "belongs on that small shelf reserved for American masterpieces" (The Washington Post Book World). Winner of the National Book Award and a modern classic, *Sophie's Choice* centers on three characters: Stingo, a sexually frustrated aspiring novelist; Nathan, his charismatic but violent Jewish neighbor; and Sophie, an Auschwitz survivor who is Nathan's lover. Their entanglement in one another's lives will build to a stirring revelation of agonizing secrets that will change them forever. Poetic in its execution, and epic in its emotional sweep, *Sophie's Choice* explores the good and evil of humanity through Stingo's burgeoning worldliness, Nathan's volatile personality, and Sophie's tragic past. Mixing elements from Styron's own experience with themes of the Holocaust and the history of slavery in the American South, the novel is a profound and haunting human drama, representing Styron at the pinnacle of his literary brilliance. This ebook features an illustrated biography of William Styron, including original letters, rare photos, and never-before-seen documents from the Styron family and the Duke University Archives. This portrait of a Southern family's downfall was the literary debut of the #1 New York Times-bestselling author of *Sophie's Choice*. A finalist for the National Book Award, *Lie Down in Darkness* centers on the Loftis family—Milton and Helen and their daughters, Peyton and Maudie. The story, told through a series of flashbacks on the day of Peyton's funeral, is a powerful depiction of a family doomed by its failure to forget and its inability to love. Written in masterful prose that "achieves real beauty" (The Washington Post), William Styron's debut novel offers unflinching insight into the ineradicable bonds of place and family. The story of Milton, Helen, and their children reveals much about life's losses and disappointments. *Lie Down in Darkness*, poignant and compelling, is a classic of modern American literature from the author who went on to earn high critical acclaim—with a Pulitzer Prize for *The Confessions of Nat Turner* and a National Book Award for *Sophie's Choice*—and a place at the top of the New York Times bestseller list. This ebook features a new illustrated biography of William Styron, including original letters, rare photos, and never-before-seen documents from the Styron family and the Duke University Archives.

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