



Review: "In her portraits of people, Didion is not out to expose but to understand, and she shows us actors and millionaires, doomed brides and naive acid-trippers, left wing ideologues and snobs of the Hawaiian aristocracy in a way that makes them neither villainous nor glamorous, but alive and botched and often mournfully beautiful.... A rich display of some of the best prose written today in this country." --Dan Wakefield, The New York Times Book Review"A slant vision that is arresting and unique...Didion might be an observer from another planet--one so edgy and alert that she ends up knowing more about our own world than we know ourselves." --Anne Tyler"The story between the lines of Slouching Towards Bethlehem is surely not so much 'California' as it is [Didion's] ability to make us share her passionate sense of it." --Alfred Kazin From the Back Cover: "It was not a country in open revolution. It was not a country in open revolution. It was not a country under enemy siege. It was the United States of America in the cold late spring of 1967, and the market was steady and the GNP high and a great many articulate people seemed to have a sense of high social purpose and it might have been a spring of brave hopes and it might have been a spring of brave hopes and national promise, but it was not...""So physically small, so temperamentally unobtrusive, and so neurotically inarticulate" that people tended to forget that her presence ran counter to their best interests, Joan Didion slipped herself into the heart of the Sixties Revolution, only to slip out again with this savage masterpiece, which, since first publication in 1968, has been acknowledged as an unparalleled report on the state of America during those curious days. Now that some of the posturing and pronouncements of those times are being recycled, Didion's sobering reflections are timely once again: 'the future always looks good in the golden land, because no one remembers the past.""Didion's essays of a world featuring barricades and bombings, mass murders and kidnapped heiresses make recent history as filtered through her seem a savage and passionate drama, something you can put a hand on and feel it beating, something you can put your ear to and hear its story."VILLAGE VOICE"Brilliant, troubling, indelible tales and reflections."SAN DIEGO TRIBUNE"Reveals a wholly original analytic mind, a sensibility as expansive and idiosyncratic as a 19th-century novelist's."MONA SIMPSON"Our quintessential essavist."JERRY KOSINSKI, 'LA Times' "About this title" may belong to another edition of this title. From the Inside Flap: Upon its publication in 1968, Slouching Towards Bethlehem confirmed Joan Didion as one of the most prominent writers on the literary scene. Her unblinking vision and deadpan tone have influenced subsequent generations of reporters and essayists, changing our expectations of style, voice, and the artistic possibilities of nonfiction. "In her portraits of people," "The New York Times Book Review wrote, "Didion is not out to expose but to understand, and she shows us actors and millionaires, doomed brides and naive acid-trippers, left-wing ideologues and snobs of the Hawaiian aristocracy in a way that makes them neither villainous nor glamorous, but alive and botched and often mournfully beautiful. . . . A rare display of some of the best prose written today in this country." In essay after essay, Didion captures the dislocation of the 1960s, the disorientation of a country shredding itself apart with social change. Her essays not only describe the subject at hand--the murderous housewife, the little girl trailing the rock group, the millionaire bunkered in his mansion--but also offer a broader vision of America, one that is both terrifying and tender, ominous and uniquely her own. Joyce Carol Oates has written, "Joan Didion is one of the very few writers of our time who approaches her terrible subject with absolute seriousness, with fear and humility and awe. Her powerful irony is often sorrowful rather than clever. . . . She has been an articulate witness to the most stubborn and intractable truths of our time, a memorable voice, partly despairing; always in control." From the Back Cover: "A slant vision that is arresting and unique . . . Didion might be an observer from another planet--one so edgy and alert that she ends up knowing more about our own world than we know ourselves." -- Anne Tyler"The story between the lines of Slouching Towards Bethlehem is surely not so much 'California' as it is [Didion's] ability to make us share her passionate sense of it." --Alfred Kazin "About this title" may belong to another edition of this title. Skip to main search results Paperback. Condition: GOOD. Spine creases, wear to binding and pages from reading. May contain limited notes, underlining or highlighting that does affect the text. Possible ex library copy, will have the markings and stickers associated from the library. Accessories such as CD, codes, toys, may not be included. Paperback. Condition: New. ePub edition. Language: English. Brand new Book. Joan Didion's savage masterpiece, which, since first publication in 1968, has been acknowledged as an unparalleled report on the state of America during the upheaval of the Sixties Revolution. We forget all too soon the things we thought we could never forget. We forget the loves and the betrayals alike, forget what we whispered and what we screamed, forget who we were In her non-fiction work, Joan Didion not only describes the subject at hand - her younger self loving and leaving New York, the murderous housewife, the little girl trailing the rock group, the millionaire bunkered in his mansion - but also offers a broader vision of the world, one that is both terrifying and tender, ominous and uniquely her own. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand new Book. This comprehensive edition brings together for the first time three seminal collections by legendary essayist and journalist Joan Didion: Slouching toward Bethlehem, White Album and Sentimental Journeys. Prefaced with a new introduction by Joan Didion as a major figure in the modern canon - arranged in chronological order so that readers can appreciate not only the qualities of the essays per se, but also their evolution over time. It also includes a new introduction by Joan Didion herself. The stylistic masterpiece Slouching Towards Bethlehem (1968) has become a modern classic, capturing the mood of 1960s America and especially the center of its counterculture, California. The cornerstone essay, an extraordinary report on San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury, sets the agenda for the rest of this book - depicting and America where, in some way or another, things are falling apart and "the center cannot hold". The White Album (1979) is a syncopated, swirling mosaic of the 60s and 70s, covering people and artifacts from the Black Panthers and the Manson family to John Paul Getty's museum. Sentimental Journeys (1992) shifts its perspective slightly to take in Vietnamese refugee camps in Hong Kong, the Reagan campaign trail, and the inequities of Los Angeles real estate. An important collection, Live and Learn is the perfect one-stop primer on Joan Didion, and an essential reference for readers old and new. It confirms the power of this uniquely unbiased, moving writer, and showcases her artful vet simple prose. Paperback. Condition: Acceptable. This is a used book. It may contain highlighting/underlining and/or the book may show heavier signs of wear. It may also be ex-library or without dustiacket. This is a used book. It may contain highlighting/underlining and/or the book may show heavier signs of wear . It may also be ex-library or without dustjacket. Paperback. Condition: Very Good. Slouching Towards Bethlehem This book is in very good condition and will be shipped within 24 hours of ordering. The cover may have some limited signs of wear but the pages are clean, intact and the spine remains undamaged. This book has clearly been well maintained and looked after thus far. Money back guarantee if you are not satisfied. See all our books here, order more than 1 book and get discounted shipping. . Hardcover. Condition: POOR. Noticeably used book. Heavy wear to cover. Pages contain marginal notes, underlining, and or highlighting. Possible ex library copy, with all the markings/stickers of that library. Accessories such as CD, codes, toys, and dust jackets may not be included. Hardcover. Condition: Stated first printing of author's scarce second book. Dust jacket has chipping, edgewear, and a closed tear. Book has underlining/notations throughout in pencil and colored pencil. These markings have been erased down hard. Hardcover. Condition: Very Good. 1st Edition. Stated 1st Printing. Very Good book in Good DJ. Text clean and unmarked with no rips or creases. 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"In her portraits of people," The New York Times Book Review wrote, "Didion is not out to expose but to understand, and she shows us actors and millionaires, doomed brides and naïve acid-trippers, left-wing ideologues and snobs of the Hawaiian aristocracy in a way that makes them neither villainous nor glamorous, but alive and botched and often mournfully beautiful. . . . A rare display of some of the best prose written today in this country.". Early printing of this Everyman's Library's compilation of the author's collected non-fiction work. Octavo, original cloth. Boldly signed by Joan Didion on the title page. Near fine in a near fine dust jacket. Introduction by John Leonard. "I have been trying forever to figure out why [Didion s] sentences are better than mine or yours . . . Something about [their] cadence. They come at you, if not from ambush, then in gnomic haikus, ice pick laser beams, or waves. Even the space on the page around these sentences is more interesting than it ought to be, as if to square a sandbox for a Sphinx" (John Leonard). Hardcover. Condition: Fine. 1st Edition. 238 pages. First edition, first printing. Dust jacket design by Lawrence Ratzkin. Her second book and first book of non-fiction. Twenty essays about California and New York in the sixties. Fine book except for a tiny bit of fading to the top edge in a fine dust jacket which is printing. Hardcover. First edition, first printing. Hardcover. First edition, first printing. boards. a Light creasing at the top of the front panel and some crimping to the head and foot of the jacket spine. a Minor wrinkling to the bottom of 20 essays brought together in the author's second book. The title of the book is taken from an essay that Didion wrote in the mid-1960s about the time she spent in the Haight-Ashbury district of San Francisco. She came away from her time there quite disturbed and depressed. "The center was not holding," she wrote in the opening line of the essay. A bookplate signed by Joan Didion is laid into the book. Author signed bookplate. Hardcover. Condition: Near Fine. Dust Jacket Condition: Very Good+. 1st Edition/First Printing of author's scarce second book. This copy includes a laid in (not affixed) bookplate SIGNED by Joan Didion. Foxing to boards and endpapers of book. This copy includes a laid in (not affixed) bookplate SIGNED by Joan Didion. Foxing to boards and endpapers of book. no tears or chips to the dust jacket. Author SIGNED Bookplate. Hardcover. Condition: Fine. Dust Jacket Condition: Fine in very close to fine dust jacket. (Red tint at top edge has faded to pale rose.) Author's SECOND book and FIRST collection of essays. Together with The White Album the work that best defines her greatness.; 5 1/2" X 8 1/4"; 238 pages. Condition: Near Fine. Dust Jacket Condition: Very Good+. First Edition. First edition, first printing stated. 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