ABIOGRAPHY FRED KAPLAN

Gore Vidal A Biography

Gore Vidal

Gore Vidal A Biography:

Gore Vidal Fred Kaplan, 2013-04-23 This fascinating biography of an iconic American author and public intellectual is so full of incident and celebrity a pageant of entertaining stories The Atlanta Journal Constitution Few writers of recent memory have distinguished themselves in so many fields and so consummately as Gore Vidal A prolific novelist Vidal also wrote for film and theater and became a classic essayist of his own time delivering prescient analyses of American society politics and culture Known for his rapier wit and intelligence Vidal moved with ease among the cultural elite his grandfather was a senator he was intimate with the Kennedys and one of his best friends was Tennessee Williams For this definitive biography Fred Kaplan was given access to Vidal s papers and letters The result is an insightful and entertaining portrait of an exceptional and mercurial writer Empire of Self Jay Parini, 2015-10-13 An intimate authorized yet totally frank biography of Gore Vidal 1925 2012 one of the most accomplished visible and controversial American novelists and cultural figures of the past century The product of thirty years of friendship and conversation Jay Parini s Empire of Self digs behind the glittering surface of Gore Vidal's colorful career to reveal the complex emotional and sexual truths underlying his celebrity strewn life But there is plenty of glittering surface as well a virtual Who s Who of the twentieth century from Eleanor Roosevelt and Amelia Earhart through the Kennedys Johnny Carson Leonard Bernstein and the cr me de la cr me of Hollywood Also a generous helping of feuds with the likes of William F Buckley Norman Mailer Truman Capote and The New York Times among other adversaries The life of Gore Vidal teemed with notable incidents famous people and lasting achievements that call out for careful evocation and examination Jay Parini crafts Vidal s life into an accessible entertaining story that puts the experience of one of the great American figures of the postwar era into context introduces the author and his works to a generation who may not know him and looks behind the scenes at the man and his work in ways never possible before his death Provided with unique access to Vidal s life and his papers Parini excavates many buried skeletons yet never loses sight of his deep respect for Vidal and his astounding gifts This is the biography Gore Vidal novelist essayist dramatist screenwriter historian wit provocateur and pioneer of gay rights has long needed Every Time a Friend Succeeds Something Inside Me Dies Jay Parini, 2015-08-27 An intimate yet frank biography of Gore Vidal one of the most accomplished visible and controversial American novelists and cultural figures of the past century The product of thirty years of friendship and conversation Jay Parini s biography probes behind the glittering surface of Vidal s colourful life to reveal the complex emotional and sexual truth underlying his celebrity strewn life But there is plenty of glittering surface as well a virtual Who s Who of the American Century from Eleanor Roosevelt on down The life of Gore Vidal was an amazingly full one a life of colourful incident famous people and lasting achievements that calls out for careful evocation and examination Through Jay Parini s eyes and words comes an accessible entertaining story that puts the life and times of one of the great American figures of the post war era into context that introduces the author to a generation who didn t know him before and looks

behind the scenes at the man and his work in frank ways never possible before his death Parini provided with unique access to Vidal s life and his papers excavates buried skeletons but never loses sight of his deep respect for Vidal and his astounding Gore Vidal Jay Parini, 1992 Gore Vidal known for such best sellers as The City and the Pillar Gore Vidal ,1876 Burr Lincoln and Myra Breckinridge is a household name The controversial Vidal ran for Congress in 1960 and set sparks flying with his public debates challenging William F Buckley and Norman Mailer Although one of America's most admired and prolific writers Vidal has been steadfastly ignored or impugned by many critics. This is partly owing to the vast scope of his writings which include more than twenty novels half a dozen plays dozens of screenplays countless essays and book reviews political commentary and short stories how do the critics approach such a writer There has also been backlash against Vidal whose radical polemics and undisquised contempt for those whom he has called the hacks and hicks of academe have hardly endeared him to the critical establishment Gore Vidal Writer Against the Grain is the first collection of critical essays to approach this important American writer in an attempt to rectify the unwarranted underestimation of his work Jay Parini has drawn from the best of previously published criticism and commissioned fresh articles by leading contemporary critics to construct a comprehensive portrait of Vidal s multifaceted and memorable career Writers as diverse as Harold Bloom Stephen Spender Catharine R Stimpson Richard Poirier and Italo Calvino examine Vidal s work in their own highly individual ways and each finds a different Vidal to celebrate chide recollect or view close up Also included is a recent interview with Parini in which Vidal discusses his career and his troubled relationship with the reviewers The Vidal that finally emerges from these essays is a writer of undeniable weight and importance As readers will agree Gore Vidal Writer Against the Grain establishes his rightful role as one of the premier novelists and leading critical observers of this century

Gore Vidal Ray Lewis White,1968 Gore Vidal Robert F. Kiernan,1982 A critical survey of Vidal s work treating all of the novels the short stories and plays as well Vidal s greatness says the author lies in his talent for the small scale for the anecdote the scene the sentence all created to the counterpoint of the risque and the elegant A revealing biographical sketch is followed by an analysis of the Vidalian style and then by an overall reassessment of the early successes and the later works

Point to Point Navigation Gore Vidal,2007-10-09 In a witty and elegant autobiography that takes up where his bestelling Palimpsest left off the celebrated novelist essayist critic and controversialist Gore Vidal reflects on his remarkable life Writing from his desks in Ravello and the Hollywood Hills Vidal travels in memory through the arenas of literature television film theatre politics and international society where he has cut a wide swath recounting achievements and defeats friends and enemies made and sometimes lost From encounters with amongst others Jack and Jacqueline Kennedy Tennessee Williams Eleanor Roosevelt Orson Welles Johnny Carson Francis Ford Coppola to the mournful passing of his longtime partner Howard Auster Vidal always steers his narrative with grace and flair Entertaining provocative and often moving Point to Point Navigation wonderfully captures the life of one of twentieth century America's most important writers

Palimpsest Gore Vidal, 1996 Gore Vidal's autobiography encompasses his boyhood as page to his grandfather Senator Gore St Albans school the army homosexual life in New York in the 40s and 50s the early years of television Hollywood literary reflections and much more Sympathy for the Devil Michael Mewshaw, 2015-01-13 An intimate memoir of the author's long friendship with notoriously difficult author Gore Vidal Provided by publisher Gore Vidal S. T. Joshi, 2007 This comprehensive bibliography of Gore Vidal charts his career and covers the span of his sixty years of writing from his Gore Vidal Susan C. Baker, Curtis S. Gibson, 1997-02-25 first novel Williwaw to his 2006 memoir Point to Point Navigation Baker and Gibson show that while Vidal's novels are tremendously entertaining they are also serious examinations of a recurring theme the decline of the West in general and the decline of the United States in particular Vidal Talks Politics Gore Vidal, 2013-03-26 I exist to say No that isn t the way it is or What you believe to be true is not true for the following reasons I am a master of the obvious I mean if there s a hole in the road I will viciously outrageously say there s a hole in the road and if you don't fill it in you'll break the axle of your car One is not loved for being helpful Gore Vidal one of America's foremost essayists screenwriters and novelists died July 31 2012 He was in addition a terrific conversationalist Dick Cavett once described him as the best talker since Oscar Wilde And Vidal was never more eloquent or caustic than when let loose on his favorite topic the history and politics of the United States This book is made up from four interviews conducted with his long time interlocutor the writer and radio host Jon Wiener in which Vidal grapples with matters evidently close to his heart the history of the American Empire the rise of the National Security State and his own life in politics both as a commentator and candidate The interviews cover a twenty year span from 1988 to 2008 when Vidal was at the height of his powers His extraordinary facility for developing an argument tracing connections between past and present and drawing on an encyclopedic knowledge of America's place in the world are all on full display And of course it being Gore Vidal an ample sprinkling of gloriously acerbic one liners is also provided **Rocking the Boat** Gore Vidal, 1962 This is an uncorrected galley proof of Vidal s book Gore Vidal Gore Vidal, Donald Weise, 1999 Gore Vidal has been described as America's finest essayist He is also one of America's finest sex writers Here 14 essays and three interviews on sex and gender including a candid conversation with Larry Kramer Gore Vidal: Snapshots in History's Glare Gore Vidal, 2009-10 Vidal s visual memoir of his remarkable and famously well lived life focuses on a collection of photographs letters manuscripts and other selections from his vast personal archives Written with his legendary wit and literary elegance this book reveals not only the personal reflections of one of the last of the great generation of American writers but is a captivating social history of the 20th century told by one of its greatest raconteurs **Screening History** Gore Vidal, 1992 Vidal intertwines fond recollections of films savored in the movie palaces of his Washington D C boyhood with strands of autobiography and trenchant observations about American politics Never before has the renowned author revealed so much about his own life or written with such immediacy about the forces shaping America 26 halftones Gore Vidal Gore

Vidal, 1979 Palimpsest ,2009 Black and white illustrations of St Louis combined with snippets of the artist s family members correspondence Gore Vidal's America Dennis Altman, 2005-10-28 Gore Vidal is one of the most significant American writers of the second half of the twentieth century having produced a large number of best selling novels essays plays and pamphlets which have impacted on major political and social debates for fifty years He is both a serious writer and a television and movie celebrity whose increasingly acerbic picture of the United States guarantees he is both revered and reviled Gore Vidal s America examines the ways in which Vidal s writings on history politics sex and religion throw into focus our understandings of the United States but also recognizes his versatility and inventiveness as a creative writer some of whose novels Julian Myra Breckinridge Lincoln Duluth are among the important literary works of their time Ranging from Vidal s early defence of homosexuality in The City and the Pillar 1948 to his most recent writings on the war in Iraq this book provides a unique perspective on the evolution of post World War II American society politics and literature As Altman writes Difficult not to see in the results of the 2004 elections where the Republican right gained in both the White House and the Senate proof of Vidal s worse fears namely that the impact of imperial adventure big money and religious moralism would increasingly imperil the American Republic

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