

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan

A Prayer for the Dying Stewart O'Nan: Finding Comfort and Solace

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan is more than just a phrase; it is a heartfelt expression of hope, compassion, and spiritual support for someone nearing the end of their earthly journey. Stewart O'Nan, an acclaimed author known for his poignant storytelling and deep reflections on human experience, often touches on themes of mortality and grace in his works. Invoking a prayer for the dying Stewart O'Nan invites us to explore not only the power of prayer itself but also the profound ways we can offer comfort to those in their final moments. In this article, we will delve into the significance of such prayers, the spiritual and emotional dimensions they encompass, and how they can guide us in supporting loved ones through the dying process.

The Power of Prayer for the Dying

Prayer has long been a source of solace and strength in times of illness and approaching death. When we speak of a prayer for the dying Stewart O'Nan, we are acknowledging the universal human need for peace, dignity, and transcendence at life's end. Prayer serves as a bridge between our worldly concerns and the spiritual realm, inviting divine presence and comfort.

Why Prayer Matters in End-of-Life Care

For those who are dying, prayer can provide a sense of calm and acceptance. It helps to alleviate fears about death and the unknown, fostering an atmosphere of hope even in difficult circumstances. For family members and friends, praying is a way to express love and presence, creating a sacred space where emotional burdens can be shared and lightened.

Research in palliative care has shown that spiritual support, including prayer, contributes to improved quality of life for patients nearing death. It can ease symptoms like anxiety and depression, promoting a more peaceful passing. Thus, a prayer for the dying Stewart O'Nan symbolizes not only a spiritual gesture but also a practical tool in compassionate care.

Crafting a Meaningful Prayer for the Dying Stewart O'Nan

Writing or reciting a prayer tailored to the needs and personality of the dying person can be profoundly meaningful. Stewart O'Nan's writings reveal a sensitivity to human frailty and resilience, which can inspire prayers that

honor both vulnerability and strength.

Elements to Include in a Prayer for the Dying

When crafting a prayer for someone like Stewart O’Nan, consider the following components:

- **Peace and Comfort:** Ask for relief from physical pain and emotional distress.
- **Forgiveness and Reconciliation:** Encourage healing of relationships and inner forgiveness.
- **Grace and Acceptance:** Seek the ability to embrace life’s end with serenity.
- **Hope for the Afterlife:** Affirm beliefs about what lies beyond death, offering hope.
- **Strength for Loved Ones:** Remember those who remain, asking for courage and comfort.

These elements can be woven into a prayer that resonates with the individual’s faith tradition or personal spirituality, making it a deeply personalized act of compassion.

Example of a Prayer for the Dying Stewart O’Nan

Here is an example of a gentle prayer inspired by the themes found in Stewart O’Nan’s work:

> “Divine Spirit, source of all peace,
> We ask for your tender presence to surround Stewart as he faces the final journey.
> Grant him comfort beyond the reach of pain, and fill his heart with your calming light.
> May forgiveness and love flow freely, healing any wounds that linger.
> Guide his spirit gently into your eternal embrace, where suffering is no more.
> Bless his family and friends with strength and hope, that they may find solace in your grace.
> Amen.”

This prayer can be adapted according to one’s religious beliefs or personal preferences, emphasizing the universal desire for compassion and dignity in

dying.

Supporting Stewart O’Nan Through Spiritual and Emotional Challenges

A prayer for the dying Stewart O’Nan also opens the door to broader conversations about how to support someone facing life’s end. Beyond prayer, there are practical ways to provide comfort and companionship.

Listening and Presence

One of the most powerful gifts to someone who is dying is the simple act of being present. Listening without judgment or the need to fix things allows individuals to express fears, regrets, memories, and hopes. Stewart O’Nan’s storytelling often highlights the importance of human connection, reminding us that presence can be a form of prayer in itself.

Creating a Peaceful Environment

Surrounding the dying person with familiar objects, soft lighting, and calming sounds can enhance feelings of safety and tranquility. Playing music that Stewart O’Nan enjoyed or reading passages from his favorite books can provide comfort and a sense of continuity.

Encouraging Spiritual Rituals

If Stewart O’Nan has specific spiritual practices or rituals, encouraging these can be deeply reassuring. Whether it’s lighting a candle, listening to sacred music, or reciting prayers, these rituals help anchor the soul and provide a rhythm to the dying process.

The Role of Community and Shared Prayer

Prayer for the dying Stewart O’Nan need not be a solitary act. Engaging a community—family, friends, or faith groups—in collective prayer can amplify the sense of support and love surrounding the individual.

Benefits of Group Prayer

Group prayer creates a network of shared intention and spiritual energy. It can ease feelings of isolation and remind the dying person that they are cherished by many. Moreover, it offers a space for communal mourning and celebration of the person's life.

How to Organize a Prayer Gathering

- Choose a comfortable, quiet location, such as a home, hospital room, or place of worship.
- Invite close friends and family who share a connection with the person.
- Select prayers, readings, or songs meaningful to Stewart O'Nan's life and beliefs.
- Encourage participants to share brief reflections, memories, or blessings.
- Maintain a respectful and gentle atmosphere, focusing on love and peace.

Such gatherings can be a source of healing for all involved, turning the experience of dying into a shared journey marked by compassion and grace.

Reflections on Mortality Inspired by Stewart O'Nan's Work

Stewart O'Nan's literary contributions often revolve around the themes of mortality, memory, and human connection. His nuanced exploration of life's fragility offers us a lens through which to view the process of dying—not as an end but as a meaningful transition.

Embracing the Human Experience

O'Nan's characters frequently wrestle with loss, regret, and hope, reflecting the complexities of real life. This honesty encourages us to approach death with openness and empathy, recognizing the profound emotional landscape it entails.

Finding Meaning in Final Moments

Through his stories, we learn that the final chapter of life can be rich with meaning—through reconciliation, expression of love, or quiet reflection. A prayer for the dying Stewart O'Nan, then, becomes an invitation to honor these moments, holding space for peace and understanding.

In times when words may fail, a prayer for the dying Stewart O'Nan offers a bridge of compassion and hope. It reminds us that even in the face of mortality, there is room for love, grace, and connection. Whether through spoken prayer, silent reflection, or shared presence, the act of praying for someone at life's end is a profound testament to our shared humanity.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'A Prayer for the Dying' by Stewart O'Nan about?

'A Prayer for the Dying' by Stewart O'Nan is a novel that explores themes of family, faith, and mortality through the story of a man's struggle with his past and his efforts to find redemption as he faces death.

When was 'A Prayer for the Dying' by Stewart O'Nan published?

'A Prayer for the Dying' was published in 1999.

What are the main themes in 'A Prayer for the Dying'?

The main themes include mortality, redemption, faith, forgiveness, and the complexity of human relationships.

Who is the protagonist in 'A Prayer for the Dying' by Stewart O'Nan?

The protagonist is a man named Jimmy, who confronts his past and seeks peace as he nears the end of his life.

How does Stewart O'Nan portray death in 'A Prayer for the Dying'?

Stewart O'Nan portrays death as a profound and personal journey, emphasizing introspection, reconciliation, and the impact of one's life on others.

Is 'A Prayer for the Dying' based on true events?

No, 'A Prayer for the Dying' is a work of fiction, though it incorporates realistic and emotionally compelling elements that resonate with readers.

What writing style does Stewart O'Nan use in 'A Prayer for the Dying'?

Stewart O'Nan employs a clear, evocative, and compassionate writing style that deeply explores his characters' inner lives and emotional struggles.

Additional Resources

****A Prayer for the Dying Stewart O'Nan: An Analytical Exploration****

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan is not only a poignant phrase but also the title of a novel authored by Stewart O'Nan, a contemporary American writer known for his nuanced exploration of human emotions under distressing circumstances. This work stands out in O'Nan's literary repertoire as an intimate and raw narrative centered around the themes of mortality, grief, and hope. Its relevance extends beyond literary circles, entering discussions on end-of-life experiences, spirituality, and the psychological dimension of facing death. This article offers a professional and investigative review of **A Prayer for the Dying** by Stewart O'Nan, analyzing its thematic depth, narrative style, and the cultural resonance it holds, while naturally integrating relevant keywords for optimized search visibility.

Contextualizing "A Prayer for the Dying" in Stewart O'Nan's Oeuvre

Stewart O'Nan is often celebrated for his ability to depict ordinary lives with extraordinary empathy. His works frequently delve into the subtle intricacies of human suffering and resilience. **A Prayer for the Dying**, published in 1999, embodies this approach as it traces the final days of a character grappling with terminal illness. Situated within O'Nan's broader body of work, the novel reflects a mature exploration of mortality, distinct from his earlier novels that often focused on everyday struggles without the immediacy of death.

The narrative revolves around a man confronting his mortality, navigating the physical and emotional toll of dying, and seeking solace through prayer and reflection. This thematic focus resonates with readers who are either personally affected by terminal illness or interested in the spiritual and psychological aspects of death.

Thematic Exploration of Mortality and Spirituality

One of the most compelling facets of **A Prayer for the Dying** is its candid portrayal of the dying process. O'Nan does not romanticize death; instead, he

presents it with a stark realism that challenges readers to confront their own fears and beliefs. The concept of prayer as a coping mechanism is woven intricately into the narrative, highlighting the human instinct to seek meaning and comfort in spirituality during times of existential crisis.

The title itself, **A Prayer for the Dying**, encapsulates this duality: the act of praying as both a plea and a source of strength. Throughout the novel, prayer functions as a motif symbolizing hope, surrender, and connection. This spiritual dimension elevates the novel from a mere depiction of death to a meditation on the human spirit's resilience.

Narrative Style and Literary Devices

Stewart O'Nan's narrative technique in this novel is characterized by simplicity and directness, which contrasts with the complexity of the subject matter. The prose is unadorned but powerful, mirroring the stripped-down reality experienced by someone nearing the end of life. This stylistic choice enhances the emotional impact, allowing readers to engage deeply with the protagonist's internal journey.

O'Nan employs a limited third-person perspective that closely follows the protagonist's thoughts and feelings, thereby creating an intimate connection between the reader and the character. The pacing is deliberate, reflecting the slow passage of time during the final stages of illness. Moments of reflection are interspersed with dialogue and sensory descriptions, grounding the story in tangible reality.

Comparative Analysis with Other Literary Works on Death

When compared to other literary explorations of dying—such as Joan Didion's **The Year of Magical Thinking** or Mitch Albom's **Tuesdays with Morrie**—**A Prayer for the Dying** distinguishes itself through its fictional approach and emphasis on prayer as a spiritual anchor. While Didion's memoir offers a personal account of grief and Albom's memoir centers on mentorship and acceptance, O'Nan's novel immerses readers in the subjective experience of dying itself.

This focus aligns the book more closely with works like **The Death of Ivan Ilyich** by Leo Tolstoy, which also interrogates the psychological and existential dimensions of death. However, O'Nan's contemporary setting and accessible prose make his exploration relevant to modern readers grappling with contemporary attitudes toward death and spirituality.

Relevance and Impact of “A Prayer for the Dying Stewart O’Nan” in Contemporary Society

The themes in *A Prayer for the Dying* resonate strongly in today’s cultural climate, where conversations about death and dying are becoming increasingly open yet remain deeply complex. The novel’s portrayal of prayer and spirituality as tools for coping with terminal illness echoes current trends in palliative care and hospice, which often incorporate holistic approaches addressing not only physical but also emotional and spiritual needs of patients.

Moreover, the book provides a valuable resource for caregivers, medical professionals, and families by offering insight into the psychological landscape of those who are dying. It encourages empathy and understanding, essential components in the provision of compassionate end-of-life care.

Psychological and Emotional Dimensions

The psychological journey depicted in *A Prayer for the Dying* encompasses denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and ultimately acceptance—stages famously identified by psychiatrist Elisabeth Kübler-Ross. O’Nan’s narrative does not rigidly follow this model but instead presents a more fluid and individualized process, highlighting the uniqueness of each person’s experience with death.

The emotional intensity of the novel is balanced by moments of tenderness and humor, which serve to humanize the protagonist and dismantle the stigma often associated with dying. This balanced portrayal helps readers develop a nuanced understanding of the complexities surrounding the end-of-life experience.

SEO Considerations: Integrating Keywords and Enhancing Discoverability

For readers searching for insights on *a prayer for the dying stewart o nan*, it is important to naturally incorporate relevant LSI keywords such as “Stewart O’Nan novel,” “themes in A Prayer for the Dying,” “literary exploration of death,” “spirituality and dying,” and “end-of-life narratives in fiction.” These keywords enhance the article’s SEO without compromising readability or flow.

Additionally, phrases like “terminal illness in literature,” “psychology of dying,” and “prayer as coping mechanism” are contextually relevant and improve the article’s reach to audiences interested in both literary analysis and the broader implications of death and spirituality.

Keywords Strategically Integrated in Context

- The *Stewart O’Nan novel* *A Prayer for the Dying* offers a profound *literary exploration of death* and dying.
- The book’s emphasis on *spirituality and dying* reflects growing interest in how *prayer can serve as a coping mechanism* for those facing terminal illness.
- As an *end-of-life narrative in fiction*, it contributes to the broader discourse on *psychology of dying* and the emotional complexities involved.

Final Reflections on the Enduring Significance of the Work

While *A Prayer for the Dying* may not be the most widely known of Stewart O’Nan’s novels, its profound treatment of mortality and spirituality ensures its lasting significance. The novel invites readers to reflect on their own attitudes toward death and the role of faith and prayer in confronting life’s final chapter.

By combining a realistic portrayal of dying with a sensitive exploration of inner emotional landscapes, O’Nan crafts a narrative that transcends its fictional boundaries. It becomes a tool for education, empathy, and perhaps even solace for those navigating the universal human experience of loss.

In examining *a prayer for the dying stewart o nan*, one recognizes the novel’s unique place at the intersection of literature, spirituality, and psychology—making it a compelling read for anyone interested in the profound questions surrounding death and the human spirit.

[A Prayer For The Dying Stewart O Nan](#)

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: *A Prayer for the Dying* Stewart O’Nan, 2013-10-08 A deadly epidemic threatens the lives and sanity of a Civil War veteran and his family in this “new masterpiece of American literature” (Dennis Lehane). Set in Friendship, Wisconsin, just after the Civil War, *A Prayer for the Dying* tells of a horrible epidemic that is suddenly and gruesomely killing the town’s residents and setting off a terrifying paranoia. Jacob Hansen, Friendship’s sheriff, undertaker, and pastor, is soon overwhelmed by the fear and anguish around him, and his sanity begins to fray. Dark, poetic, and chilling, Stewart O’Nan’s *A Prayer for the Dying* examines the effect of madness and violence on the morality of a once-decent man. Praise for *A Prayer for the Dying* New York Times Book Review Notable Book of the Year “*A Prayer for the Dying* reads like the amazing, unrelenting love child of Shirley Jackson and Cormac McCarthy. It’s twisted proof that God will do worse to test a faithful man than the devil would ever do to punish a sinner.”—Chuck Palahniuk “O’Nan again proves himself a writer of dazzling virtuosity and imagination. . . . A mesmerizing story and a brilliant tour de force.” —Publishers Weekly (starred review)

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: Understanding Stewart O'Nan Heike Paul, 2020-09-30

This first book-length study of Stewart O'Nan's work offers a comprehensive introduction to his writings and carefully examines recurring thematic concerns and stylistic characteristics of his novels. The author of eighteen novels, several works of nonfiction, and two short-story collections, O'Nan received the Pirate's Alley Faulkner Society's Gold Medal for best novel for *Snow Angels* and the Drew Heinz Prize for *In the Walled City*. In 1996 *Granta* magazine named him one of the Twenty Best Young American Novelists. In *Understanding Stewart O'Nan*, Heike Paul appraises O'Nan's oeuvre to date, including his popular multigenerational trilogy of novels—*Wish You Were Here*; *Emily, Alone*; and *Henry, Himself*—that received enthusiastic reviews in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *Publisher's Weekly*, and the *Guardian*. Paul argues that O'Nan is not only a writer of popular fiction but also has developed into a major literary voice worthy of canonical status and of having a firm place in school, college, and university curricula. To this end Paul analyzes his use of formulas of long-standing popular American genres, such as the Western and the gothic tale, as he re-invents them in innovative and complex ways creating a style that Paul describes as everyday gothic. She also offers a critical examination of O'Nan's treatment of American myths and vivid descriptions of struggling middle class settings and individuals who lead precarious lives. Paul believes this first critical study of O'Nan's collected works will be instrumental in building a critical archive and analysis of his oeuvre.

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: *The Life Before Her Eyes* Laura Kasischke, 2002-11-11

A "hauntingly original" psychological thriller about innocence, memory, and the effect of a moment of violence (O: The Oprah Magazine). In the girls' bathroom, Diana and her best friend, Maureen, are stealing a moment from the routine drudgery of high school when a classmate enters holding a gun. Suddenly, Diana sees her life—past, present, and acutely imagined future—dance before her eyes. Through prose infused with the dramatically feminine sensuality of spring, readers will experience sixteen-year-old Diana's uncertain steps into womanhood—her awkward, heated forays into sex; her fresh, fragile construction of an identity—and, in exhilarating detail, her life-not-lived as a doting mother and wife of forty. Together with the sights and sounds of renewal are the tasks of Diana's adulthood: protecting her beloved daughter and holding on to her successful husband. This "poetic" novel encompasses both the truth of a teenager's world and the transformations of midlife (*Vanity Fair*). Resonant and deeply stirring, *The Life Before Her Eyes* finds piercing beauty in the midst of a nightmare that echoes like a dirge beneath each new spring, in a story that "takes on deep matters of life and death; conscience and consciousness; family, love and friendship" (*Los Angeles Times*). "Evokes terror and redemption, shadows and light. Kasischke treads a delicate line with the precision and confidence of a tightrope walker. She reminds us to look hard at life, to notice its beauty and cruelty, even as it flashes before us and disappears." —*The New York Times*
"Mesmerizing." —*Chicago Tribune*

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: *The Secret Miracle* Daniel Alarcón, 2010-04-13

The world's best contemporary writers—from Michael Chabon and Claire Messud to Jonathan Lethem and Amy Tan—engage in a wide-ranging, insightful, and oft-surprising roundtable discussion on the art of writing fiction. Drawing back the curtain on the mysterious process of writing novels, *The Secret Miracle* brings together the foremost practitioners of the craft to discuss how they write. Paul Auster, Roddy Doyle, Allegra Goodman, Aleksandar Hemon, Mario Vargas Llosa, Susan Minot, Rick Moody, Haruki Murakami, George Pelecanos, Gary Shteyngart, Daniel Alarcón, and others take us step by step through the alchemy of writing fiction, answering everything from nuts-and-bolts queries—Do you outline?—to perennial questions posed by writers and readers alike: What makes a character compelling? From Stephen King's deadpan distinction between novels and short stories (Novels are longer and have more s**t in them) to Colm Toibin's anti-romanticized take on his characters (They are just words) to José Manuel Prieto's mature perspective on the anxieties of influence (Influences are felt or weigh you down more when young), every page contains insights found nowhere else. With honesty, humor, and elegance, *The Secret Miracle* gives both aspiring writers and lovers of literature a master class in the art of writing.

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: Compositions for the Young and Old Paul G. Tremblay, 2005-06-30 A jar that holds your deepest secrets and fears. A fireman confronts his past while trying to save a group of children who have fallen through thin ice. A preacher's daughter goes to fantastic and desperate lengths to write a book like Mark Twain. A man who cures people's pain and sadness through laughter finds his greatest challenge in a little boy. In this debut collection by Paul G. Tremblay, there are twenty stories following the chronological arc of a human life. Twenty stories about the young and old, and everyone in-between.

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: The Pleasure of Influence Rob Trucks, 2002 In this collection, 11 important male fiction writers in America in 2001 discuss the origin, process and achievement of their own fiction. Interviewees include Robert Olen Butler, Charles Johnson, Thom Jones, Barry Hannah, Stephen Dixon, Russell Banks, Rick Moody and Chris Offutt.

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: The Publishers Weekly , 1884

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: Significant Objects Joshua Glenn, Rob Walker, 2012-08-06 100 EXTRAORDINARY STORIES ABOUT ORDINARY THINGS SIGNIFICANT OBJECTS: A Literary and Economic Experiment Can a great story transform a worthless trinket into a significant object? The Significant Objects project set out to answer that question once and for all, by recruiting a highly impressive crew of creative writers to invent stories about an unimpressive menagerie of items rescued from thrift stores and yard sales. That secondhand flotsam definitely becomes more valuable: sold on eBay, objects originally picked up for a buck or so sold for thousands of dollars in total — making the project a sensation in the literary blogosphere along the way. But something else happened, too: The stories created were astonishing, a cavalcade of surprising responses to the challenge of manufacturing significance. Who would have believed that random junk could inspire so much imagination? The founders of the Significant Objects project, that's who. This book collects 100 of the finest tales from this unprecedented creative experiment; you'll never look at a thrift-store curiosity the same way again. FEATURING ORIGINAL STORIES BY: Chris Adrian • Rob Agredo • Kurt Andersen • Rachel Axler • Rob Baedeker • Nicholson Baker • Rosecrans Baldwin • Matthew Battles • Charles Baxter • Kate Bernheimer • Susanna Breslin • Kevin Brockmeier • Matt Brown • Blake Butler • Meg Cabot • Tim Carvell • Patrick Cates • Dan Chaon • Susanna Daniel • Adam Davies • Kathryn Davis • Matthew De Abaitua • Stacey • D'Erasmus • Helen DeWitt • Doug Dorst • Mark Doty • Ben Ehrenreich • Mark Frauenfelder • Amy Fusselman • William Gibson • Myla Goldberg • Ben Greenman • Jason Grote • Jim Hanas • Jennifer Michael Hecht • Sheila Heti • Christine Hill • Dara Horn • Shelley Jackson • Heidi Julavits • Ben Katchor • Matt Klam • Wayne Koestenbaum • Josh Kramer • Kathryn Kuitenbrouwer • Neil LaBute • Victor LaValle • J. Robert Lennon • Jonathan Lethem • Todd Levin • Laura Lippman • Mimi Lipson • Robert Lopez • Joe Lyons • Sarah Manguso • Merrill Markoe • Tom McCarthy • Miranda Mellis • Lydia Millet • Maud Newton • Annie Nocenti • Stephen O'Connor • Stewart O'Nan • Jenny Offill • Gary Panter • Ed Park • James Parker • Benjamin Percy • Mark Jude Poirier • Padgett Powell • Bob Powers • Todd Pruzan • Dan Reines • Nathaniel Rich • Peter Rock • Lucinda Rosenfeld • Greg Rowland • Luc Sante • R.K. Scher • Toni Schlesinger • Matthew Sharpe • Jim Shepard • David Shields • Marisa Silver • Curtis Sittenfeld • Bruce Sterling • Scarlett Thomas • Jeff Turrentine • Deb Olin Unferth • Tom Vanderbilt • Matthew J. Wells • Joe Wenderoth • Margaret Wertheim • Colleen Werthmann • Colson Whitehead • Carl Wilson • Cintra Wilson • Sari Wilson • Douglas Wolk • John Wray

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: My New Orleans Rosemary James, 2010-06-15 From famous writers and personalities who call the city home, whether by birth or simply love, these pieces written in the wake of Hurricane Katrina serve as a timeless tribute to New Orleans. Sentimental, joyful, and witty, these essays by celebrated writers, entertainers, chefs, and fans honor the life of one of America's most beloved cities. Paul Prudhomme writes about the emotional highs New Orleans inspires, Wynton Marsalis exalts his native city as soul model for the nation, while Walter Isaacson shares his vision for preserving his hometown's pentimento magic. Stewart O'Nan recalls the fantasy haze that enshrouded his first trip to the Big Easy when he was thirty and

bowed to Richard Ford to receive his first literary prize. Poppy Z. Brite thanks New Orleans for helping her discover the simple pleasure of Audubon Park's egrets, and Elizabeth Dewberry explores what it means to work Bourbon Street as a stripper. My New Orleans captures the spirit of the city that was—and that will be again.

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Ultimate Reading List John Charles, Shelley Mosley, 2007-07-03 Great reads for busy people. This is a guide to help busy people find great reads in fiction and nonfiction. Filled with recommendations of popular, entertaining reading, this book covers mystery and suspense, romance, women's fiction and chick lit, Westerns, science fiction, such nonfiction topics as animals, art, biography, memoirs, business, true crime, and more. Plus, each entry includes a summary of the book, its significance, and a critique/observation/comment.

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: The Civil War Veteran Larry M. Logue, Michael Barton, 2007 The Civil War Veteran presents a profound but often troubling story of the postwar experiences of Union and Confederate Civil War veterans. Most ex-soldiers and their neighbors readjusted smoothly. However, many arrived home with or developed serious problems; poverty, drug and alcohol addiction, and other manifestations of post traumatic stress syndrome, such as flashbacks and paranoia, plagued these veterans. Black veterans in particular suffered a particularly cruel fate: they fought with distinction and for their freedom, but postwar racism obliterated recognition of their wartime contributions. Despite these hardships, veterans found some help from federal and state governments, through the establishment of a national pension system and soldiers' homes. Yet veterans did not passively accept this assistance—some influenced and created policy in public office, while others joined together in veterans' organizations such as the Grand Army of the Republic to fight for their rights and to shape the collective memory of the Civil War. As the number of veterans from wars in the Middle East rapidly increases, the stories in the pages of The Civil War Veteran give us valuable perspective on the challenges of readjustment for ex-soldiers and American society.

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: The Speed Queen Stewart O'Nan, 2007-12-01 A death-row inmate gives her confession—a hair-raising tale of sex, drugs and murder across Oklahoma—in this “vividly realized” novel (The New York Times Book Review). Marjorie Standiford has quite a story to tell. And on the eve of her execution for a sensational murder spree, she's giving every detail, just as she remembers them, to the famous novelist who has come to record it all. Of course, Marjorie contends that she didn't do any killing. That was all Lamont, her boyfriend, and Natalie, their girlfriend, while Marjorie got high and took care of the baby. But she was in it just the same, careening across the desert plains of Oklahoma, fueled by lust, crime, cars, drugs—speed in all its forms. The Speed Queen is the story of a terrifying voyage into the dark soul of America's Heartland. From acclaimed author Stewart O'Nan—selected by Granta as one of the Best Young American Novelists—this is “classic American noir” in the tradition of James M. Cain (San Francisco Chronicle).

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: Wars within a War Joan Waugh, Gary W. Gallagher, 2009-06-01 Comprised of essays from twelve leading scholars, this volume extends the discussion of Civil War controversies far past the death of the Confederacy in the spring of 1865. Contributors address, among other topics, Walt Whitman's poetry, the handling of the Union and Confederate dead, the treatment of disabled and destitute northern veterans, Ulysses S. Grant's imposing tomb, and Hollywood's long relationship with the Lost Cause narrative. The contributors are William Blair, Stephen Cushman, Drew Gilpin Faust, Gary W. Gallagher, J. Matthew Gallman, Joseph T. Glatthaar, Harold Holzer, James Marten, Stephanie McCurry, James M. McPherson, Carol Reardon, and Joan Waugh.

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: The New Midwest Mark Athitakis, 2017-02-06 “Dives deep into Midwestern literature, unpacking the mythology of the region and how today's writers are complicating our simple idea of the Heartland.” —Huffington Post In the public imagination, Midwestern literature has not evolved far beyond heartland laborers and hardscrabble immigrants

of a century past. But as the region has changed, so, in many ways, has its fiction. In this book, the author explores how shifts in work, class, place, race, and culture has been reflected or ignored by novelists and short story writers. From Marilynne Robinson to Leon Forrest, Toni Morrison to Aleksandar Hemon, Bonnie Jo Campbell to Stewart O’Nan this book is a call to rethink the way we conceive Midwestern fiction, and one that is sure to prompt some new must-have additions to every reading list. “Using the lens of novels and short stories published over the past 30 or so years, Athitakis seeks to illuminate the ways we still lean on literary mythology of the Midwest when it comes to defining the region.” —Chicago Tribune “[The New Midwest] rightly praises the Midwestern novels of Marilynne Robinson, Jeffrey Eugenides, Toni Morrison and Jonathan Franzen, but also points out works of comparable merit that warrant rediscovery.” —The Washington Post “The New Midwest is a crisp, engaging tip sheet and guide for further reading.” —Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel “A journey through the Midwest and through some key works by writers [Athitakis] thinks are most effectively using the region in their fiction.” —Kirkus Reviews

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: *Chasing Willie Mays* Paul Kocak, 2016-09-30

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: *West of Sunset* Stewart O’Nan, 2017-01-01 In 1937, F. Scott Fitzgerald was a troubled, uncertain man whose literary success was long behind him. In poor health, with his wife consigned to a mental asylum and his finances in ruin, he struggled to make a new start as a screenwriter in Hollywood. With flashbacks to key moments from Fitzgerald's past, the story follows him as he arrives on the MGM lot, falls in love with brassy gossip columnist Sheilah Graham, begins work on *The Last Tycoon*, and tries to maintain a semblance of family life with the absent Zelda and their daughter, Scottie. Written with striking grace and subtlety, this wise and intimate portrait of a man trying his best to hold together a world that's flying apart, if not gone already, is an American masterpiece.

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: *The American Midwest* Andrew R. L. Cayton, Richard Sisson, Chris Zacher, 2006-11-08 This first-ever encyclopedia of the Midwest seeks to embrace this large and diverse area, to give it voice, and help define its distinctive character. Organized by topic, it encourages readers to reflect upon the region as a whole. Each section moves from the general to the specific, covering broad themes in longer introductory essays, filling in the details in the shorter entries that follow. There are portraits of each of the region's twelve states, followed by entries on society and culture, community and social life, economy and technology, and public life. The book offers a wealth of information about the region's surprising ethnic diversity -- a vast array of foods, languages, styles, religions, and customs -- plus well-informed essays on the region's history, culture and values, and conflicts. A site of ideas and innovations, reforms and revivals, and social and physical extremes, the Midwest emerges as a place of great complexity, signal importance, and continual fascination.

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: *The King's English* Betsy Burton, 2005 A unique and fascinating memoir traces the history of a famed Salt Lake City bookstore as it survives attempts at censorship, the onslaught of chain superstores, and more, including dozens of Top 25 reading lists on a wide variety of topics.

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: *Journal of Camus Studies* 2013 Camus Society, 2014-08-14 The Journal of Camus Studies is published annually and is available in print and ebook formats. 2013 Contributors: KIMBERLY BALTZER-JARAY, ERIC B. BERG, KURT BLANKSCHAEN, PETER FRANCEV, GIOVANNI GAETANI, GEORGE HEFFERNAN, SIMON LEA, BENEDICT O'DONOHUE, RON SRIGLEY, and SYLVIA CROWHURST.

a prayer for the dying stewart o nan: *Civil War Book Review*, 1999

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