

Free reading Poor people william t vollmann (PDF)

this first ever collection of selected interviews with one of america s most prolific and eclectic authors william t vollmann editor scott rhodes collects eighteen interviews that covers the span of this important writer s expansive career across fiction journalism ethnography and history william t vollmann s oeuvre which includes a prostitution trilogy a septology seven dreams about encounters between first north americans and european colonists and a more than three thousand page philosophical treatise on violence is as ambitious as it is dazzling conversations with william t vollmann collects twenty nine interviews from early press coverage in britain where his career first took flight to in depth visits to his writing and art studio in sacramento california throughout these conversations vollmann b 1959 speaks with candor and wit on such subjects as grief and guilt in his work his love of guns and his experience of war the responsibilities of the artist as witness the benefits of looking out into the world beyond the confines of one s horizon the limitations of what literature can achieve and how we can speak to the future bringing to the fore several expanded unpublished and hard to find interviews this volume offers a valuable set of perspectives on a uniquely rewarding and sometimes overwhelming writer on the road promoting his books or in a domestic setting vollmann comes across as reflective and humane humble in his craft despite deep dedication to his uncompromising vision and ever armed with a spirit of mischief and capacity to shock and unsettle the reader a prolific writer of fiction and nonfiction and winner of the national book award for europe central william t vollmann is considered by many to be one of america s most important living writers vollmann has written short stories novels and essays and he has contributed to such publications as esquire granta harper s the new yorker playboy and spin magazine as the author of several works of fiction including butterfly stories the royal family and you bright and risen angels as well as such nonfiction as the seven volume rising up and rising down some thoughts on violence freedom and urgent means vollmann continues to produce significant material at an astounding rate in this annotated bibliography michael hemmingson has assembled a comprehensive list of all editions of vollmann s books in every language as well as every short story every essay his investigative journalism and book reviews this book also includes an extensive listing of vollmann s limited edition book object artist editions william t vollmann an annotated bibliography is a much needed volume for libraries and fans in understanding william t vollmann isil zcan studies the maturing career of one of the most important voices in contemporary letters vollmann s major works of fiction and nonfiction include his national book award winner europe central his highly acclaimed seven dreams novels and his magnum opus rising up and rising down some thoughts on violence urgent means and justifications zcan examines the common threads that interlace vollmann s corpus and grapples with the depth and complexity of his massive output in her readings of vollmann s works she identifies a rich but accessible set of themes that he explores afresh in each text including death war violence suffering and love vollmann has written in many genres and his writing is informed by his extensive research and travels around the world his familiarity with red light zones and his war correspondence the highly subjective and participative nature of much his writing has foregrounded his personality to such an extent that he became simultaneously a cult figure and a notorious adventurer in her readings zcan contends that vollmann compels our attention because he registers a diversity of voices and discourses that makes us hear what the

subjugated the unrecognized the weak and the marginalized have to say the scope and the force of vollmann's openness to the other is inseparable from his method and conduct in addition to close readings of vollmann's texts zcan also examines his influences and literary connections tracing his ties to john steinbeck ernest hemingway james agee and danilo ki and situating him not only in the american canon but also in the longer duration of world literature a daring literary masterpiece and winner of the national book award in this magnificent work of fiction acclaimed author william t vollmann turns his trenchant eye on the authoritarian cultures of germany and the ussr in the twentieth century to render a mesmerizing perspective on human experience during wartime through interwoven narratives that paint a composite portrait of these two battling leviathans and the monstrous age they defined europe central captures a chorus of voices both real and fictional a young german who joins the ss to fight its crimes two generals who collaborate with the enemy for different reasons the soviet composer dmitri shostakovich and the stalinist assaults upon his work and life failing san francisco private detective henry tyler journeys through the dark underbelly of the city as he searches for the legendary queen of the prostitutes all the while grieving over the suicide of the woman he loves talking bugs electricity the founding of empires hobos nazis whores violence drugs murder secret cabals heaven hell william t vollmann is a writer of enormous novels that are stuffed with entire worlds of creation and destruction this first ever book length critical study traces his career to date with chapters devoted to each of his novels as well as his short stories and major nonfiction vollmann is a writer of obsessions and this study concentrates on three of them freedom redemption and prostitution while arguing that the author that dwells on them is worthy of being called one of our greatest living american writers also included are seven interviews spanning the years 1991 2007 that reinforce the persistence of vollmann's attraction to these themes from the author of europe central winner of the national book award a journalistic tour de force along the mexican american border a finalist for the national book critics circle award for generations of migrant workers imperial country has held the promise of paradise and the reality of hell it sprawls across a stirring accidental sea across the deserts date groves and labor camps of southeastern california right across the border into mexico in this eye opening book william t vollmann takes us deep into the heart of this haunted region exploring polluted rivers and guarded factories and talking with everyone from mexican migrant workers to border patrolmen teeming with patterns facts stories people and hope this is an epic study of an emblematic region with his first three works of fiction the novels you bright and risen angels and the ice shirt and the collection the rainbow stories william t vollmann announced himself as a writer of rare and ferocious talent with critics comparing him to william burroughs thomas pynchon and t c boyle his new novel is the story of jimmy who has been deserted by his lover a prostitute by the name of gloria in the despair of his loneliness and his drunken grief he reassembles gloria's presence out of whatever he can buy from the hookers on the street the fragments of their lives and dreams and locks of hair they are willing to share for a price in his search for these snatches of intimacy he meets the hustlers drunks and prostitutes of san francisco's tenderloin district candy who beats her customers when they ask for it but refuses to let them call her a bitch snake who pimps his wife nicole whose job it is to give men aids jack who shoots his woman's earnings into his arm but still likes chopin even though he doesn't have a record player and gloria who may or may not be a figment of jimmy's imagination vollmann writes with explosive power of the inner city unflinching in the way he confronts the solitude of the homeless and unloved the insulted and the injured of skid row america his exhilarating high voltage style and lyric language touch the heart and retrieve a jubilant integrity from the harsh

struggles of his characters here is a world of harrowing truth beautifully expressed by a writer of prodigious gifts this fascinating massive wide ranging collection that editors christopher k coffman and daniel lukes have gathered together into william t vollmann a critical companion will soon be recognized as one of those rare critical books for which that egregiously overused term groundbreaking is fully justified larry mccaffery from the preface of william t vollmann a critical companion the essays in this collection make a case for regarding william t vollmann as the most ambitious productive and important living author in the us his oeuvre includes not only outstanding work in numerous literary genres but also global reportage ethical treatises paintings photographs and many other productions his reputation as a daring traveler and his fascination with life on the margins have earned him an extra literary renown unequalled in our time perhaps most importantly his work is exceptional in relation to the literary moment vollmann is a member of a group of authors who are responding to the skeptical ironies of postmodernism with a reinvigoration of fiction's affective possibilities and moral sensibilities but he stands out even among this cohort for his prioritization of moral engagement historical awareness and geopolitical scope included in this book in addition to twelve scholarly critical essays are reflections on vollmann by many of his peers confidantes and collaborators including jonathan franzen james franco and michael glawogger with a preface by larry mccaffery and an afterword by michael hemmingson this book offers readings of most of vollmann's works includes the first critical engagements with several key titles and introduces a range of voices from international vollmann scholarship from the national book award winning author of europe central a hugely original fictional history of pocahontas john smith and the jamestown colony in virginia in argall the third novel in his seven dreams series william t vollmann alternates between extravagant elizabethan language and gritty realism in an attempt to dig beneath the legend surrounding pocahontas john smith and the founding of the jamestown colony in virginia as well as the betrayals disappointments and atrocities behind it with the same panoramic vision mythic sensibility and stylistic daring that he brought to the previous novels in the seven dreams series hailed upon its inception as the most important literary project of the 90s the washington post vollmann continues his hugely original fictional history of the clash of native americans and europeans in the new world in reconstructing america's past as tragedy nightmare and bloody spectacle vollmann does nothing less than reinvent the american novel this stunning new collection of stories confirms william t vollmann's growing reputation as the american writer whose books tower over the work of his contemporaries by virtue of their enormous range huge ambition stylistic daring wide learning audacious innovation and sardonic wit washington post book world all these qualities are in evidence in this collection in which the character of the writer and that of some of his intimates both real and imaginary surface and resurface in a series of extraordinary situations and encounters two astonishing stories frame this collection the first the ghost of magnetism tells about a young man leaving san francisco to become a sort of literary hobo living on his freeze dried memories the last the grave of lost stories describes the death of poe in a fungus encrusted tomb somewhere deep in the earth here is the colorful and disreputable group of people familiar to us from vollmann's earlier fiction pimps tramps pornographers witch doctors and massage parlor girls within these stories vollmann gives us one of the most searching bizarre and subversive views of america today the man and the idea that created modern science as seen by one of today's most celebrated writers in the atlas william t vollmann presents his vision of our planet at the cusp with old conflicts smoldering on and new miseries and estrangements multiplying bosnia phnom penh jerusalem new york mogadishu the arctic

a bazaar of fortune tellers in burma a robber infested disco in madagascar against these backdrops vollmann s tales live their own various and wildly different lives from fable to surrealistic portrait to reportage above all it is the human beings in this book who engage us the old walrus hunter the crack addicted prostitute whose children have been taken away from her the boxer brought in to lose the drunken gypsy and from time to time of course the author himself through their eyes vollmann writes of memory oppression loneliness war the thrill of the alien and the infinitely precious pain of love arranged as a huge thematic palindrome the atlas showcases vollmann s ability to build strange structures sonnets composed of stories instead of words supernaturally tinged stories from william t vollmann author of the national book award winner europe central in this magnificent new work of fiction his first in nine years celebrated author william t vollmann offers a collection of ghost stories linked by themes of love death and the erotic a bohemian farmer s dead wife returns to him and their love endures but at a gruesome price a geisha prolongs her life by turning into a cherry tree a journalist haunted by the half forgotten killing of a bosnian couple watches their story and his own wartime tragedy slip away from him a dying american romances the ghost of his high school sweetheart while a homeless salaryman in tokyo animates paper cutouts of ancient heroes are ghosts memories fantasies or monsters is there life in death vollmann has always operated in the shadowy borderland between categories and these eerie tales however far flung their settings all focus on the attempts of the living to avoid control or even seduce death vollmann s stories will transport readers to a fantastical world where love and lust make anything possible no stranger to living and writing on the edge the author shares the fruits of his productive career as the most prodigiously talented and historically important novelist under 35 including autobiographical writing interviews critical essays correspondence and poems a bold allegorical epic that hovers somewhere between the surreal and the incredible vollmann tells of the battle for power between the inventors and developers of electricity and the insect world vollmann is a relentlessly curious endlessly sensitive and unequivocally adventurous examiner of human existence he has investigated the causes and symptoms of humanity s obsession with violence rising up and rising down taken a personal look into the hearts and minds of the world s poorest inhabitants poor people and now turns his attentions to america itself to our romanticizing of freedom and the ways in which we restrict the very freedoms we profess to admire for riding toward everywhere vollmann himself takes to the rails his main accomplice is steve a captivating fellow trainhopper who expertly accompanies him through the secretive waters of this particular way of life vollmann describes the thrill and terror of lying in a trainyard in the dark avoiding the flickering flashlights of the railroad bulls the shockingly gorgeously wild scenery of the american west as seen from a grainer platform the complicated considerations involved in trying to hop on and off a moving train it s a dangerous thrilling evocative examination of this underground lifestyle and it is without a doubt one of vollmann s most hauntingly beautiful narratives questioning anything and everything subjecting both our national romance and our skepticism about hobo life to his finely tuned analytical eye and the reality of what he actually sees vollmann carries on in the tradition of huckleberry finn providing a moving portrait of this strikingly modern vision of the american dream intrepid journalist and novelist william t vollman s colossal body of work stands unsurpassed for its range moral imperative and artistry booklist william t vollmann the national book award winning author of europe central offers a charming evocative and piercing examination of the ancient japanese tradition of noh theatre and the keys it holds to our modern understanding of beauty kissing the mask is the first major book on noh by an american writer since the 1916 publication the classic study pisan

cantos and the noh by ezra pound but kissing the mask is pure vollman illustrated with photos by the author with provocative related side discussions on femininity transgender kabuki pornography geishas and more recounting his journey through war torn afghanistan the author describes the orphans refugees guerrilla leaders bureaucrats corrupt officials and has been politicians in the region a collection of thirteen short fiction stories about people around the world who live outside the law rising up and rising down is william t vollman s meditation on the age old conundrum when is violence justified butterfly stories follows a dizzying cradle to grave hunt for love that takes the narrator from the comfortable confines of suburban america to the killing fields of cambodia where he falls in love with vanna a prostitute from phnom penh here vollmann s gritty style perfectly serves his examination of sex violence and corruption across fiction journalism ethnography and history william t vollmann s oeuvre which includes a prostitution trilogy a septology seven dreams about encounters between first north americans and european colonists and a more than three thousand page philosophical treatise on violence is as ambitious as it is dazzling conversations with william t vollmann collects twenty nine interviews from early press coverage in britain where his career first took flight to in depth visits to his writing and art studio in sacramento california throughout these conversations vollmann b 1959 speaks with candor and wit on such subjects as grief and guilt in his work his love of guns and his experience of war the responsibilities of the artist as witness the benefits of looking out into the world beyond the confines of one s horizon the limitations of what literature can achieve and how we can speak to the future bringing to the fore several expanded unpublished and hard to find interviews this volume offers a valuable set of perspectives on a uniquely rewarding and sometimes overwhelming writer on the road promoting his books or in a domestic setting vollmann comes across as reflective and humane humble in his craft despite deep dedication to his uncompromising vision and ever armed with a spirit of mischief and capacity to shock and unsettle the reader vollmann miller s extraordinary images and vollmann s unflinching reportage combine in this unnervingly direct examination of the dark side of america s consciousness which reveals an america peopled by outsiders skinheads electroshock patients drug addicts and prostitutes the second volume of a saga that chronicles the relations between native americans and their colonizers begins four hundred years ago in the great lakes region where jesuit priests martyr themselves to save the disease ridden villages of the huron amazon com this critical study offers a port of entry into vollmann s fiction the rifles deconstructs the historical novel and the venture of the 19th century english explorer john franklin revisiting the gothic genre this analysis uses close reading ecocriticism and comparative literature to examine a major novel of the post postmodern canon the national book award winning author returns to his original fictional territory the lives of the dispossessed in san francisco with a parable about the limitations of desire and life at the margins of society in such earlier works of fiction as the rainbow stories and the royal family william t vollmann wrote of pimps prostitutes addicts and homeless dreamers in san francisco s tenderloin district in this new novel vollmann returns there with a story that centers around a woman with magical powers whom everyone loves and who has to love them all back after being initiated into a coven of island witches neva begins to fulfill her fate in a tenderloin dive bar her worshippers include richard the introverted alcoholic occasionally omniscient narrator a profane aggressive transgender sex worker named shantelle the brisk but motherly barmaid francine and the former frank who has renamed herself after her idol judy garland when judy starts to love neva too much judy s retired policeman boyfriend embarks on a mission of exposure and destruction crafted out of language by turns spiritual and sexually graphic the lucky star aches with compassion as it

explores celebrity culture gender identity incest christian sacrifice and most of all the quotidian and sometimes faltering heroism of marginalized people who in the face of humiliation and outright violence seek to love in their own way and stand up for who they are

that was the simple yet groundbreaking question william t vollmann asked in cities and villages around the globe the result of vollmann s fearless inquiry is a view of poverty unlike any previously offered poor people struggles to confront poverty in all its hopelessness and brutality its pride and abject fear its fierce misery and quiet resignation allowing the poor to explain the causes and consequences of their impoverishment in their own cultural social and religious terms with intense compassion and a scrupulously unpatronizing eye vollmann invites his readers to recognize in our fellow human beings their full dignity fallibility pride and pain and the power of their hard fought resilience

erotic experimental fearless writing from some of the best known names in modern literature contributors include william t vollman leading sf writer don webb porno novelist robert coover anthologist larry mccaffrey of the avant pop anthology from viking underground sensation thom metzger and l a ruocco these writers demonstrate the exciting and vast range of human desire in stories that unflinchingly explore and exploit the nature of postmodern sexuality in the 21st century

the reading experience of a lifetime the washington post the national book award winner takes readers inside the epic fighting retreat of the nez perce indians in this new installment in his acclaimed series of novels examining the collisions between native americans and european colonizers william t vollmann tells the story of the nez perce war with flashbacks to the civil war defrauded and intimidated at every turn the nez perces finally went on the warpath in 1877 subjecting the u s army to its greatest defeat since little big horn as they fled from northeast oregon across montana to the canadian border vollmann s main character is not the legendary chief joseph but his pursuer general oliver otis howard the brave shy tormented devoutly christian civil war veteran in this novel we see him as commander father son husband friend and killer teeming with many vivid characters on both sides of the conflict and written in an original style in which the printed page works as a stage with multiple layers of foreground and background the dying grass is another mesmerizing achievement from one of the most ambitious writers of our time

William T. Vollmann: Selected Interviews 2015-08-18

this first ever collection of selected interviews with one of america s most prolific and eclectic authors william t vollmann editor scott rhodes collects eighteen interviews that covers the span of this important writer s expansive career

Conversations with William T. Vollmann 2020-01-27

across fiction journalism ethnography and history william t vollmann s oeuvre which includes a prostitution trilogy a septology seven dreams about encounters between first north americans and european colonists and a more than three thousand page philosophical treatise on violence is as ambitious as it is dazzling conversations with william t vollmann collects twenty nine interviews from early press coverage in britain where his career first took flight to in depth visits to his writing and art studio in sacramento california throughout these conversations vollmann b 1959 speaks with candor and wit on such subjects as grief and guilt in his work his love of guns and his experience of war the responsibilities of the artist as witness the benefits of looking out into the world beyond the confines of one s horizon the limitations of what literature can achieve and how we can speak to the future bringing to the fore several expanded unpublished and hard to find interviews this volume offers a valuable set of perspectives on a uniquely rewarding and sometimes overwhelming writer on the road promoting his books or in a domestic setting vollmann comes across as reflective and humane humble in his craft despite deep dedication to his uncompromising vision and ever armed with a spirit of mischief and capacity to shock and unsettle the reader

William T. Vollmann 2011-12-30

a prolific writer of fiction and nonfiction and winner of the national book award for europe central william t vollmann is considered by many to be one of america s most important living writers vollmann has written short stories novels and essays and he has contributed to such publications as esquire granta harper s the new yorker playboy and spin magazine as the author of several works of fiction including butterfly stories the royal family and you bright and risen angels as well as such nonfiction as the seven volume rising up and rising down some thoughts on violence freedom and urgent means vollmann continues to produce significant material at an astounding rate in this annotated bibliography michael hemmingson has assembled a comprehensive list of all editions of vollmann s books in every language as well as every short story every essay his investigative journalism and book reviews this book also includes an extensive listing of vollmann s limited edition book object artist editions william t vollmann an annotated bibliography is a much needed volume for libraries and fans

William T. Vollmann 1993

in understanding william t vollmann isil zcan studies the maturing career of one of the most important voices in contemporary letters vollmann s major works of fiction and nonfiction include his national book award winner europe central his highly acclaimed seven dreams novels and his magnum opus rising up and rising down some thoughts on violence urgent means and justifications zcan examines the common threads that interlace vollmann s corpus and grapples with the depth and complexity of his massive output in her readings of vollmann s works she identifies a rich but accessible set of themes that he explores afresh in each text including death war violence suffering and love vollmann has written in many genres and his writing is informed by his extensive research and travels around the world his familiarity with red light zones and his war correspondence the highly subjective and participative nature of much his writing has foregrounded his personality to such an extent that he became simultaneously a cult figure and a notorious adventurer in her readings zcan contends that vollmann compels our attention because he registers a diversity of voices and discourses that makes us hear what the subjugated the unrecognized the weak and the marginalized have to say the scope and the force of vollmann s openness to the other is inseparable from his method and conduct in addition to close readings of vollmann s texts zcan also examines his influences and literary connections tracing his ties to john steinbeck ernest hemingway james agee and danilo ki and situating him not only in the american canon but also in the longer duration of world literature

Understanding William T. Vollmann 2019

a daring literary masterpiece and winner of the national book award in this magnificent work of fiction acclaimed author william t vollmann turns his trenchant eye on the authoritarian cultures of germany and the ussr in the twentieth century to render a mesmerizing perspective on human experience during wartime through interwoven narratives that paint a composite portrait of these two battling leviathans and the monstrous age they defined europe central captures a chorus of voices both real and fictional a young german who joins the ss to fight its crimes two generals who collaborate with the enemy for different reasons the soviet composer dmitri shostakovich and the stalinist assaults upon his work and life

Europe Central 2005-11-14

failing san francisco private detective henry tyler journeys through the dark underbelly of the city as he searches for the legendary queen of the prostitutes all the while grieving over the suicide of the women he loves

The Royal Family 2000

talking bugs electricity the founding of empires hobos nazis whores violence drugs murder secret cabals heaven hell william t

vollmann is a writer of enormous novels that are stuffed with entire worlds of creation and destruction this first ever book length critical study traces his career to date with chapters devoted to each of his novels as well as his short stories and major nonfiction vollmann is a writer of obsessions and this study concentrates on three of them freedom redemption and prostitution while arguing that the author that dwells on them is worthy of being called one of our greatest living american writers also included are seven interviews spanning the years 1991 2007 that reinforce the persistence of vollmann s attraction to these themes

William T. Vollmann 2014-01-10

from the author of europe central winner of the national book award a journalistic tour de force along the mexican american border a finalist for the national book critics circle award for generations of migrant workers imperial country has held the promise of paradise and the reality of hell it sprawls across a stirring accidental sea across the deserts date groves and labor camps of southeastern california right across the border into mexico in this eye opening book william t vollmann takes us deep into the heart of this haunted region exploring polluted rivers and guarded factories and talking with everyone from mexican migrant workers to border patrolmen teeming with patterns facts stories people and hope this is an epic study of an emblematic region

Imperial 2009-07-30

with his first three works of fiction the novels you bright and risen angels and the ice shirt and the collection the rainbow stories william t vollmann announced himself as a writer of rare and ferocious talent with critics comparing him to william burroughs thomas pynchon and t c boyle his new novel is the story of jimmy who has been deserted by his lover a prostitute by the name of gloria in the despair of his loneliness and his drunken grief he reassembles gloria s presence out of whatever he can buy from the hookers on the street the fragments of their lives and dreams and locks of hair they are willing to share for a price in his search for these snatches of intimacy he meets the hustlers drunks and prostitutes of san francisco s tenderloin district candy who beats her customers when they ask for it but refuses to let them call her a bitch snake who pimps his wife nicole whose job it is to give men aids jack who shoots his woman s earnings into his arm but still likes chopin even though he doesn t have a record player and gloria who may or may not be a figment of jimmy s imagination vollmann writes with explosive power of the inner city unflinching in the way he confronts the solitude of the homeless and unloved the insulted and the injured of skid row america his exhilarating high voltage style and lyric language touch the heart and retrieve a jubilant integrity from the harsh struggles of his characters here is a world of harrowing truth beautifully expressed by a writer of prodigious gifts

WHORES FOR GLORIA 2013-01-02

this fascinating massive wide ranging collection that editors christopher k coffman and daniel lukes have gathered together into william t vollmann a critical companion will soon be recognized as one of those rare critical books for which that egregiously overused term groundbreaking is fully justified larry mcaffery from the preface of william t vollmann a critical companion the essays in this collection make a case for regarding william t vollmann as the most ambitious productive and important living author in the us his oeuvre includes not only outstanding work in numerous literary genres but also global reportage ethical treatises paintings photographs and many other productions his reputation as a daring traveler and his fascination with life on the margins have earned him an extra literary renown unequalled in our time perhaps most importantly his work is exceptional in relation to the literary moment vollmann is a member of a group of authors who are responding to the skeptical ironies of postmodernism with a reinvigoration of fiction's affective possibilities and moral sensibilities but he stands out even among this cohort for his prioritization of moral engagement historical awareness and geopolitical scope included in this book in addition to twelve scholarly critical essays are reflections on vollmann by many of his peers confidantes and collaborators including jonathan franzen james franco and michael glawogger with a preface by larry mcaffery and an afterword by michael hemmingson this book offers readings of most of vollmann's works includes the first critical engagements with several key titles and introduces a range of voices from international vollmann scholarship

William T. Vollmann 2014-12-18

from the national book award winning author of europe central a hugely original fictional history of pocahontas john smith and the jamestown colony in virginia in argall the third novel in his seven dreams series william t vollmann alternates between extravagant elizabethan language and gritty realism in an attempt to dig beneath the legend surrounding pocahontas john smith and the founding of the jamestown colony in virginia as well as the betrayals disappointments and atrocities behind it with the same panoramic vision mythic sensibility and stylistic daring that he brought to the previous novels in the seven dreams series hailed upon its inception as the most important literary project of the 90s the washington post vollmann continues his hugely original fictional history of the clash of native americans and europeans in the new world in reconstructing america's past as tragedy nightmare and bloody spectacle vollmann does nothing less than reinvent the american novel

Argall 2002-11-26

this stunning new collection of stories confirms william t vollmann's growing reputation as the american writer whose books tower over the work of his contemporaries by virtue of their enormous range huge ambition stylistic daring wide learning audacious innovation and sardonic wit washington post book world all these qualities are in evidence in this collection in

which the character of the writer and that of some of his intimates both real and imaginary surface and resurface in a series of extraordinary situations and encounters two astonishing stories frame this collection the first the ghost of magnetism tells about a young man leaving san francisco to become a sort of literary hobo living on his freeze dried memories the last the grave of lost stories describes the death of poe in a fungus encrusted tomb somewhere deep in the earth here is the colorful and disreputable group of people familiar to us from vollmann s earlier fiction pimps tramps pornographers witch doctors and massage parlor girls within these stories vollmann gives us one of the most searching bizarre and subversive views of america today

Thirteen Stories and Thirteen Epitaphs 1994

the man and the idea that created modern science as seen by one of today s most celebrated writers

Uncentering the Earth 2006

in the atlas william t vollmann presents his vision of our planet at the cusp with old conflicts smoldering on and new miseries and estrangements multiplying bosnia phnom penh jerusalem new york mogadishu the arctic a bazaar of fortune tellers in burma a robber infested disco in madagascar against these backdrops vollmann s tales live their own various and wildly different lives from fable to surrealistic portrait to reportage above all it is the human beings in this book who engage us the old walrus hunter the crack addicted prostitute whose children have been taken away from her the boxer brought in to lose the drunken gypsy and from time to time of course the author himself through their eyes vollmann writes of memory oppression loneliness war the thrill of the alien and the infinitely precious pain of love arranged as a huge thematic palindrome the atlas showcases vollmann s ability to build strange structures sonnets composed of stories instead of words

The Atlas 1996

supernaturally tinged stories from william t vollmann author of the national book award winner europe central in this magnificent new work of fiction his first in nine years celebrated author william t vollmann offers a collection of ghost stories linked by themes of love death and the erotic a bohemian farmer s dead wife returns to him and their love endures but at a gruesome price a geisha prolongs her life by turning into a cherry tree a journalist haunted by the half forgotten killing of a bosnian couple watches their story and his own wartime tragedy slip away from him a dying american romances the ghost of his high school sweetheart while a homeless salaryman in tokyo animates paper cutouts of ancient heroes are ghosts memories fantasies or monsters is there life in death vollmann has always operated in the shadowy borderland between categories and these eerie tales however far flung their settings all focus on the attempts of the living to avoid control or even seduce death vollmann s stories will transport readers to a fantastical world where love and lust make anything possible

Last Stories and Other Stories 2014-07-10

no stranger to living and writing on the edge the author shares the fruits of his productive career as the most prodigiously talented and historically important novelist under 35 including autobiographical writing interviews critical essays correspondence and poems

Expelled from Eden 2004-12-21

a bold allegorical epic that hovers somewhere between the surreal and the incredible vollmann tells of the battle for power between the inventors and developers of electricity and the insect world

You Bright and Risen Angels 1988-12

vollmann is a relentlessly curious endlessly sensitive and unequivocally adventurous examiner of human existence he has investigated the causes and symptoms of humanity s obsession with violence rising up and rising down taken a personal look into the hearts and minds of the world s poorest inhabitants poor people and now turns his attentions to america itself to our romanticizing of freedom and the ways in which we restrict the very freedoms we profess to admire for riding toward everywhere vollmann himself takes to the rails his main accomplice is steve a captivating fellow trainhopper who expertly accompanies him through the secretive waters of this particular way of life vollmann describes the thrill and terror of lying in a trainyard in the dark avoiding the flickering flashlights of the railroad bulls the shockingly gorgeously wild scenery of the american west as seen from a grainer platform the complicated considerations involved in trying to hop on and off a moving train it s a dangerous thrilling evocative examination of this underground lifestyle and it is without a doubt one of vollmann s most hauntingly beautiful narratives questioning anything and everything subjecting both our national romance and our skepticism about hobo life to his finely tuned analytical eye and the reality of what he actually sees vollmann carries on in the tradition of huckleberry finn providing a moving portrait of this strikingly modern vision of the american dream

Riding Toward Everywhere 2009-10-13

intrepid journalist and novelist william t vollman s colossal body of work stands unsurpassed for its range moral imperative and artistry booklist william t vollmann the national book award winning author of europe central offers a charming evocative and piercing examination of the ancient japanese tradition of noh theatre and the keys it holds to our modern understanding of beauty kissing the mask is the first major book on noh by an american writer since the 1916 publication the classic study pisan cantos and the noh by ezra pound but kissing the mask is pure vollman illustrated with photos by the author with provocative related side discussions on femininity transgender kabuki pornography geishas and more

Kissing the Mask 2010-05-04

recounting his journey through war torn afghanistan the author describes the orphans refugees guerrilla leaders bureaucrats corrupt officials and has been politicians in the region

An Afghanistan Picture Show 1992

a collection of thirteen short fiction stories about people around the world who live outside the law

The Rainbow Stories 1992-07

rising up and rising down is william t vollman s meditation on the age old conundrum when is violence justified

Rising Up and Rising Down 2006-04-24

butterfly stories follows a dizzying cradle to grave hunt for love that takes the narrator from the comfortable confines of suburban america to the killing fields of cambodia where he falls in love with vanna a prostitute from phnom penh here vollmann s gritty style perfectly serves his examination of sex violence and corruption

The Ice-Shirt 1993

across fiction journalism ethnography and history william t vollmann s oeuvre which includes a prostitution trilogy a septology seven dreams about encounters between first north americans and european colonists and a more than three thousand page philosophical treatise on violence is as ambitious as it is dazzling conversations with william t vollmann collects twenty nine interviews from early press coverage in britain where his career first took flight to in depth visits to his writing and art studio in sacramento california throughout these conversations vollmann b 1959 speaks with candor and wit on such subjects as grief and guilt in his work his love of guns and his experience of war the responsibilities of the artist as witness the benefits of looking out into the world beyond the confines of one s horizon the limitations of what literature can achieve and how we can speak to the future bringing to the fore several expanded unpublished and hard to find interviews this volume offers a valuable set of perspectives on a uniquely rewarding and sometimes overwhelming writer on the road promoting his books or in a domestic setting vollmann comes across as reflective and humane humble in his craft despite deep dedication to his uncompromising vision and ever armed with a spirit of mischief and capacity to shock and unsettle the reader

Butterfly Stories 1993

vollmann miller s extraordinary images and vollmann s unflinching reportage combine in this unnervingly direct examination of the dark side of america s consciousness which reveals an america peopled by outsiders skinheads electroshock patients drug addicts and prostitutes

Fathers and Crows 1992

the second volume of a saga that chronicles the relations between native americans and their colonizers begins four hundred years ago in the great lakes region where jesuit priests martyr themselves to save the disease ridden villages of the huron amazon com

Conversations with William T. Vollmann 2020-01-27

this critical study offers a port of entry into vollmann s fiction the rifles deconstructs the historical novel and the venture of the 19th century english explorer john franklin revisiting the gothic genre this analysis uses close reading ecocriticism and comparative literature to examine a major novel of the post postmodern canon

Open All Night 1995-10

the national book award winning author returns to his original fictional territory the lives of the dispossessed in san francisco with a parable about the limitations of desire and life at the margins of society in such earlier works of fiction as the rainbow stories and the royal family william t vollmann wrote of pimps prostitutes addicts and homeless dreamers in san francisco s tenderloin district in this new novel vollmann returns there with a story that centers around a woman with magical powers whom everyone loves and who has to love them all back after being initiated into a coven of island witches neva begins to fulfill her fate in a tenderloin dive bar her worshippers include richard the introverted alcoholic occasionally omniscient narrator a profane aggressive transgender sex worker named shantelle the brisk but motherly barmaid francine and the former frank who has renamed herself after her idol judy garland when judy starts to love neva too much judy s retired policeman boyfriend embarks on a mission of exposure and destruction crafted out of language by turns spiritual and sexually graphic the lucky star aches with compassion as it explores celebrity culture gender identity incest christian sacrifice and most of all the quotidian and sometimes faltering heroism of marginalized people who in the face of humiliation and outright violence seek to love in their own way and stand up for who they are

Fathers and Crows 1993-08

William T. Vollmann's *Fathers and Crows* is a collection of essays and stories that explore the lives of the poor and the marginalized in America. The book is a powerful and often disturbing look at the human condition.

Rising Up and Rising Down 2003

that was the simple yet groundbreaking question william t vollmann asked in cities and villages around the globe the result of vollmann s fearless inquiry is a view of poverty unlike any previously offered poor people struggles to confront poverty in all its hopelessness and brutality its pride and abject fear its fierce misery and quiet resignation allowing the poor to explain the causes and consequences of their impoverishment in their own cultural social and religious terms with intense compassion and a scrupulously unpatronizing eye vollmann invites his readers to recognize in our fellow human beings their full dignity fallibility pride and pain and the power of their hard fought resilience

Under Fire 2016

erotic experimental fearless writing from some of the best known names in modern literature contributors include william t vollman leading sf writer don webb porno novelist robert coover anthologist larry mccaffrey of the avant pop anthology from viking underground sensation thom metzger and l a ruocco these writers demonstrate the exciting and vast range of human desire in stories that unflinchingly explore and exploit the nature of postmodern sexuality in the 21st century

Whores for Gloria, Or, Everything was Beautiful Until the Girls Got Anxious 1991

William T. Vollmann's *Whores for Gloria* is a collection of stories and essays that explore the lives of the poor and the marginalized in America. The book is a powerful and often disturbing look at the human condition.

The Rifles 1994

the reading experience of a lifetime the washington post the national book award winner takes readers inside the epic fighting retreat of the nez perce indians in this new installment in his acclaimed series of novels examining the collisions between native americans and european colonizers william t vollmann tells the story of the nez perce war with flashbacks to

the civil war defrauded and intimidated at every turn the nez perces finally went on the warpath in 1877 subjecting the u s army to its greatest defeat since little big horn as they fled from northeast oregon across montana to the canadian border vollmann s main character is not the legendary chief joseph but his pursuer general oliver otis howard the brave shy tormented devoutly christian civil war veteran in this novel we see him as commander father son husband friend and killer teeming with many vivid characters on both sides of the conflict and written in an original style in which the printed page works as a stage with multiple layers of foreground and background the dying grass is another mesmerizing achievement from one of the most ambitious writers of our time

The Lucky Star 2020-02-18

You Bright and Risen Angels 1988

□□□□□□□□ **2016-05-30**

Poor People 2008-01-22

What the Fuck 2001-01-31

□□□□□□□□ **2012-09**

The Dying Grass 2015-07-28

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