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# Stoner John Williams

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A Novel

A Novel

Nothing but the Night

The Power of the Dog

The Equivalent

Swing Time

Stoner

A Novel

The Wife of Martin Guerre

John Williams, Stoner, and the Writing Life

Stoner

Foreverland

50th Anniversary Edition

Fiction

Amongst Women

Stoner

Detailed Summary, Analysis and Reading Guide

The Memory of Old Jack

John Williams: Collected Novels (LOA #349)

A novel

Stoner : Roman

Augustus

We Learn Nothing

Berryman's Shakespeare

Augustus

Butcher's Crossing / Stoner / Augustus

Last Stop on the 6

Stoner

A Story of Art, Female Friendship, and Liberation in the 1960s

The Learned Disguise

Cassandra at the Wedding

Dear Committee Members

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A Novel

The Man Who Wrote the Perfect Novel

The Last Neanderthal

The Family Markowitz

William Stoner and the Battle for the Inner Life: Bookmarked

## The Man Who Wrote the Perfect Novel

*Stoner* John Williams

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### SELAH HERNANDEZ

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A Novel Virago Press

Now an award-winning Netflix film by Jane Campion, starring Benedict Cumberbatch and Kirsten Dunst: Thomas Savage's acclaimed Western is "a pitch-perfect evocation of time and place" (Boston Globe) for fans of *East of Eden* and *Brokeback Mountain*. Set in the wide-open spaces of the American West, *The Power of the Dog* is a stunning story of domestic tyranny, brutal masculinity, and thrilling defiance from one of the most powerful and distinctive voices in American literature. The novel tells the story of two brothers — one magnetic but cruel, the other gentle and quiet — and of the mother and son whose arrival on the brothers' ranch shatters an already tenuous peace. From the novel's startling first paragraph to its very last word, Thomas Savage's voice — and the intense passion of his characters — holds readers in thrall. "Gripping and powerful...A work of literary art." —Annie Proulx, from her afterword

A Novel Stoner

International Bestseller One of the most anticipated books of 2017: *The Millions*, CBC, *Chatelaine*, *Globe and Mail*, *Maclean's* From the author of *The Bear*, the enthralling story of two women separated by millennia, but linked by an epic journey that will transform them both Forty thousand years in the past, the last family of Neanderthals roams the earth. After a crushingly hard winter, their numbers are low, but Girl, the oldest daughter, is just coming of age and her family is determined to travel to the annual meeting place and find her a mate. But the unforgiving landscape takes its toll, and Girl is left alone to care for Runt, a foundling of unknown origin. As Girl and Runt face the coming winter storms, Girl realizes she has one final chance to save her people, even if it means sacrificing part of herself. In the modern day, archaeologist Rosamund Gale works well into her pregnancy, racing to excavate newly found Neanderthal artifacts before her baby comes. Linked across the ages by the shared experience of early motherhood, both stories examine the often taboo corners of women's lives. Haunting, suspenseful, and profoundly moving, *THE LAST NEANDERTHAL* asks us to reconsider all we think we know about what it means to be human.

*Nothing but the Night* Library of America

Discover an American masterpiece. This unassuming story about the life of a quiet English professor has earned the admiration of readers all over the globe. The critic Morris Dickstein has said that John Williams's *Stoner* "is something much rarer than a great novel - it is a perfect novel," and in the last decade this austere and deeply moving tale of a Midwestern college professor has been embraced by readers all over the world. To commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of *Stoner*, NYRB Classics offers a special hardback edition of the book that also includes a previously unpublished correspondence between John Williams and his agent about its writing and publication.

The Power of the Dog New York Review of Books

WINNER OF THE 1973 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD By the Author of *Stoner* In Augustus, his third great novel, John Williams took on an entirely new challenge, a historical narrative set in classical Rome,

exploring the life of the founder of the Roman Empire. To tell the story, Williams turned to the epistolary novel, a genre that was new to him, transforming and transcending it just as he did the western in *Butcher's Crossing* and the campus novel in *Stoner*. Augustus is the final triumph of a writer who has come to be recognized around the world as an American master.

**The Equivalents** New York Review of Books

The son of a Midwestern farmer, William Stoner, arrives at the University of Missouri in 1910 to study agriculture. He had intended to return home to take over his father's farm - but instead, inspired by the professor of English literature, he remains at the university to teach.

*Swing Time* New York Review of Books

'As wise and compelling a book as any of his elegiac and graceful novels.' David Mitchell This is the story of John McGahern's childhood; of his mother's death, his father's anger and bafflement, and his own discovery of literature. 'Long before Frank McCourt made an entire industry out of twinkly eyed accounts of the poverty and institutionalised brutality of mid-twentieth-century rural Ireland, John McGahern, Ireland's greatest living novelist, had already shone wise and unsparing light on this same world ... Memoir is the full, unadorned story of his childhood and adolescence in Leitrim ... His finest book yet.' Stephanie Merritt, *Observer* 'In a tremendously distinguished career, he has never written more movingly, or with a sharper eye.' Andrew Motion, *Guardian* 'I have admired, even loved, John McGahern's work since his first novel ... Memoir strips the skin off his fiction as he faces a desperate early life with great force and tenderness.' Melvyn Bragg

Stoner University of Texas Press

"Full of razor-sharp, big-hearted wisdom.... Couples should read this book aloud to each other instead of writing vows. People who never want to get married should read this book anyway."

—Leslie Jamison An illuminating, poignant, and savagely funny examination of modern marriage from Ask Polly advice columnist Heather Havrilesky If falling in love is the peak of human experience, then marriage is the slow descent down that mountain, on a trail built from conflict, compromise, and nagging doubts. Considering the limited economic advantages to marriage, the deluge of other mate options a swipe away, and the fact that almost half of all marriages in the United States end in divorce anyway, why do so many of us still chain ourselves to one human being for life? In *Foreverland*, Heather Havrilesky illustrates the delights, aggravations, and sublime calamities of her marriage over the span of fifteen years, charting an unpredictable course from meeting her one true love to slowly learning just how much energy is required to keep that love aflame. This refreshingly honest portrait of a marriage reveals that our relationships are not simply "happy" or "unhappy," but something much murkier—at once unsavory, taxing, and deeply satisfying. With tales of fumbled proposals, harrowing suburban migrations, external temptations, and the bewildering insults of growing older, *Foreverland* is a work of rare candor and insight. Havrilesky traces a path from daydreaming about forever for the first time to understanding what a tedious, glorious drag forever can be.

A Novel Dial Press Trade Paperback

I'm not, at heart, a jumper; it's not my sort of thing . . . I think I knew all the time I was sizing up the

bridge that the strong possibility was I'd go home, attend my sister's wedding as invited, help hook-and-zip her into whatever she wore, take the bouquet while she received the ring, through the nose or on the finger, wherever she chose to receive it, and hold my peace when it became a question of speaking now of forever holding it.' It is the hottest June on record and the longest day of the year. Cassandra Edwards -tormented, intelligent, mordantly witty - leaves her graduate studies and her Berkeley flat to drive through the scorching heat to her family's ranch. There they are all assembled: her philosopher father, smelling sweetly of five-star Hennessy; her kind, fussy grandmother; her beloved, identical twin sister Judith, who is about to be married - unless Cassandra can help it.

### **The Wife of Martin Guerre** Vintage

StonerNew York Review of Books

John Williams, Stoner, and the Writing Life University of Texas Press

"Bennett writes like no one else. She is a rare talent, and Checkout 19 is a masterful novel." -Karl Ove Knausgaard Named a most anticipated book of 2022 by Vulture, Glamour, Bustle, and Lit Hub From the author of the "dazzling. . . and daring" Pond (O magazine), the adventures of a young woman discovering her own genius, through the people she meets—and dreams up—along the way. In a working-class town in a county west of London, a schoolgirl scribbles stories in the back pages of her exercise book, intoxicated by the first sparks of her imagination. As she grows, everything and everyone she encounters become fuel for a burning talent. The large Russian man in the ancient maroon car who careens around the grocery store where she works as a checkout clerk, and slips her a copy of *Beyond Good and Evil*. The growing heaps of other books in which she loses—and finds—herself. Even the derailing of a friendship, in a devastating violation. The thrill of learning to conjure characters and scenarios in her head is matched by the exhilaration of forging her own way in the world, the two kinds of ingenuity kindling to a brilliant conflagration. Exceeding the extraordinary promise of Bennett's mold-shattering debut, *Checkout 19* is a radical affirmation of the power of the imagination and the magic escape those who master it open to us all.

Stoner Brio Books Pty Ltd

AS HEARD ON BBC RADIO 4 BOOK AT BEDTIME 'A book that can be read in two hours, but will linger in the mind for decades.' Sunday Telegraph Once an officer in the Irish War for Independence, Moran is now a widower, eking out a living on a small farm where he raises his two sons and three daughters. Adrift from the structure and security of the military, he keeps control by binding his family close to him. But as his children grow older and seek independence, and as the passing years bring with them bewildering change, Moran struggles to find a balance between love and tyranny. 'One of the greatest writers of our era.' Hilary Mantel 'John McGahern is the Irish novelist everyone should read.' Colm Tóibín 'A masterpiece.' John Banville 'McGahern brings us that tonic gift of the best fiction, the sense of truth - the sense of transparency that permits us to see imaginary lives more clearly than we see our own.' John Updike

*Foreverland* ReadHowYouWant.com

Stoner< ist einer der großen vergessenen Romane der amerikanischen Literatur. John Williams erzählt das Leben eines Mannes, der, als Sohn armer Farmer geboren, schließlich seine Leidenschaft für Literatur entdeckt und Professor wird - es ist die Geschichte eines genügsamen Lebens, das wenig Spuren hinterließ. Ein Roman über die Freundschaft, die Ehe, ein Campus-Roman, ein

Gesellschaftsroman, schließlich ein Roman über die Arbeit. Über die harte, erbarmungslose Arbeit auf den Farmen; über die Arbeit, die einem eine zerstörerische Ehe aufbürdet, über die Mühe, in einem vergifteten Haushalt mit geduldiger Einfühlung eine Tochter großzuziehen und an der Universität oft teilnahmslosen Studenten die Literatur nahebringen zu wollen. >Stoner< ist kein Liebesroman, aber doch und vor allem ein Roman über die Liebe: über die Liebe zur Poesie, zur Literatur, und auch über die romantische Liebe. Es ist ein Roman darüber, was es heißt, ein Mensch zu sein.

### **50th Anniversary Edition** Faber & Faber

"Every story has a narrator. Someone who writes it down after it's all over. Why am I the narrator of this story? I am because it is the story of my life—and of the people I love most. . . ." Harry and Madeleine Winslow have been blessed with talent, money, and charm. Harry is a National Book Award-winning author on the cusp of greatness. Madeleine is a woman of sublime beauty and grace whose elemental goodness and serenity belie a privileged upbringing. Bonded by deep devotion, they share a love that is both envied and admired. The Winslows play host to a coterie of close friends and acolytes eager to bask in their golden radiance, whether they are in their bucolic East Hampton cottage, abroad in Rome thanks to Harry's writing grant, or in their comfortable Manhattan brownstone. One weekend at the start of the summer season, Harry and Maddy, who are in their early forties, meet Claire and cannot help but be enchanted by her winsome youth, quiet intelligence, and disarming naivete. Drawn by the Winslows' inscrutable magnetism, Claire eagerly falls into their welcoming orbit. But over the course of the summer, her reverence transforms into a dangerous desire. By Labor Day, it is no longer enough to remain one of their hangers-on. A story of love, lust, deception, and betrayal as seen through the omniscient eyes of Maddy's childhood friend Walter, a narrator akin to Nick Carraway in *The Great Gatsby*, *Indiscretion* is a juicy, richly textured novel filled with fascinating, true-to-life characters—an irresistibly sensual page-turner that explores having it all and the consequences of wanting more. *Indiscretion* also marks the debut of a remarkably gifted writer and storyteller whose unique voice bears all the hallmarks of an exciting new literary talent.

Fiction Simon and Schuster

In a rural Kentucky river town, "Old Jack" Beechum, a retired farmer, sees his life again through the shades of one burnished day in September 1952. Bringing the earthiness of America's past to mind, *The Memory of Old Jack* conveys the truth and integrity of the land and the people who live from it. Through the eyes of one man can be seen the values Americans strive to recapture as we arrive at the next century.

### **Amongst Women** Allen Lane

The late poet and memoirist Czeslaw Milosz wrote, "I am enchanted. This book is graceful and profound." Since its publication in 1989, many other readers across the world have been enchanted by *Lost in Translation: A Life in a New Language*, a classic of exile and immigrant literature, as well as a girl's coming-of-age memoir. *Lost in Translation* moves from Hoffman's childhood in Cracow, Poland to her adolescence in Vancouver, British Columbia to her university years in Texas and Massachusetts to New York City, where she becomes a writer and an editor at the *New York Times* Book Review. Its multi-layered narrative encompasses many themes: the defining power of

language; the costs and benefits of changing cultures, the construction of personal identity, and the profound consequences, for a generation of post-war Jews like Hoffman, of Nazism and Communism. *Lost in Translation* is, as *Publisher's Weekly* wrote, "a penetrating, lyrical memoir that casts a wide net," challenges its reader to reconsider their own language, autobiography, cultures, and childhoods. *Lost in Translation* was first published in the United States in 1989. Hoffman's subsequent books of literary non-fiction include *Exit into History*, *Shtetl*, *After Such Knowledge*, *Time* and two novels, *The Secret* and *Appassionata*. "Nothing, after all, has been lost; poetry this time has been made in and by translation." — Peter Conrad, *The New York Times* "Handsomely written and judiciously reflective, it is testimony to the human capacity not merely to adapt but to reinvent: to find new lives for ourselves without forfeiting the dignity and meaning of our old ones." — Jonathan Yardley, *Washington Post* "As a childhood memoir, *Lost in Translation* has the colors and nuance of Nabokov's *Invitation of a Memory*. As an account of a young mind wandering into great books, it recalls Sartre's *Words*. ... As an anthropology of Eastern European émigré life, American academe and the Upper West Side of Manhattan, it's every bit as deep and wicked as anything by Cynthia Ozick. ... A brilliant, polyphonic book that is itself an act of faith, a Bach Fugue." — John Leonard, *Harper's Magazine*

*Stoner* Macmillan

"'Last Stop on the 6' is the return of the prodigal daughter to a world of long-buried hurts, political complexities, and female resilience. Dunn introduces characters of all possessing questions for which there are no easy answers - only the slow and steady re-awakenings of familial bonds and moral responsibility"--

*Detailed Summary, Analysis and Reading Guide* Watchmaker Publishing

Essays, lectures, and letters discuss Shakespeare's background, the early dramas, as well as the more mature plays, their texts, and the sonnets

[The Memory of Old Jack](#) Ohio University Press

In his National Book Award-winning novel *Augustus*, John Williams uncovered the secrets of ancient Rome. With *Butcher's Crossing*, his fiercely intelligent, beautifully written western, Williams

dismantles the myths of modern America. It is the 1870s, and Will Andrews, fired up by Emerson to seek "an original relation to nature," drops out of Harvard and heads west. He washes up in *Butcher's Crossing*, a small Kansas town on the outskirts of nowhere. *Butcher's Crossing* is full of restless men looking for ways to make money and ways to waste it. Before long Andrews strikes up a friendship with one of them, a man who regales Andrews with tales of immense herds of buffalo, ready for the taking, hidden away in a beautiful valley deep in the Colorado Rockies. He convinces Andrews to join in an expedition to track the animals down. The journey out is grueling, but at the end is a place of paradisaic richness. Once there, however, the three men abandon themselves to an orgy of slaughter, so caught up in killing buffalo that they lose all sense of time. Winter soon overtakes them: they are snowed in. Next spring, half-insane with cabin fever, cold, and hunger, they stagger back to *Butcher's Crossing* to find a world as irremediably changed as they have been. [John Williams: Collected Novels \(LOA #349\)](#) *New York Review of Books*

"Daniel Randolph Deal is a Southern aristocrat, having the required bloodline, but little of the nobility. A man resistant to the folly of ethics, he prefers a selective, self-indulgent morality. He is a confessed hedonist, albeit responsibly so."--Back cover.

*A novel* Little, Brown

*Stoner* author John Williams's first novel is a searing look at a man's relationship with his absent father, and how early trauma manifests throughout one's life John Williams's first novel is a brooding psychological noir. Arthur Maxley is a young man at the end of his emotional rope. Having dropped out of college, he's holed up in a big-city hotel, living off an allowance from his family, feeling nothing but alone and doing nothing but drinking to forget it. What's brought him to this point? Something is troubling him, something is haunting him, something he cannot bring himself either to face or to turn away from. And now his father has come to town, a hail-fellow-well-met kind of guy. They've been estranged for years, and yet Arthur wants to meet—and so he does, reeling away from the encounter for a night of drinking and dancing and a final reckoning with the traumatizing past that readers will not soon forget. This edition of *Nothing but the Night* includes an interview with Nancy Gardner Williams, the author's widow.

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