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Sunday An Autobiographical
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Palm Sunday An
Autobiographical Collage
Kurt Vonnegut

***Kurt Vonnegut's death in
2007 marked the passing of***

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*a major force in American
life and letters. Jerome
Klinkowitz, one of the
earliest and most prolific
authorities on Vonnegut,
examines the long dialogue
between the author and*

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***American culture—a
conversation that produced
fourteen novels and
hundreds of short stories
and essays. Kurt
Vonnegut's America
integrates discussion of***

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*the fiction, essays, and
lectures with personal
exchanges and biographical
sketches to map the
complex symbiotic
relationship between
Vonnegut's work and the*

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*cultural context from
which it emerged—and which
it in turn helped shape.
Following an introduction
characterizing Vonnegut as
Klinkowitz came to know
him over the course of*

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their friendship, this study charts the impact of Vonnegut on American society and of that society on Vonnegut for more than a half-century to illustrate how each

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***informed the other. Among
his artistic peers,
Vonnegut was uniquely
gifted at anticipating and
articulating the changing
course of American
culture. Kurt Vonnegut's***

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***America shows us that
Vonnegut achieved
greatness by passing his
own test—opening the eyes
of his audience to help
them better understand
their roles and***

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*possibilities in the
common culture they both
shared and crafted.
This deeply moving
collection of
"ethnographic poetry" by
the renowned cultural*

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*theorist Renato Rosaldo
focuses on the immediate
aftermath of his wife
Michelle (Shelly)*

*Rosaldo's sudden death on
October 11, 1981, the day
after she and her family*

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*had arrived in a northern
Philippines village where
Shelly and Renato were to
conduct fieldwork.*

*This is the second volume
of Vonnegut's
autobiographical writings*

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*â€" a collage of his own
life story, snipped up and
stuck down alongside his
views on everything from
suicidal depression to the
future of the planet and
Andrew Lloyd Webber.*

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*Honest, dark, rambling,
funny; this rare glimpse
of Vonnegut's soul is a
dagger to the heart of
Western complacency.*

*Wampeters, Foma &
Granfalloon is a rare*

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***opportunity to experience
Kurt Vonnegut speaking in
his own voice about his
own life, his views of the
world, his writing, and
the writing of others. An
indignant, outrageous,***

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*witty, deeply felt
collection of reviews,
essays, and speeches, this
is a window not only into
Vonnegut's mind but also
into his heart. "A book
filled with madness and*

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*truth and absurdity and
self-revelation . . .
[Vonnegut is] a great
cosmic comedian and
rattler of human
skeletons, an idealist
disguised as a*

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***pessimist.”—St. Louis Post-
Dispatch Includes the
following essays,
speeches, and works:
“Science Fiction” “Brief
Encounters on the Inland
Waterway” “Hello, Star***

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***Vega” “Teaching the
Unteachable” “Yes, We Have
No Nirvanas” “Fortitude”
“‘There’s a Maniac Loose
Out There’” “Excelsior!
We’re Going to the Moon!
Excelsior!” “Address to***

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***the American Physical
Society” “Good Missiles,
Good Manners, Good Night”
“Why They Read Hesse”
“Oversexed in
Indianapolis” “The
Mysterious Madame***

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***Blavatsky” “Biafra: A
People Betrayed” “Address
to Graduating Class at
Bennington College, 1970”
“Torture and Blubber”
“Address to the National
Institute of Arts and***

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Letters, 1971"

***"Reflections on my Own
Death" "In a Manner that
Must Shame God Himself"
"Thinking Unthinkable,
Speaking Unspeakable"
"Address at Rededication***

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***of Wheaton College
Library, 1973” “Invite
Rita Rait to America!”
“Address to P.E.N.
Conference in Stockholm,
1973” “A Political
Disease” “Playboy***

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Interview"

Complete Stories

Wampeters, Foma &

Granfalloon

(Opinions)

On Booze

Welcome to the Monkey

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***House and Palm Sunday
Write If You Get Work***

A collection of twenty-five short works by the American author written between 1950 and 1968 and originally printed in a wide range of publications including

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"The Atlantic Monthly," "Esquire,"
and "Ladies' Home Journal."

First published on the
anniversary of Kurt Vonnegut's
death, Armageddon in
Retrospect is a collection of
twelve new writings - a fitting

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tribute to the author, and an essential contribution to the discussion of war, peace and humanity's tendency towards violence. Imbued with Vonnegut's trademark rueful humour, the pieces range from a

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visceral non-fiction recollection of the destruction of Dresden - to a painfully funny short story about three soldiers and their fantasies of the perfect meal.

A collection of graduation speeches by the acclaimed

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author of such works as A Man Without a Country conveys his recommendations on how to make a difference in the world, his considerable humor and his thoughts about the religious and cultural figures who most

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inspired his career.

An autobiographical collage from the renowned novelist includes previously unpublished articles, essays, letters, drawings, songs, and talks in which Vonnegut reflects on his life and times.

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Kurt Vonnegut and the Many
Lives of Slaughterhouse-Five

The Writer's Crusade

Kurt Vonnegut: Letters

Timequake

Welcome to the Monkey House

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**'Timequake is sweet, wild
and cock-eyed... Vonnegut
has always had a true comic
ear... A beautifully fastidious
writer, utterly original' -
Guardian According to
science-fiction writer**

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**Kilgore Trout, a global
timequake will occur in New
York City on 13th February
2001. It is the moment when
the universe suffers a crisis
of conscience. Should it
expand or make a great big**

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**bang? It decides to wind the
clock back a decade to 1991,
making everyone in the
world endure ten years of
deja-vu and a total loss of
free will - not to mention the
torture of reliving every**

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**nanosecond of one of the
tawdiest and most hollow
decades. With his trademark
wicked wit, Vonnegut
addresses memory, suicide,
the Great Depression, the
loss of American eloquence,**

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**and the obsolescent thrill of
reading books.**

**FROM THE ONE-OF-A-KIND
IMAGINATION THAT
BROUGHT US
SLAUGHTERHOUSE 5 AND
CAT'S CRADLE 'Kurt**

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**Vonnegut is either the
funniest serious writer
around or the most serious
funny writer' Los Angeles
Times Book Review An
'autobiographical collage' of
speeches, stories and essays,**

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**in Palm Sunday, Kurt
Vonnegut writes beguilingly
about everything from
country music to George
Bush, his favourite
comedians to his mother's
midnight mania, and**

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**bittersweet tributes to a
dead best friend and a dead
marriage. Resonating with
his singular voice, this is a
self-portrait in writing that
showcases why Kurt
Vonnegut is as genius an**

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**essayist and commentator on
American society as he is a
novelist.**

**A collection of
reminiscences that
illuminate the career and
private life of the iconic**

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**author of 'Slaughterhouse-
Five' Kurt Vonnegut
(1922-2007), who began his
writing career working for
popular magazines, held
both literary aspirations and
an attraction to genre**

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**fiction. His conspicuous
refusal to respect literary
boundaries was part of what
made him a countercultural
icon in the 1960s and 1970s.
Vonnegut's personal life was
marked in large part by**

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**public success and private
turmoil. Two turbulent
marriages, his sudden
adoption of his late sister's
four children (and the
equally sudden removal of
one of those children), and a**

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**mid-eighties suicide attempt
all signaled the extent of
Vonnegut's inner troubles.
Yet, he was a generous
friend to many, maintaining
close correspondences
throughout his life. Kurt**

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Vonnegut Remembered
gathers reminiscences--by
those who knew him
intimately, and from those
met him only once--that
span Vonnegut's entire life.
Among the anecdotes in this

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**collection are remembrances
from his immediate family,
reflections from his
comrades in World War II,
and tributes from writers he
worked with in Iowa City and
from those who knew him**

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**when he was young. Editor
Jim O'Loughlin offers
biographical notes on
Vonnegut's relationship with
each of these figures. Since
Vonnegut's death, much has
been written on his life and**

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work, but this new volume offers a more generous view of his life, particularly his last years. In O'Loughlin's introduction to the volume, he argues that we can locate and understand Vonnegut's

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**best self through his public
persona, and that in his
performance as the kind and
humane figure that many of
the speakers here knew him
as, Vonnegut became a
better person than he ever**

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felt himself to be.

**Based on thousands of pages
of typed and handwritten
notes, journal entries,
letters, and story sketches,
The Exegesis of Philip K.
Dick is the magnificent and**

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imaginative final work of an author who dedicated his life to questioning the nature of reality and perception, the malleability of space and time, and the relationship between the human and the

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**divine. Edited and
introduced by Pamela
Jackson and Jonathan
Lethem, this will be the
definitive presentation of
Dick's brilliant, and epic,
final work. In *The Exegesis,***

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Dick documents his eight-year attempt to fathom what he called "2-3-74", a postmodern visionary experience of the entire universe "transformed into information". In entries that

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sometimes ran to hundreds of pages, Dick tried to write his way into the heart of a cosmic mystery that tested his powers of imagination and invention to the limit, adding to, revising, and

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**discarding theory after
theory, mixing in dreams
and visionary experiences as
they occurred, and pulling it
all together in three late
novels known as the VALIS
trilogy. In this abridgment,**

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Jackson and Lethem serve as guides, taking the reader through the Exegesis and establishing connections with moments in Dick's life and work.

A Collection of Short Works

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The Best of Bob and Ray
The Vonnegut Encyclopedia
While Mortals Sleep
The Graduation Speeches
and Other Words to Live By
Fates Worse Than Death

"A rich, generous book

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*about writing and reading
and Kurt Vonnegut as
writer, teacher, and
friend . . . Every page
brings pleasure and
insight.”—Gail Godwin, New
York Times bestselling*

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author Here is an entirely new side of Kurt Vonnegut, Vonnegut as a teacher of writing. Of course he's given us glimpses before, with aphorisms and short essays and articles and in

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his speeches. But never before has an entire book been devoted to Kurt Vonnegut the teacher. Here is pretty much everything Vonnegut ever said or wrote having to do with

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*the writing art and craft,
altogether a healing, a
nourishing expedition. His
former student, Suzanne
McConnell, has outfitted
us for the journey, and in
these 37 chapters covers*

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*the waterfront of how one
American writer brought
himself to the pinnacle of
the writing art, and we
can all benefit as a
result. Kurt Vonnegut was
one of the few*

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grandmasters of American literature, whose novels continue to influence new generations about the ways in which our imaginations can help us to live. Few aspects of his

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*contribution have not been
plumbed—fourteen novels,
collections of his
speeches, his essays, his
letters, his plays—so this
fresh view of him is a
bonanza for writers and*

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readers and Vonnegut fans everywhere. "Part homage, part memoir, and a 100% guide to making art with words, Pity the Reader: On Writing with Style is a simply mesmerizing book,

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*and I cannot recommend it
highly enough!”—Andre
Dubus III, #1 New York
Times bestselling author
“The blend of memory,
fact, keen observation,
spellbinding*

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*descriptiveness and zany
characters that populated
Vonnegut's work is on full
display here."—James
McBride, National Book
Award-winning author
Here for the first time is*

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*the complete short fiction
of one of the twentieth
century's foremost
imaginative geniuses. More
than half of Vonnegut's
output was short fiction,
and never before has the*

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*world had occasion to
wrestle with it all
together. Organized
thematically—"War,"
"Women," "Science,"
"Romance," "Work Ethic
versus Fame and Fortune,"*

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*"Behavior," "The Band
Director" (those stories
featuring Lincoln High's
band director and nice guy
George Hemholtz), and
"Futuristic"—these ninety-
eight stories were written*

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*from 1941 to 2007, and
include those Vonnegut
published in magazines and
collected in Welcome to
the Monkey House, Bagombo
Snuff Box, and other
books; here for the first*

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*time five previously
unpublished stories; as
well as a handful of
others that were published
online and read by few.
During his lifetime
Vonnegut published fewer*

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*than half of the stories
he wrote, his agent
telling him in 1958 upon
the rejection of a
particularly strong story,
"Save it for the
collection of your works*

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*which will be published
someday when you become
famous. Which may take a
little time." Selected and
introduced by longtime
Vonnegut friends and
scholars Dan Wakefield and*

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*Jerome Klinkowitz,
Complete Stories puts
Vonnegut's great wit,
humor, humanity, and
artistry on full display.
An extraordinary literary
feast for new readers,*

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*Vonnegut fans, and
scholars alike.*

*The Story of My Life is an
autobiography by Helen
Keller. It is the story of
Helen Keller and her life
as a deaf and blind girl,*

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and her triumph over these tribulations. In the book, she reveals her frustration and rage over her condition. It details her educational achievements and her

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*introduction to the world
through her breakthrough
into communication. The
story was written by Helen
Keller when she was just
22 years old. The Story of
My Life is a tale of the*

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*courage and unbreakable
will of Helen Keller. The
book has been adapted into
a television series, a
Broadway play, a Hollywood
feature film, and an
Indian feature film.*

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Photographs and caricatures are combined with classic skits and jokes that typify the rich humor of the two comedians.

The Academic Book of the

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Future

A Man Without a Country
Armageddon in Retrospect
Bluebeard
Who Am I This Time?
New Critical Essays on
Kurt Vonnegut

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The story of Kurt Vonnegut and Slaughterhouse-Five, an enduring masterpiece on trauma and memory Kurt Vonnegut was twenty years old when he enlisted in the United States Army. Less than two years later,

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he was captured by the Germans in the single deadliest US engagement of the war, the Battle of the Bulge. He was taken to a POW camp, then transferred to a work camp near Dresden, and held in a slaughterhouse

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called Schlachthof Fünf where he survived the horrific firebombing that killed thousands and destroyed the city. To the millions of fans of Vonnegut's great novel Slaughterhouse-Five, these details are familiar.

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They're told by the book's author/narrator, and experienced by his enduring character Billy Pilgrim, a war veteran who "has come unstuck in time." Writing during the tumultuous days of the Vietnam conflict, with the

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novel, Vonnegut had, after more than two decades of struggle, taken trauma and created a work of art, one that still resonates today. In *The Writer's Crusade*, author Tom Roston examines the connection between Vonnegut's

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life and Slaughterhouse-Five. Did Vonnegut suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder? Did Billy Pilgrim? Roston probes Vonnegut's work, his personal history, and discarded drafts of the novel, as well as original

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interviews with the writer's family, friends, scholars, psychologists, and other novelists including Karl Marlantes, Kevin Powers, and Tim O'Brien. The Writer's Crusade is a literary and

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biographical journey that asks fundamental questions about trauma, creativity, and the power of storytelling.

"A free-wheeling vehicle . . . an unforgettable ride!"—The New York Times
Cat's Cradle is Kurt

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Vonnegut's satirical commentary on modern man and his madness. An apocalyptic tale of this planet's ultimate fate, it features a midget as the protagonist, a complete, original theology created by a calypso

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singer, and a vision of the future that is at once blackly fatalistic and hilariously funny. A book that left an indelible mark on an entire generation of readers, Cat's Cradle is one of the twentieth century's most

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important works—and Vonnegut at his very best. “[Vonnegut is] an unimitative and inimitable social satirist.”—Harper’s Magazine “Our finest black-humorist . . . We laugh in self-defense.”—Atlantic Monthly

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Now expanded and updated, this authorized compendium to Kurt Vonnegut's novels, stories, essays, and plays is the most comprehensive and definitive edition to date. Over the course of five decades, Kurt Vonnegut

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created a complex and interconnected web of characters, settings, and concepts. The Vonnegut Encyclopedia is an exhaustive guide to this beloved author's world, organized in a handy A-to-

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Z format. The first edition of this book covered Vonnegut's work through 1991. This new and updated edition encompasses his writing through his death in 2007. Marc Leeds, co-founder and founding president of the

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Kurt Vonnegut Society and a longtime personal friend of the author's, has devoted more than twenty-five years of his life to cataloging the Vonnegut cosmos—from the birthplace of Kilgore Trout (Vonnegut's sci-fi

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writing alter ego) to the municipal landmarks of Midland City (the midwestern metropolis that is the setting for Vonnegut's 1973 masterpiece *Breakfast of Champions*). The *Vonnegut Encyclopedia* identifies every

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major and minor Vonnegut character from Celia Aamons to Zog, as well as recurring images and relevant themes from all of Vonnegut's works, including lesser-known gems like his revisionist libretto for

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Stravinsky's opera L'Histoire du soldat and his 1980 children's book Sun Moon Star. Leeds provides expert notes explaining the significance of many items, but relies primarily on extended quotations from Vonnegut

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himself. A work of impressive scholarship in an eminently browsable package, this encyclopedia reveals countless connections readers may never have thought of on their own. A rarity among authors of serious

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fiction, Kurt Vonnegut has always inspired something like obsession in his most dedicated fans. The Vonnegut Encyclopedia is an invaluable resource for readers wishing to revisit his fictional universe—and

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those about to explore it for the first time. Praise for The Vonnegut Encyclopedia "An essential collection for fans of the singular satirist."—San Francisco Chronicle
"Indispensable."—Publishers

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Weekly "If you're somebody who has read one Kurt Vonnegut book then there's a chance you've read them all. For the devout reader of Vonnegut there's a voracious sense of completism. And, Marc Leeds

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and his new [The Vonnegut] Encyclopedia are here to guide you through it all. Just don't blame him if you become unstuck in time while you're reading."—Inverse "Vonnegut enthusiasts will be delighted with

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Leeds's exhaustive, almost obsessive, treatment of the characters, places, events, and tantalizingly mysterious references for which Vonnegut's five-decade writing career is celebrated. . . . A wonderful and

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beautifully designed reference source."—Booklist (starred review) "Leeds's scholarship and genuine love for his subject matter render this encyclopedia a treasure trove for Vonnegut readers."—The Nameless Zine

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This book is open access under a CC-BY licence. Part of the AHRC/British Library Academic Book of the Future Project, this book interrogates current and emerging contexts of academic books from the perspectives of

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thirteen expert voices from the
connected communities of
publishing, academia, libraries,
and bookselling.

The Poetry and Ethnography of
Grief

The Day of Shelly's Death

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The Exegesis of Philip K Dick
Unstuck in Time
Miss Temptation
Kurt Vonnegut Remembered
*A New York Times Notable Book for
2011 A Washington Post Notable
Nonfiction Book for 2011 The first*

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authoritative biography of Kurt

Vonnegut Jr., a writer who changed the conversation of American literature. In 2006, Charles Shields reached out to Kurt Vonnegut in a letter, asking for his endorsement for a planned biography. The first response was no ("A most

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respectful demurring by me for the excellent writer Charles J. Shields, who offered to be my biographer").

Unwilling to take no for an answer, propelled by a passion for his subject, and already deep into his research, Shields wrote again and this time, to his

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*delight, the answer came back: "O.K."
For the next year—a year that ended up
being Vonnegut's last—Shields had
access to Vonnegut and his letters. And
So It Goes is the culmination of five
years of research and writing—the first-
ever biography of the life of Kurt*

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Vonnegut. Vonnegut resonates with readers of all generations from the baby boomers who grew up with him to high-school and college students who are discovering his work for the first time.

Vonnegut's concise collection of personal essays, Man Without a Country,

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published in 2006, spent fifteen weeks on the New York Times bestseller list and has sold more than 300,000 copies to date. The twenty-first century has seen interest in and scholarship about Vonnegut's works grow even stronger, and this is the first book to examine in

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*full the life of one of the most
influential iconoclasts of his time.*

*A collection of F. Scott Fitzgerald's best
drinking stories makes this the most
intoxicating New Directions Pearl yet!*

*While Mortals Sleep is a smart, clear-
eyed collection of stories from one of the*

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most original writers in American fiction. Set in trailers, bars and factories, Vonnegut conjures up a world where men and machines, art and artifice, fame and fortune become curiously twisted and characters pit their dreams and fears against a cruel and comically

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indifferent world. Written early in his career, and never published before, these tightly plotted stories are infused with Vonnegut's distinctive blend of observation, imagination and scabrous humour. This collection features an introduction by Dave Eggers.

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From Slapstick's "Turkey Farm" to Slaughterhouse-Five's eternity in a Tralfamadorean zoo cage with Montana Wildhack, the question of the afterlife never left Kurt Vonnegut's mind. In God Bless You, Dr. Kevorkian, Vonnegut skips back and forth between life and

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the Afterlife as if the difference between them were rather slight. In thirty odd "interviews," Vonnegut trips down "the blue tunnel to the pearly gates" in the guise of a roving reporter for public radio, conducting interviews: with Salvatore Biagini, a retired construction

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worker who died of a heart attack while rescuing his schnauzer from a pit bull, with John Brown, still smoldering 140 years after his death by hanging, with William Shakespeare, who rubs Vonnegut the wrong way, and with socialist and labor leader Eugene Victor

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Debs, one of Vonnegut's personal heroes. What began as a series of ninety-second radio interludes for WNYC, New York City's public radio station, evolved into this provocative collection of musings about who and what we live for, and how much it all matters in the

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end. From the original portrait by his friend Jules Feiffer that graces the cover, to a final entry from Kilgore Trout, God Bless You, Dr. Kevorkian remains a joy.

Sucker's Portfolio

Slapstick or Lonesome No More!

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Advice for the Young

Player Piano

If This Isn't Nice, What Is?

Cat's Cradle

This collection of Vonnegut's
letters is the autobiography he
never wrote □ from the letter he

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posted home upon being freed from a German POW camp, to notes of advice to his children: "Don't let anybody tell you that smoking and boozing are bad for you. Here I am fifty-five years old, and I never felt better in my

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life. Peppered with insights, one-liners and missives to the likes of Norman Mailer, Gunter Grass and Bernard Malamud, Vonnegut is funny, wise and modest. As he himself said: "I am an American fad" of a slightly higher order than

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the hula hoop. Like Vonnegut's books, his letters make you think, they make you outraged and they make you laugh. Written over a sixty-year period, and never published before, these letters are alive with the

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unique point of view that made Vonnegut one of the most original writers in American fiction.

A collection of commencement speeches and other wit and wisdom from the New York

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Times's bestselling literary icon and author of Slaughterhouse-Five. Master storyteller and satirist Kurt Vonnegut was one of the most in-demand commencement speakers of his time. For each occasion,

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Vonnegut's words were unfailingly insightful and witty, and they stayed with audience members long after graduation. This expanded second edition also includes more than sixty pages of further thoughts from

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Vonnegut (whose good advice wasn't limited to graduation speeches). Edited by Dan Wakefield, and including such pieces as "How to Make Money and Find Love!", "How to Have Something Most Billionaires

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Don't, and "Somebody Should Have Told Me Not to Join a Fraternity," this book reads like a narrative in the unique voice that made Vonnegut a hero to readers everywhere. Hilarious, razor-sharp, freewheeling, and at

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times deeply serious, these reflections are ideal not just for graduates but for anyone undergoing what Vonnegut would call their "long-delayed puberty ceremony"—marking the long and challenging passage to

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full-time adulthood. Like Mark Twain, Mr. Vonnegut used humor to tackle the basic questions of human existence. The New York Times "Miss Temptation (Susanna) is beautiful, exciting and every

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man's dream. To those who gather in the country store to see her make her daily "entrance," she brings a rainbow to a dreary world. Unexpectedly a young man explodes at her in an angry tirade, giving voice to his

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personal feelings of insecurity around beautiful women. His hostility really disturbs Susanna and disrupts her life. Then, with brilliant Vonnegut insight, the two young people work it out in a moment of theatrical

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enchantment."--Publisher
description.

Kurt Vonnegut has surpassed
even his own giddy heights of
hilariously bitter irony in
Bluebeard. It is a novel so funny
and yet so terribly serious that

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you will read it - then reconsider
your own life.

Kurt Vonnegut's America

God Bless You, Dr. Kevorkian

Deadeye Dick

Pity the Reader

And So It Goes

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A Journey Through Kurt
Vonnegut's Life and Novels

*This short-story collection
Welcome to the Monkey House
(1968) incorporates almost
completely Vonnegut's 1961
"Canary in a Cathouse,"*

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which appeared within a few months of Slaughterhouse-Five and capitalized upon that breakthrough novel and the enormous attention it suddenly brought. Drawn from both specialized science fiction magazines and the

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big-circulation general magazines which Vonnegut had been one of the few science writers to sell, the collection includes some of his most accomplished work from 1950 to 1968. The title story may be his most

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*famous—a diabolical
government asserts control
through compulsory
technology removing orgasm
from sex—but Vonnegut's
bitterness and wit, not in
his earlier work as
poisonous or unshielded as*

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it later became, is well demonstrated.

“Some of the best and most moving Vonnegut.”—San Francisco Chronicle
Slapstick presents an apocalyptic vision as seen through the eyes of the

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*current King of Manhattan
(and last President of the
United States), a wickedly
irreverent look at the all-
too-possible results of
today's follies. But even
the end of life-as-we-know-
it is transformed by Kurt*

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Vonnegut's pen into
hilarious farce—a final
slapstick that may be the
Almighty's joke on us all.
“Both funny and sad . . .
just about perfect.”—Los
Angeles Times “Imaginative
and hilarious . . . a

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*brilliant vision of our
wrecked, wacked-out
future.”—Hartford Courant
In Unstuck in Time, Gregory
Sumner guides us, with
insight and passion, through
a biography of fifteen of
Kurt Vonnegut’s best known*

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works, his fourteen novels starting with Player Piano (1952) all the way to an epilogue on his last book, A Man Without a Country (2005), to illustrate the quintessential American writer's profound engagement

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with the "American Dream" in its various forms. Sumner gives us a poignant portrait of Vonnegut and his resistance to celebrating the traditional values associated with the American Dream: grandiose ambition,

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*unbridled material success,
rugged individualism, and
"winners" over "losers."
Instead of a celebration of
these values, we read and
share Vonnegut's outrage,
his brokenhearted empathy
for those who struggle under*

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the ethos of survival-of-the-fittest in the frontier mentality—something he once memorably described as "an impossibly tough-minded experiment in loneliness." Heroic and tragic, Vonnegut's novels reflect

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*the pain of his own life's
experiences, relieved by
small acts of kindness,
friendship, and love that
exemplify another way of
living, another sort of
human utopia, an alternative
American Dream, and the*

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*reason we always return to
his books.*

*A previously unpublished
collection of six brief
fiction stories, one non-
fiction essay, and an
unfinished science-fiction
short story.*

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A Novel

*Conversations with Kurt
Vonnegut*

*Revised and updated edition
Framed!*

*On Writing with Style
The Story of My Life*

Kurt Vonnegut's darkly comic work

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became a symbol for the counterculture of a generation. From his debut novel, *Player Piano* (1951) through seminal 1960's novels such as *Cat's Cradle* (1963) and *Slaughterhouse-Five* (1969) up to the recent success of *A Man Without A Country* (2005), Vonnegut's writing has

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remained commercially popular, offering a satirical yet optimistic outlook on modern life. Though many fellow writers admired Vonnegut - Gore Vidal famously suggesting that "Kurt was never dull" - the academic establishment has tended to retain a degree of scepticism

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concerning the validity of his work. This dynamic collection aims to re-evaluate Vonnegut's position as an integral part of the American post-war cannon of literature.

Luke Harding is the youngest person ever to pass his advanced criminology

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tests. At just 16 he starts work as a forensic investigator and, with only his laser-sharp wits and his hovering robotic sidekick to help him, he must solve the mysteries of a dark, violent and corrupt world.

Gathers interviews with Vonnegut from

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each period of his career and offers a brief profile of his life and accomplishments.

Rudolf Waltz's principal objection to life was that it was too easy to make horrible mistakes. He was himself to become a double-murderer at the age of twelve -

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on Mother's Day. This would at least make subsequent mistakes seem fairly trivial. Rudolf's father, Otto Waltz, had in 1910 bought a painting in Vienna from a destitute Adolf Hitler, thereby possibly saving him from starvation for a future generation. He made the further

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mistake of setting himself up as an artist when he returned from Europe to Midland City, Ohio, where everyone knew Otto couldn't draw for sour apples. He had funds to indulge this grand illusion (in the splendor of a vast converted 'medieval granary' studio,

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reminiscent of Mount Fujiyama) because his father had made a fortune producing an opium-and-cocaine-laced quack medicine called Saint Elmo's Remedy, popularly known to be 'absolutely harmless unless discontinued'. The Waltz inheritance even stretched to a

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troupe of black servants, which was just as well since Rudy's mother was as disinclined to look after a home as his 'artist' father was to paint.

An Autobiographical Collage of the
1980s
War Dances

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Kurt Vonnegut: A Life

An Autobiographical Collage

*Kurt Vonnegut's first novel
Player Piano, published in
1952, heralded the beginning
of one of the most diverting
and provocative adventures
in modern American fiction.*

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Vonnegut went on to write novels that perhaps had greater formal skill and technique, but Player Piano is a tour de force of imaginative insight into modern life and a shrewd satire of American progress.

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A Man Without a Country is Kurt Vonnegut's hilariously funny and razor-sharp look at life ("If I die—God forbid—I would like to go to heaven to ask somebody in charge up there, 'Hey, what was the good news and what

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*was the bad news?"), art
("To practice any art, no
matter how well or badly, is
a way to make your soul
grow. So do it."), politics
("I asked former Yankees
pitcher Jim Bouton what he
thought of our great victory*

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*over Iraq and he said,
'Mohammed Ali versus Mr.
Rogers.'*"), and the
condition of the soul of
America today ("What has
happened to us?"). Based on
short essays and speeches
composed over the last five

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*years and plentifully
illustrated with artwork by
the author throughout, A Man
Without a Country gives us
Vonnegut both speaking out
with indignation and writing
tenderly to his fellow
Americans, sometimes joking,*

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*at other times hopeless,
always searching.*

*Sherman Alexie delivers a
heartbreaking and hilarious
collection of stories that
explore the precarious
balance between self-
preservation and external*

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*responsibility in art,
family, and the world at
large. With unparalleled
insight into the minds of
artists, laborers, fathers,
husbands, and sons, Alexie
populates his stories with
ordinary men on the brink of*

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*exceptional change. In a
bicoastal journey through
the consequences of both
simple and monumental life
choices, Alexie introduces
us to these personal worlds
as they transform beyond
return. In the title story,*

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a famous writer must decide how to care for his distant father who is slowly dying a 'natural Indian death' from alcohol and diabetes, just as he learns that he himself may have a brain tumor. Alexie dissects a vintage-

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*clothing store owner's
failing marriage and his
subsequent courtship of a
married photographer in
various airports across the
country; what happens when a
politician's son commits an
unforgivable hate crime; and*

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*how a young boy learns his
self-worth while writing for
the obituary department of
his local newspaper. Brazen,
and wise, War Dances takes
us to the heart of what it
means to be human. The new
beginnings, successes,*

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*mistakes, and regrets that
make up our daily lives are
laid bare in this wide-
ranging and provocative new
work that is Alexie at the
height of his powers.*