

# A Moment Of War Penguin Modern Classics

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the articles collected in george orwell s essays illuminate the life and work of one of the most individual writers of this century a man who elevated political writing to an art this outstanding collection brings together orwell s longer major essays and a fine selection of shorter pieces that includes my country right or left decline of the english murder shooting an elephant and a hanging with great originality and wit orwell unfolds his views on subjects ranging from a revaluation of charles dickens to the nature of socialism from a comic yet profound discussion of naughty seaside postcards to a spirited defence of english cooking displaying an almost unrivalled mastery of english plain prose orwell s essays created a unique literary manner from the process of thinking aloud and continue to challenge move and entertain this penguin modern classics edition includes an introduction by bernard crick

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set in volatile paris of 1938 this novel follows two days in the life of mathieu delarue and his circle mathieu has so far managed to contain sex and personal freedom in separate compartments but now he is in trouble urgently trying to find money to procure a safe abortion for his mistress

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the story of the pargiter family their intimacies and estrangements anxieties and triumphs mapped out amongst the bustling

rhythms of london s streets during the first decade of the 20th century the pargiter children must learn to find their footing in a world of rapidly changing rules

containing the road to wigan pier orwell s account of poverty in northern england this title also includes the english people in which he lists the nation s characteristics and his essays on class the horrors of private school life and the merits of cricket gardening and pubs

the vivid impassioned writings collected together in this powerful volume chronicle orwell s first hand experiences of life among the underclass of the two nations of rich and poor down and out in paris and london is the young orwell s memoir of his time as a struggling often penniless writer living among the destitute and dispossessed here he exposes a world unimaginable to most of his readers one of vile doss houses hunger squalor and desperate poverty of going to the dogs there are also articles and letters on sleeping rough in trafalgar square being arrested for drunkenness on the poverty orwell witnessed in morocco and india and his shocking essay how the poor die jacket

saul bellow s herzog is part confessional part exorcism and a wholly unique achievement in postmodern fiction is moses herzog losing his mind his formidable wife madeleine has left him for his best friend and herzog is left alone with his whirling thoughts yet he still sees himself as a survivor raging against private disasters and the myriad catastrophes of the modern age in a crumbling house which he shares with rats his head buzzing with ideas he writes frantic unsent letters to friends and enemies colleagues and famous people the living and the dead revealing the spectacular workings of his labyrinthine mind and the innermost secrets of his troubled heart this penguin modern classics edition includes an introduction by malcolm bradbury spectacular surely bellow s greatest novel malcolm bradbury a masterpiece herzog s voice for all its wildness and strangeness and foolishness is the voice of a civilization our civilization the new york times book review

jean rhys s good morning midnight is an unforgettable portrait of a woman bravely confronting loneliness and despair in her quest for self determination in 1930s paris where one cheap hotel room is very like another a young woman is teaching herself indifference she has escaped personal tragedy and has come to france to find courage and seek independence she tells herself to expect nothing especially not kindness least of all from men tomorrow she resolves she will dye her hair blonde jean rhys was a talent before her time with an impressive ability to express the anguish of young women in good morning midnight rhys created the powerfully modern portrait of sophia jansen whose emancipation is far more painful and complicated than she could expect but whose confession is flecked with triumph and elation with an introduction by a l

kennedy her eloquence in the language of human sexual transactions is chilling cynical and surprisingly moving a l kennedy have you noticed that amsterdam s concentric canals resemble the circles of hell a middle class hell of course jean baptiste clamence addresses a chance acquaintance in an amsterdam bar a successful paris barrister the epitome of good citizenship and decent behaviour he has now come to recognise the deep seated hypocrisy of his existence his brilliant epigrammatic and above all discomforting monologue gradually saps then undermines the reader s own complacency camus is the accused his own prosecutor and advocate the fall might have been called the last judgement oliver todd

albinus rich married middle aged and respectable is an art critic and aspiring filmmaker who lusts after the coquettish young cinema usherette margot gradually he seduces her and convinces himself he is irresistible to her but margot has other plans she wants to be a film star and when albinus introduces her to the american movie producer axel rex she sees her chance and plotting duplicity and tragedy ensue

the gift is the last of the novels nabokov wrote in his native russian and the crowning achievement of that period in his literary career it is also his ode to russian literature evoking the works of pushkin gogol and others in the course of its narrative the story of fyodor godunov cherdynsev an impoverished émigré poet living in berlin who dreams of the book he will someday write a book very much like the gift itself

joyce carol oates gives us a precise image of the experience of reading these stories that sudden feeling of insecurity that comes to a traveler in unmapped country a sense of immediacy cinematic in its vividness the sixteen exquisitely crafted stories in island prove alistair macleod to be a master quietly precisely he has created a body of work that is among the greatest to appear in english in the last fifty years a book besotted patriarch releases his only son from the obligations of the sea a father provokes his young son to violence when he reluctantly sells the family horse a passionate girl who grows up on a nearly deserted island turns into an ever wistful woman when her one true love is felled by a logging accident a dying young man listens to his grandmother play the old gaelic songs on her ancient violin as they both fend off the inevitable the events that propel macleod s stories convince us of the importance of tradition the beauty of the landscape and the necessity of memory

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