



The Portable Anaïs Nin

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The Portable Anaïs Nin is not only the first anthology of the author's work to appear digitally, it is also the first comprehensive collection in nearly 40 years, during which time the Nin catalogue has doubled with the release of the erotica and unexpurgated diaries. A handy source book of Nin's most important writings, arranged chronologically and annotated by Nin scholar Benjamin Franklin V.

The Portable Anaïs Nin Details

Date : Published August 2011 by Sky Blue Press (first published September 30th 2010)

ISBN :

Author : Anaïs Nin

Format : Nook

Genre : Fiction, Classics, Poetry, Adult Fiction, Erotica

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From Reader Review The Portable Anais Nin for online ebook

Sandi says

You poor twisted soul. But you had a magnificent way of putting words together that absolutely dripped with emotion.

Ashley says

“It is so good to be oneself without poses,” he said.

Jamie Nesbitt says

A honest, unflinching look into the life of one of the world's best writers. Can't believe I slept on. Anais Nin this long.

Sheena Delacruz says

Some parts are unreadable due to either being too heavily written or downright gross. But Anais is so poetic in the way she writes, an obvious great mind.

Sean says

I trudged through this book but lost all real interest after the chapter on her incestuous relationship with her father.

The writing was boring and self absorbed. She seemed to be a woman of extremely little substance and a very high opinion of her own intelligence.

Despite her affirmations of intelligence, all documentary in this book ultimately presented a highly idiotic person with reasonable writing skills.

Riley says

I found Anais Nin too heavy, too serious and too hyper-analytical. I could have used a little bit of humor somewhere. As she said about D.H. Lawrence could be said about her:

"But there remains unexplained the intensity of Lawrence's description of these experiences. They are

important, profound, but must the style be so tense, the expressions so extreme? Do people really swing from one extreme emotion to another in so short a span? We know the poets do."

I did enjoy some of the short stories a lot, though. One turn of phrase, from "Houseboat" that I was really struck by:

"The street cleaner was sweeping the dead leaves into the river. The rain fell into the cracked letter box and when I opened my letters it looked as if my friends had been weeping when writing me."

Amy says

I hate when I don't finish a book; it feels like a defeat. On the other hand, I can't waste my time reading a book I'm not enjoying in some way and I wasn't enjoying this one at all. I bought *The Portable Anaïs Nin* because I'd stumbled across some quotes of Nin's that made me feel that "Yes! These are exactly the words to express this!" moment you sometimes get when reading another person's words. I knew nothing about her going in and thought this sampling of her diary and a short stories would be the perfect blend to get to know Nin.

Those quotes that intrigued me - those snippets of thoughts, cherry picked from her body of work - are much more to my liking than anything contained in this book. Yes, Nin has a talent for translating emotions into words, but as a whole, I find her writing oppressive. Her diary entries were, at best, hyper-analytical and uninteresting. At worst, I found them repulsive. Unfortunately, it didn't get better when I moved on to her fiction. I found I disliked her writing style to such a degree that I couldn't immerse myself in a story.

After struggling for nine days to find some connection between the quotes that piqued my interest in her and the writing contained in this book, I'm giving up on Nin and moving on.

Kerryn Cockroft says

Not an easy read - both her themes and her style make this hard work in parts, but there are real gems - such careful observation of human emotion.

Maria Walls says

It was interesting and soothing to listen to but I wasn't moved as much by it as other works of hers.

Diana Raab says

Most of my long-term readers know that for years Anaïs Nin has been my muse and mentor. Even though she was most popular in the 1970s, in many ways her work is timeless and resonates with women and men

intergenerationally. I particularly relate to Nin's journals because we both began journaling at the age of ten after the loss of a loved one. For those interested and curious about Nin-and who want to get a glimpse into her alluring, interesting, and complex life without reading all her books-this volume is a must read.

Franklin has selected some of Nin's best writings-spanning her four decades as an author-as an introduction into one of the past century's most talented, complex, and intriguing female literary figures. In the Preface, Paul Herron, the editor/publisher of Sky Blue Press who published many of Nin's works, says that this collection represents excerpts from some of Nin's best writing, while at the same time, the reader clearly witnesses her evolution and growth as a writer, from diarist to novelist to overall writing theories. He makes the poignant statement that "Readers new to Anaïs Nin will be enabled to make informed choices when further exploring her work."

This book is highly recommended; it will make a wonderful holiday gift for women across the generations, and also all lovers of the written word.

Sarah says

I was curious to know more about this writer, as she's one of those people who seem to have generated a lot of pithy quotes! However, I found that I didn't really enjoy her writing very much, either the diaries or the short stories, although I did find interesting some of her comments about writing itself.
