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Julian the Apostate was the nephew of Emperor Constantine the Great. Julian ascended to the throne in A.D. 361, at the age of twenty-nine, and was murdered four years later after an unsuccessful attempt to rebuke Christianity and restore the worship of the old gods. Now this historical tapestry is brought to vibrant life by the dazzling talent of Gore Vidal. Presents thirteen essays and four interviews on topics ranging from Jack Kerouac to AIDS Timothy (later St. Timothy) is in his study in Thessalonika, where he is bishop of Macedonia. It is A.D. 96, and Timothy is under terrific pressure to record his version of the Sacred Story, since, far in the future, a cyberpunk (the Hacker) has been systematically destroying the tapes that describe the Good News, and Timothy's Gospel is the only one immune to the Hacker's deadly virus. Meanwhile, thanks to a breakthrough in computer software, an NBC crew is racing into the past to capture—live from the suburb of Golgotha—the Crucifixion, for a TV special guaranteed to boost the network's ratings in the fall sweeps. As a stream of visitors from twentieth-century America channel in to the first-century Holy Land—Mary Baker Eddy, Shirley MacLaine, Oral Roberts and family—Timothy struggles to complete his story. But is Timothy's text really Hacker-proof? And how will he deal with the truth about Jesus' eating disorder? Above all, will he get the anchor slot for the Big Show at Golgotha without representation by a major agency, like CAA 1,896 years in the future? Tune in.

This New York Times bestseller offers “an unblinking view of our national heroes by one who cherishes them, warts and all” (New York Review of Books). In *Inventing a Nation*, National Book Award winner Gore Vidal transports the reader into the minds, the living rooms (and bedrooms), the convention halls, and the salons of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and others. We come to know these men, through Vidal's splendid prose, in ways we have not up to now—their opinions of each other, their worries about money, their concerns about creating a viable democracy. Vidal brings them to life at the key moments of decision in the birthing of our nation. He also illuminates the force and weight of the documents they wrote, the speeches they delivered, and the institutions of government by which we still live. More than two centuries later, America is still largely governed by the ideas championed by this triumvirate. The author of *Burr* and *Lincoln*, one of the master stylists of American literature and most acute observers of American life, turns his immense literary and historiographic talent to a portrait of these formidable men

Empire of Self

The Book of Abigail and John

Inventing a Nation

Views from a Window

Hollywood

Socrates

An intimate, authorized yet totally frank biography of Gore Vidal (1925-2012), one of the most accomplished, visible, and controversial American novelists and cultural figures of the past century The product of thirty years of friendship and conversation, Jay Parini's *Empire of Self* digs behind the glittering surface of Gore Vidal's colorful career to reveal the complex emotional and sexual truths underlying his celebrity-strewn life. But there is plenty of glittering surface as well--a virtual Who's Who of the twentieth century, from Eleanor Roosevelt and Amelia Earhart through the Kennedys, Johnny Carson, Leonard Bernstein, and the cr è me de la cr è me of Hollywood. Also a generous helping of feuds with the likes of William F. Buckley, Norman Mailer, Truman Capote, and The New York Times, among other adversaries. The life of Gore Vidal teemed with notable incidents, famous people, and lasting achievements that call out for careful evocation and examination. Jay Parini crafts Vidal's life into an accessible, entertaining story that puts the experience of one of the great American figures of the postwar era into context, introduces the author and his works to a generation who may not know him, and looks behind the scenes at the man and his work in ways never possible before his death. Provided with unique access to Vidal's life and his papers, Parini excavates many buried skeletons yet never loses sight of his deep respect for Vidal and his astounding gifts. This is the biography Gore Vidal--novelist, essayist, dramatist, screenwriter, historian, wit, provocateur, and pioneer of gay rights--has long needed.

For readers who can't get enough of the hit Broadway musical *Hamilton*, Gore Vidal's stunning novel about Aaron Burr, the man who killed Alexander Hamilton in a duel—and who served as a successful, if often feared, statesman of our fledgling nation. Here is an extraordinary portrait of one of the most complicated—and misunderstood—figures among the Founding Fathers. In 1804, while serving as vice president, Aaron Burr fought a duel with his political nemesis, Alexander Hamilton, and killed him. In 1807, he was arrested, tried, and acquitted of treason. In 1833, Burr is newly married, an aging statesman considered a monster by many. But he is determined to tell his own story, and he chooses to confide in a young New York City journalist named Charles Schermerhorn Schuyler. Together, they explore both Burr's past—and the continuing civic drama of their young nation. *Burr* is the first novel in Gore Vidal's *Narratives of Empire* series, which spans the history of the United States from the Revolution to post-World War II. With their broad canvas and sprawling cast of fictional and historical characters, these novels present a panorama of American politics and imperialism, as interpreted by one of our most incisive and ironic observers.

In the unseasonable heat of a spring morning in 80 B.C., Gordianus the Finder is summoned to the house of Cicero, a young advocate staking his reputation on a case involving the savage murder of the wealthy, sybaritic Sextus Roscius. Charged with the murder is Sextus's son, greed being the apparent motive. The punishment, rooted

deep in Roman tradition, is horrific beyond imagining. The case becomes a political nightmare when Gordianus's investigation takes him through the city's raucous, pungent streets and deep into rural Umbria. Now, one man's fate may threaten the very leaders of Rome itself.

“Spectacular . . . A delight to read.” —The Wall Street Journal From bestselling biographer and historian Paul Johnson, a brilliant portrait of Socrates, the founding father of philosophy In his highly acclaimed style, historian Paul Johnson masterfully disentangles centuries of scarce sources to offer a riveting account of Socrates, who is often hailed as the most important thinker of all time. Johnson provides a compelling picture of Athens in the fifth century BCE, and of the people Socrates reciprocally delighted in, as well as many enlightening and intimate analyses of specific aspects of his personality. Enchantingly portraying “the sheer power of Socrates's mind, and its unique combination of steel, subtlety, and frivolity,” Paul Johnson captures the vast and intriguing life of a man who did nothing less than supply the basic apparatus of the human mind.

Eminent Outlaws

Selected Letters of the Adams Family, 1762-1784

Sexually Speaking, Collected Sex Writings

Lincoln

Messiah

Pride of Carthage

This epic retelling of the legendary Carthaginian military leader's assault on the Roman empire begins in Ancient Spain, where Hannibal Barca sets out with tens of thousands of soldiers and 30 elephants. After conquering the Roman city of Saguntum, Hannibal wages his campaign through the outposts of the empire, shrewdly befriendng peoples disillusioned by Rome and, with dazzling tactics, outwitting the opponents who believe the land route he has chosen is impossible. Yet Hannibal's armies must take brutal losses as they pass through the Pyrenees mountains, forge the Rhone river, and make a winter crossing of the Alps before descending to the great tests at Cannae and Rome itself. David Anthony Durham draws a brilliant and complex Hannibal out of the scant historical record—sharp, sure-footed, as nimble among rivals as on the battlefield, yet one who misses his family and longs to see his son grow to manhood. Whether portraying the deliberations of a general or the calculations of a common soldier, vast multilayered scenes of battle or moments of introspection when loss seems imminent, Durham brings history alive.

A fictional narrative of American history from 1939 to 1954 follows the events and personalities that transformed America from a republic to an empire through the eyes of Caroline Sanford, a Washington newspaper publisher.

\* A new, accessible selection of brilliant and essential reading from one of America's modern masters

The letters of John and Abigail Adams are laid bare here, chronicling their long love affair, political opinions, and humor in 226 letters and diary entries and providing an intimate glimpse of early American history. Simultaneous.

1876

The City and the Pillar

Burr

Oh! Calcutta!

A Novel

Stories of Literary Lives, Banned Books, Author Feuds, Extraordinary Characters, and More Jim Willard, former high-school athlete and clean-cut boy-next-door-, is haunted by the memory of a romantic adolescent encounter with his friend Bob Ford. As Jim pursues his first love, in awe of the very same masculinity he possesses himself, his progress through the secret gay world of 1940's America unveils surreptitious Hollywood affairs, the hidden life of the military in the Second World War and the underworld bar culture of New York City. With the publication of his daring thrid novel *The City and the Pillar* in 1948, Gore Vidal shocked the American public, which has just begun to hail him as their newest and brightest young writer. It remains not only an authentic and profoundly important social document but also a serious exploration of the nature of idealistic love.

The late Gore Vidal occupied a unique position within American letters. Born into a political family, he ran for office several times, but was consistently critical of his nation's political system and its leaders. A prolific writer in several genres, he was also widely known — particularly in the United States — on the basis of his frequent appearances in the various electronic media. In this groundbreaking work examining the central theme of power throughout Vidal's writings, Heather Neilson focuses primarily on Vidal's historical fiction. In his novels depicting American history and those set in ancient times, Vidal evokes a world in which deliberately propagated falsehood — ‘disinformation’ — becomes established as truth. Neilson engages with Vidal's representations of political and religious leaders, and with his deeply ambivalent fascination with the increasingly inescapable influence of the media. She asserts that Vidal's oeuvre has a Shakespearean resonance in its persistent obsession with the question of what constitutes legitimate power and authority.

In an anthology of essays, Vidal shares his thoughts on a wide range of literary, historical, political, and personal subjects, from appreciation for Mark Twain to distressing developments in American politics.

In the years following World War II a group of gay writers established themselves as major cultural figures in American life. Truman Capote, the enfant terrible, whose finely wrought fiction and nonfiction captured the nation's imagination. Gore Vidal, the wry, withering chronicler of politics, sex, and history. Tennessee Williams, whose powerful plays rocketed him to the top of the American theater. James Baldwin, the harrowingly perceptive novelist and social critic. Christopher Isherwood, the English novelist who became a thoroughly American novelist. And the exuberant Allen Ginsberg, whose poetry defied censorship and exploded minds. Together, their writing introduced America to gay experience and sensibility, and changed our literary culture. But the change was only beginning. A new generation of gay writers followed, taking more risks and writing about their sexuality more openly. Edward Albee brought his prickly iconoclasm to the American theater. Edmund White laid bare his own life in stylized, autobiographical works. Armistead Maupin wove a rich tapestry of the counterculture, queer and straight. Mart Crowley brought gay men's lives out of the closet and onto the stage. And Tony Kushner took them beyond the stage, to the center of American ideas. With authority and humor, Christopher Bram weaves these men's ambitions, affairs, feuds, loves, and appetites into a single sweeping narrative. Chronicling over fifty years of momentous change—from civil rights to Stonewall to AIDS and beyond—EMINENT OUTLAWS is an inspiring, illuminating tale: one that reveals how the lives of these men are crucial to understanding the social and cultural history of the American twentieth century.

Essays, 1992-2000

The Judgment of Paris

Empire  
The Last Empire  
The Gay Writers Who Changed America  
Roman Blood

ON THE EVE OF REVOLUTION, EGYPT IS A TINDERBOX. WILL ONE AMERICAN LIGHT THE SPARK THAT SETS IT ABLAZE? Gore Vidal was one of America's greatest and most controversial writers. The author of twenty-three novels, five plays, three memoirs, numerous screenplays and short stories, and well over two hundred essays, he received the National Book Award in 1993. In 1953, Vidal had already begun writing the works that would launch him to the top ranks of American authors and intellectuals. But in the wake of criticism for the scandalous content of his third novel, *The City and the Pillar*, Vidal turned to writing crime fiction under pseudonyms: three books as "Edgar Box" and one as "Cameron Kay." The *Edgar Box* novels were subsequently republished under his real name. The *Cameron Kay* never was. Lost for more than 60 years and overflowing with political and sexual intrigue, *Thieves Fall Out* provides a delicious glimpse into the mind of Gore Vidal in his formative years. By turns mischievous and deadly serious, Vidal tells the story of a man caught up in events bigger than he is, a down-on-his-luck American hired to smuggle an ancient relic out of Cairo at a time when revolution is brewing and heads are about to roll. One part *Casablanca* and one part torn-from-the-headlines tabloid reportage, this novel also offers a startling glimpse of Egypt in turmoil -- written over half a century ago, but as current as the news streaming from the streets of Cairo today. Good Friday, 1939, and T., a sixteen-year-old schoolboy, arrives at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington. The museum is closed, but T. manages to slip in, and it would appear that somehow, he is expected. An old man, Bentsen, shows him around, and T. realises that all is not as it seems. As he goes to examine a Native American exhibit, he is drawn magically into the nineteenth-century world of a reservation of Sioux Indians. They like what they see of T. and immediately get the pot boiling. T. is forced to take refuge in the tent of a young Squaw. They become lovers, and she helps him to escape back to the safety of the Smithsonian. Back with Bentsen, T. explores the Smithsonian further and begins to fathom the mysteries of time travel. The Smithsonian scientists have discovered how to get back to the past, but still don't know how to travel to the future. T. puts his brilliant mathematical brain to the problem. However, given a glimpse into the future, T. sees his own untimely death, and becomes determined to prevent the outbreak of WWII... From Doris Lessing, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, this is the first instalment in the visionary novel cycle 'Canopus in Argos: Archives'. The story of the final days of our planet is told through the reports of Johor, an emissary sent from Canopus. Earth, now named Shikasta (the Stricken) by the kindly, paternalistic Canopeans who colonised it many centuries ago, is under the influence of the evil empire of Puttiora. War, famine, disease and environmental disasters ravage the planet. To Johor, mankind is a 'totally crazed species', racing towards annihilation: his orders to save humanity set him what seems to be an impossible task. Blending myth, fable and allegory, Doris Lessing's astonishing visionary creation both reflects and redefines the history of our own world from its earliest beginnings to an inevitable, tragic self-destruction. *Two Sisters* is Gore Vidal's fictional memoir of a love affair with a beautiful set of twins in post-war Paris - a story skilfully interwoven with notebooks, diaries and the vivid fragment of a screenplay set in ancient Greece. In seductive settings from a brothel in a Parisian backstreet to the rooftops of seventies Rome, Vidal assembles his characters, real and imagined: Cocteau and Tennessee Williams, Gide and Mailer rub shoulders with creations as unforgettable as the ageing femme fatale Marietta Donegal and Hollywood hustler and flagellant Murray Morris. All are bound together in a mesmerising fiction that builds to an extraordinary conclusion. Gore Vidal on Power  
A Man for Our Times  
A Memoir, 1964 to 2006  
A Memoir  
Conversations with Gore Vidal  
Julian  
A light-hearted book about books and the people who write them for all lovers of literature. Do you know: Which famous author died of caffeine poisoning? Why Alice's Adventures in Wonderland was banned in China? Who was the first British writer to win the Nobel Prize in Literature? What superstitions Truman Capote kept whenever he wrote? Who the other Winston Churchill was? A treasure trove of compelling facts, riveting anecdotes, and extraordinary characters, *For the Love of Books* is a book about books--and the inside stories about the people who write them. Learn how books evolved, what lies behind some of the greatest tales ever told, and who's really who in the world of fiction. From banned books to famous feuding authors, from literary felons to rejected masterpieces, from tips for aspiring writers to stand-out book lists for readers to catch up on, *For the Love of Books* is a celebration of the written word and an absolute page-turner for any book lover. Read all about it!  
Lincoln is the cornerstone of Gore Vidal's fictional American chronicle, which includes *Burr*, 1876, Washington, D.C., *Empire*, and

Hollywood. It opens early on a frozen winter morning in 1861, when President-elect Abraham Lincoln slips into Washington, flanked by two bodyguards. The future president is in disguise, for there is talk of a plot to murder him. During the next four years there will be numerous plots to murder this man who has sworn to unite a disintegrating nation. Isolated in a ramshackle White House in the center of a proslavery city, Lincoln presides over a fragmenting government as Lee's armies beat at the gates. In this profoundly moving novel, a work of epic proportions and intense human sympathy, Lincoln is observed by his loved ones and his rivals. The cast of characters is almost Dickensian: politicians, generals, White House aides, newspapermen, Northern and Southern conspirators, amiably evil bankers, and a wife slowly going mad. Vidal's portrait of the president is at once intimate and monumental, stark and complex, drawn with the wit, grace, and authority of one of the great historical novelists. With a new Introduction by the author.

An imaginative collection of Vidal interviews given over twenty years, full of witty, brilliant, and unconventional comments on his own life and work as well as American politics, values, and sexuality *Empire*, the fourth novel in Gore Vidal's monumental six-volume chronicle of the American past, is his prodigiously detailed portrait of the United States at the dawn of the twentieth century as it begins to emerge as a world power. -----While America struggles to define its destiny, beautiful and ambitious Caroline Sanford fights to control her own fate. One of Vidal's most inspired creations, she is an embodiment of the complex, vigorous young nation. From the back offices of her Washington newspaper, Caroline confronts the two men who threaten to thwart her ambition: William Randolph Hearst and his protégé, Blaise Sanford, Caroline's half brother. In their struggles for power the lives of brother and sister become intertwined with those of Presidents McKinley and Roosevelt, as well as Astors, Vanderbilts, and Whitneys--all incarnations of America's Gilded Age. -----"Mr. Vidal demonstrates a political imagination and insider's sagacity equaled by no other practicing fiction writer," said *The New York Times Book Review*. "Like the earlier novels in his historical cycle, *Empire* is a wonderfully vivid documentary drama." -----With a new Introduction by the author.

*Thieves Fall Out*  
*Political Animal*  
Gore Vidal  
*Two Sisters*  
An Entertainment with Music  
Live from Golgotha

A satiric look at the state of the union centers on a relocated Duluth and its assorted politicians, policemen and women, terrestrial and extraterrestrial aliens, Hispanics, feminists, mobsters, and other minorities  
The outrageous and immortal, gender-bending and polymorphously perverse, over-the-top, and utterly on-target comic masterpiece from the bestselling author of *Burr*, *Lincoln*, and the National Book Award-winning *United States*. With a new introduction by Camille Paglia "I am Myra Breckinridge, whom no man will ever possess." So begins the irresistible testimony of the luscious instructor of Empathy and Posture at Buck Loner's Academy of Drama and Modeling. Myra has a secret that only her surgeon shares; a passion for classic Hollywood films, which she regards as the supreme achievements of Western culture; and a sacred mission to bring heteronormative civilization to its knees. Fifty years after its first publication unleashed gales of laughter, delight, and ferocious dissent ("Has literary decency fallen so low?" asked *Time*), Myra Breckinridge's moment to instruct and delight has once again arrived.

In a memoir of friendship that is filled with anecdotes about expat life in Italy, the author presents an irresistible insider account of his relationship with Gore Vidal, a man who prided himself on being difficult to know.  
*Hollywood* marks the fifth episode in Gore Vidal's "Narratives of Empire," his celebrated series of six historical novels that form his extended biography of the United States. It is 1917, and President Woodrow Wilson is about to lead the country into the Great War in Europe. In California, a new industry is born that will irreversibly transform America. Caroline Sanford, the alluring heroine of *Empire*, discovers the power of moving pictures to manipulate reality as she vaults to screen stardom under the name of Emma Traxler. Just as Caroline must balance her two lives--West Coast movie star and East Coast newspaper publisher and senator's mistress--so too must America balance its two power centers: Hollywood and Washington. Here is history as only Gore Vidal can re-create it: brimming with intrigue and scandal, peopled by the greats of the silver screen and American politics. "Hollywood shimmers with the illusion of politics and the politics of illusion," wrote the *Chicago Sun-Times*. "A wonderfully literate and consistently impressive work of fiction that clearly belongs on a shelf with Vidal's best," said *The New York Times Book Review*. With a new Introduction by the author.

*The Gospel According to Gore Vidal*  
*For the Love of Books*  
*Selected Essays*

*The Smithsonian Institution*  
*A Novel of Ancient Rome*  
Re: Colonised Planet 5 : Personal, Psychological, Historical Documents Relating to Visit by Johor (George Sherban) Emissary (Grade 9) 87th of the Last Period of the Last Days

Gore Vidal's satirical fantasy, with a new introduction by the author. From his long-time hiding-place in provincial Egypt, Eugene Luther tells the story of John Cave, a former Californian undertaker, his rise to power and the subsequent global impact of his new religion.

This explosively entertaining memoir abounds in gossip, satire, historical aperçus, and trenchant observations. Vidal's compelling narrative weaves back and forth in time, providing a whole view of the author's celebrated life, from his birth in 1925 to today, and features a cast of memorable characters—including the Kennedy family, Marlon Brando, Anais Nin, and Eleanor Roosevelt.

Cyrus Spitama, the aged Persian ambassador to Athens, recounts his official and personal journeys throughout the world of the fifth century B.C. and his encounters with the Buddha, Confucius, Socrates, and other great men of an extraordinary century, in a restored edition of the acclaimed historical novel, featuring material from the author's original manuscript.

Simultaneous. 15,000 first printing.

The first popular book-length study of Gore Vidal's novels.

Sympathy for the Devil

Washington, Adams, Jefferson

The Fiction of History

Point to Point Navigation

Duluth

Gore Vidal, from Creation to Armageddon

The novelist and critic continues the story of his eventful life, chronicling his odyssey through the worlds of literature, TV, film, theater, politics, and international society, and the illness and death of his long-time partner, Howard Austen.

The third volume of Gore Vidal's magnificent series of historical novels aimed at demythologizing the American past, 1876

chronicles the political scandals and dark intrigues that rocked the United States in its centennial year. -----Charles

Schermerhorn Schuyler, Aaron Burr's unacknowledged son, returns to a flamboyant America after his long, self-imposed European

exile. The narrator of Burr has come home to recoup a lost

fortune by arranging a suitable marriage for his beautiful

daughter, the widowed Princess d'Agrigente, and by ingratiating

himself with Samuel Tilden, the favored presidential candidate in

the centennial year. With these ambitions and with their own

abundant charms, Schuyler and his daughter soon find themselves

at the centers of American social and political power at a time

when the fading ideals of the young republic were being replaced

by the excitement of empire. -----"A glorious piece of writing,"

said Jimmy Breslin in Harper's. "Vidal can take history and make

it powerful and astonishing." Time concurred: "Vidal has no peers

at breathing movement and laughter into the historical past."

-----With a new Introduction by the author.

Once again the incomparable Gore Vidal interprets and animates

history -- this time in a panoramic tour of the 5th century B.C.

-- and embellishes it with his own ironic humor, brilliant

insights, and piercing observations. We meet a vast array of

historical figures in a staggering novel of love, war,

philosophy, and adventure . . . "There isn't a page of CREATION

that doesn't inform and very few pages that do not delight." --

John Leonard, The New York Times

(Applause Books). Featuring ruffled PIs, shyster lawyers, corrupt

politicians, double-crossers, femmes fatales, and, of course,

losers who find themselves down on their luck yet again, film

noir is a perennially popular cinematic genre. This extensive

encyclopedia describes movies from noir's earliest days and even

before, looking at some of noir's ancestors in US and European

cinema as well as noir's more recent offshoots, from neonoirs to

erotic thrillers. Entries are arranged alphabetically, covering

movies from all over the world from every continent save

Antarctica with briefer details provided for several hundred

additional movies within those entries. A copious appendix

contains filmographies of prominent directors, actors, and

writers. With coverage of blockbusters and program fillers from

Going Straight (US 1916) to Broken City (US 2013) via Nora Inu

(Japan 1949), O Anthropos tou Trainou (Greece 1958), El Less Wal

Kilab (Egypt 1962), Reportaje a la Muerte (Peru 1993), Zift

(Bulgaria 2008), and thousands more, A Comprehensive Encyclopedia

of Film Noir is an engrossing and essential reference work that

should be on the shelves of every cinephile.

Palimpsest

Shikasta

A Life of Gore Vidal

The Golden Age

A Critical Companion

Creation