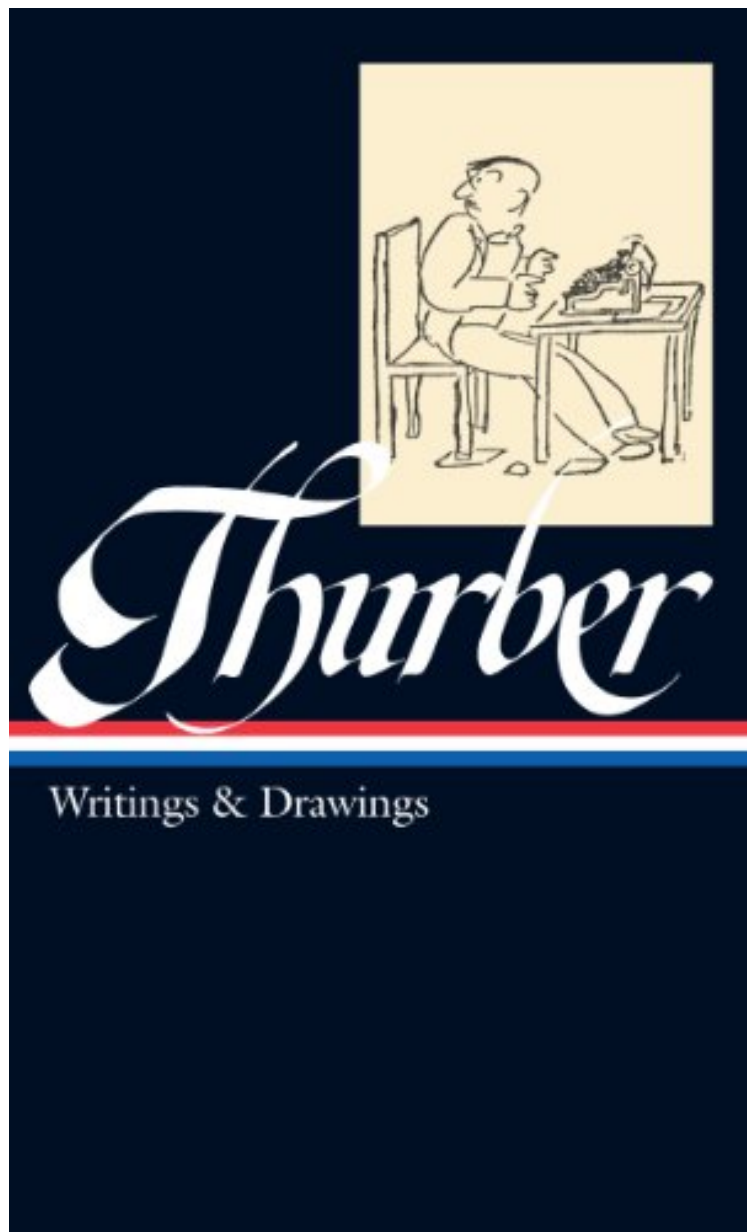


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James Thurber: Writings Drawings (including The Secret Life of Walter Mitty) (Library of America)

James Thurber

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#405108 in Books Thurber, James 1996-10-01 1996-10-01Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.25 x 1.75 x 5.251, 1.83 #File Name: 18830112211004 pages | File size: 37.Mb

James Thurber : James Thurber: Writings Drawings (including The Secret Life of Walter Mitty) (Library of America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised James

Thurber: Writings Drawings (including The Secret Life of Walter Mitty) (Library of America):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I love Thurber's prose styleBy Rabbi David Dunn BauerI love Thurber's prose style, the communicative simplicity of his drawings, and his dry, humane sense of humor. Had there been no James Thurber, there would be no Garrison Keillor. (I probably place Thurber as the link between Twain and Keillor in the chain of American storytellers.)Four stars rather than five for the maudlin tone that creeps in to some of the less humorous stories (although he is wonderfully capable of writing affectionately and sentimentally while still being funny), and Thurber more often than necessary falls into the traps of White Straight Mid-Century American Maleness. He is often uncomfortably patronizing towards women, and reliably offensive about black and gay people.Nonetheless, he can make me laugh and cry and sigh with wonder over his masterful use of American English. A must read/must own, with all the above caveats.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful American humorist and authorBy p.m.I first became aware of Thurber because of his short story "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" which caught my imagination as a child. Over the years I have been able to read more of his works and get the layers of humor, commentary and imagination.This collection is just wonderful. I have it in hardback and bought the kindle edition so that I can have it anywhere when I want a few minutes to smile.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Wonderful Slice of AmericanaBy Buck EisrockWhat an amazingly irreverent sense of humor Mr. Thurber exhibits. From familial mishaps to stories exposing American society's quirks, this compilation repeatedly brings a knowing smile or an agreeing smirk as reaction to his remarkable prose and casual, tongue-in-cheek story telling. His simple drawings evoke a comfortable humor and an often "sideways" look into our relationships with our pets, our neighbors and our social interactions. I'm also charmingly amused at the prevalence and apparent integral, social importance that alcohol played in his life and the lives of his characters. This tome was thoroughly enjoyed at home, in front of a roaring fire, with a cocktail (or two) on chilly autumn evenings. I thoroughly recommend entering the sometimes cock-eyed, but always entertaining world of Mr. James Thurber!

James Thurber, whimsical fantasist and deadpan chronicler of everyday absurdities, brought American humor into the 20th century. His comic persona, a modern citydweller whose zaniest flights of free association are tinged with anxiety, remains hilarious, subtly disturbing, and instantly recognizable. Here, in over 1000 pages, editor Garrison Keillor presents the best and most extensive collection ever assembled. Over 100 pieces include "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" and "The Catbird Seat," the brilliantly satirical Fables for Our Time, the classic My Life and Hard Times, and the best of The Owl in the Attic, Let Your Mind Alone!, My World—And Welcome to It, and the other famous books. Plus 500 wonderful drawings, including The Seal in the Bedroom and celebrated sequences like "The Masculine Approach" and "The War Between Men and Women." Rounding out the volume is a selection from The Years with Ross, a memoir of the New Yorker publisher, and a number of wonderful early pieces never collected by Thurber.

.com The shy Midwesterner James Thurber became a famed cartoonist and humor writer almost, it seems, by accident: Thurber in person was often depressed and self-conscious, darker strains that emerge fitfully in his sly, absurdist work. Garrison Keillor, a sunnier brand of Midwestern humorist, has assembled four longer works with many of Thurber's drawings and short pieces for the Library of America edition of Thurber's selected works. Many of these cartoons and writings are now classics, and Thurber's edgy, modernist humor--not to mention his usually bewildered protagonists--has influenced many of the best cartoonists today.From Library JournalThis work represents each decade of Thurber's writing career, from the slight New Yorker sketches of the 1920s to the irreverently affectionate portrait of that magazine's founder, The Years with Ross, of the late 1950s. Keillor's selection of Thurber's oeuvre is both the most generous and the most judicious volume available. Known largely for The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (1939), which dramatizes the battle of the sexes and the male animal's ineptitude in the face of modern technology, Thurber was an Algonquin stylist with a wide range of talents. These talents are effectively displayed here in the self-deprecating reminiscences of his eccentric Columbus, Ohio, family; beast fables with a cutting edge; and almost 500 inimitable line drawings. A valuable work; highly recommended for all libraries.?Charles C. Nash, Cottey Coll., Nevada, Mo.Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.From BooklistAmerican humorists have always helped define American culture by satirizing its more absurd habits of mind, fads, and institutions. James Thurber (1894^1961) is one of the giants in this fine tradition, and now the entire scope of his sharp wit and poignant whimsy is gathered together in this invaluable volume. Selected by Garrison Keillor, a Thurber soul-mate if ever there was one, these stories, parodies, reminiscences, cartoons, and drawings present Thurber's unique and masterful take on work, psychotherapy, fantasizing, domesticity, and the battle between the sexes. The volume includes the now classic "Secret Life of Walter Mitty," the unforgettable images of The Seal in the Bedroom, and his autobiography, My Life and Hard Times, as well as a number of previously uncollected pieces. A painstaking writer, Thurber found release in the spontaneity of his drawings, and the dynamic contrast between the ironic intensity of his prose and the quicksilver

inventiveness of his cartoons is intrinsic to the power of his work. Donna Seaman