

They Divided The Sky A Novel By Christa Wolf

Christa Wolf They Divided the Sky A Novel by Christa Wolf The Fourth Dimension Christa Wolf Christa Wolf They Divided the Sky Christa Wolf Essays of Christa Wolf Christa Wolf in Perspective The writings of Christa Wolf Cassandra What Remains Christa Wolf The Writings of Christa Wolf A Model Childhood Christa Wolf August A Comprehensive Interpretation of the Life and Work of Christa Wolf, 20th Century German Writer Christa Wolf Christa Wolf Heinz Ludwig Arnold Christa Wolf Sonja E. Klocke Alexander Stephan Christa Wolf Gail Finney Christa Wolf Alice V. Kingsbury Christa Wolf Gerald Fetz Sonja Hilzinger Alice Victoria Maddox Kingsbury Christa Wolf Nadine J. Schmidt Christa Wolf Hajo Drees Myra Norma Love Franz Baumer

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first published in 1963 in east germany they divided the sky tells the story of a young couple living in the new socialist east germany whose relationship is tested to the extreme not only because of the political positions they gradually develop but very concretely by the berlin wall which went up on august 13 1961 the story is set in 1960 and 1961 a moment of high political cold war tension between the east bloc and the west a time when many thousands of people were leaving the young german democratic republic the gdr every day in order to seek better lives in west germany or escape the political ideology of the new country that promoted the farmer and peasant state over a state run by intellectuals or capitalists the construction of the wall put an end to this hemorrhaging of human capital but separated families friends and lovers for thirty years the conflicts of the time permeate the relations between characters in the book at every level and strongly affect the relationships that rita the protagonist has not only with colleagues at work and at the teacher's college she attends but also with her partner manfred an intellectual and academic and his family they also lead to an accident attempted suicide that send her to hospital in a coma and that provide the backdrop for the flashbacks that make up the narrative wolf's first full length novel published when she was thirty five years old was both a great literary success and a political scandal accused of having a decadent attitude with regard to the new socialist germany and deliberately misrepresenting the workers who are the foundation of this new state wolf survived a wave of political and other attacks after its publication she went on to create a screenplay from the novel and participate in making the film version more importantly she went on to become the best known east german writer of her generation a writer who established an international reputation and never stopped working toward improving the socialist reality of the gdr

the author should not disappear into her own work says christa wolf but should

stand up and be counted in this series of interviews and conversations spanning more than a decade christ wolf does precisely that here one of the greatest contemporary novelists discusses the origins of an inspirations for her best known works often taking as her starting point events from the past her novels she explains remain fictions of the present whether her concern is to reassess the experiences of growing up in nazi germany as in a model childhood or to attempt to trace the roots of the contradictions in which our civilisation is now trapped as in cassandra these conversations however take her far beyond the purely literary she talks openly about what it means to be both a writer and a woman in east germany today and concludes that literature is no longer territorially defined we are not so much divided by boundaries between east and west as united in our common experience of highly organized patriarchal society she says which has brought us to the verge of annihilation it is the author s voice according to christa wolf which provides the fourth dimension of modern prose in these pages her own voice emerges more loudly and clearly than ever

interest in christa wolf continues to grow her classics are being reprinted and new titles are appearing posthumously becoming bestsellers and being translated energetic scholarly debates engage well known aesthetic and political issues that the public intellectual herself fore fronted this broad ranging introduction to the author her work and times builds upon and moves beyond such foundational interpretative frameworks by articulating the global relevance of wolf s oeuvre today also for non german readers thus it brings east german culture alive to students teachers scholars and the general public by connecting the socialist german democratic republic gdr and the lived experiences of its citizens to nations and cultures around the world the collection focuses on topical matters including the search for authenticity agency race cosmopolitanism gender environmentalism geopolitics war and memory debates as well as movie adaptations and wolf s film work with defa marketing and international reception our contributions by senior and emerging scholars from across the globe emphasize wolf s position as an author of world literature and an important critical voice in the 21st century

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this book presents a brief biography of christa wolfe s life and critical interpretation and discussion of her works

retells the story of the fall of troy from the point of view of the woman whose visionary powers earned her contempt and scorn written as a result of the author s greek travels and studies cassandra speaks to us in a pressing monologue whose inner focal points are patriarchy and war in the four accompanying pieces which take the form of travel reports journal entries and a letter wolf describes the novel s genesis cover p 4

arguably the most important and influential german woman writer of the last century christa wolf was long heralded as die gesamtdeutsche autorin an author for all of germany but after 1989 in unified germany wolf found herself suddenly embroiled in controversies that challenged her integrity and consigned her to an ideologically suspect identity as ddr schriftstellerin gdr writer or staatsdichterin state

poet what remains responses to the legacy of christa wolf asks the question of what truly remains of her legacy in the annals of contemporary german culture and history unlike most of what appeared in the wake of wolf s death however the contributions to this international volume seek neither to monumentalize her nor to dismantle her stature but to employ a range of methodologies comparative intertextual psychoanalytic historical transcultural to offer sensitive assessments of wolf s major literary texts as well as of her lesser known work in genres such as film and essay

august is christa wolf s last piece of fiction written in a single sitting as an anniversary gift to her husband in it she revisits her stay at a tuberculosis hospital in the winter of 1946 47 which makes up the closing scenes of her 1976 novel patterns of childhood this time however the perspective is a very different one that of august a young patient who has lost both parents to the war he adores the older girl lilo a rebellious teenager who holds things together on the wards sixty years later august thinks back on his life and the things that she taught him written in taut affectionate prose august offers a new entry into christa wolf s work and incidentally her first and last male protagonist yet it is more than a literary artefacta perfectly constructed story of a quiet life well lived for august as for christa wolf the past was never dead

christa wolf has been celebrated as one of the most innovative german speaking postwar writers and is the recipient of many international awards and prizes her fiction has also earned her censorship and international criticism her prose brilliantly depicts east and west germany s path to coming to terms with the influence of the hitler regime this study examines her fiction speeches and essays illustrating how the trinity of identity socialization and artistic creativity evolves and manifests itself in her writing

this study focuses on the writings of christa wolf one of east germany s most prominent and controversial authors offering original and provocative readings of wolf s most significant literary and essayistic texts it explores the evolution of her moral vision this book expands the scholarly context for discussion of a most important author by situating her in relation to contemporary theoretical debates about modernity western rationalism and the constitution of the subject

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