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THE ORCHID THIEF

"LIKE THE ORCHID,
A SMALL THING OF
GRANDEUR, A PASSION
WITH A PEDIGREE . . .
THE ORCHID THIEF
SHOWS ORLEAN'S
GIFTS IN FULL BLOOM."
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Book Review

FEATURING A
READER'S
COMPANION



A TRUE STORY OF BEAUTY AND OBSESSION
SUSAN ORLEAN

The Orchid Thief

David LaRocca



The Orchid Thief:

The Orchid Thief Susan Orlean, 2000-01-04 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK A modern classic of personal journalism The Orchid Thief is Susan Orlean's wickedly funny elegant and captivating tale of an amazing obsession Determined to clone an endangered flower the rare ghost orchid *Polystichum lindenii* a deeply eccentric and oddly attractive man named John Laroche leads Orlean on an unforgettable tour of America's strange flower selling subculture through Florida's swamps and beyond along with the Seminoles who help him and the forces of justice who fight him In the end Orlean and the reader will have more respect for underdog determination and a powerful new definition of passion In this new edition coming fifteen years after its initial publication and twenty years after she first met the orchid thief Orlean revisits this unforgettable world and the route by which it was brought to the screen in the film Adaptation in a new retrospective essay Look for special features inside Join the Random House Reader's Circle for author chats and more Praise for The Orchid Thief Stylishly written whimsical yet sophisticated quirkily detailed and full of empathy The Orchid Thief shows Orlean's gifts in full bloom The New York Times Book Review Fascinating an engrossing journey full of theft hatred greed jealousy madness and backstabbing Los Angeles Times Orlean's snapshot vivid pitch perfect prose is fast becoming one of our national treasures The Washington Post Book World Orlean's gifts are her ear for the self skewing dialogue her eye for the incongruous convincing detail and her Didion like deftness in description Boston Sunday Globe A swashbuckling piece of reporting that celebrates some virtues that made America great The Wall Street Journal *The Orchid Thief* Susan Orlean, 1998-01

Summary of Susan Orlean's The Orchid Thief Everest

Media, 2022-05-30T22:59:00Z Please note This is a companion version not the original book Sample Book Insights 1 Laroche is a tall skinny man with pale eyes and a sharp appearance He is extremely passionate and driven He has been working for the Seminole Tribe of Florida since he was twenty one years old setting up a plant nursery and an orchid propagation laboratory on the tribe's reservation in Hollywood Florida 2 Laroche is a very unusual person He is also the most moral amoral person I've ever known He loves doing things the hard way especially if it means that he gets to do what he wants to do but also leaves everyone else wondering how he managed to get away with it 3 I met John Laroche in Florida a few years ago He was arrested with rare orchids he had stolen out of a swamp called the Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve He explained that the plants were going to be cloned and sold to orchid collectors around the world 4 The trial took place in a courthouse south of Sanibel Laroche was charged with illegally removing more than two hundred rare orchid and bromeliad plants from the Fakahatchee Swamp He was also charged with criminal possession of endangered species and of illegally removing plant life from state property both of which are punishable by jail time and fines *The Orchid Thief* Carolyn Keene, 2012-05-22 This New York Times bestselling girl detective has one hot summer ahead Nancy Bess and George are off to Key Largo Florida for a week of sun swimming and exploring the fabulous coral reef that stretches along the Florida keys

They've been invited by Delia Duke a friend of theirs and also a marine biologist at the John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park which covers a 175 sq miles of reef and shoreline along the coast of Key Largo The park is a scuba diver's delight with dazzling corals and tropical fish and Delia promises to show the girls the best snorkling and diving spots But as they head through the mangroves toward her boat someone takes off in a small motor boat leaving behind a bag filled with rare endangered butterfly orchids This is just the beginning of a shocking eco mystery that'd be too complex for anyone but Nancy Drew

[The Orchid Thief](#) Susan Orlean,1998-11 **The Orchid Thief by Susan Orlean** Judi T. Kiraly,2002 *The Orchid Thief Reimagined* Jane Kent,2003 [The Orchid Strangler](#) Pasquale De Marco,2025-05-11 Prepare to be captivated by the dark allure of orchids and the twisted mind of a serial killer in The Orchid Strangler This gripping true crime exploration delves into a chilling investigation that will leave you questioning the boundaries of beauty and obsession As the city is gripped by fear detectives race against time to uncover the truth behind a series of gruesome murders Each victim bears a haunting signature an orchid its delicate petals stained with the crimson of death With each life extinguished the orchid's significance grows transforming it from a symbol of beauty into a sinister harbinger of doom Through meticulous investigation and expert analysis we follow the trail of clues uncovering the killer's modus operandi and delving into their twisted psyche The investigation takes us into the hidden corners of society where obsession and desire lead to unspeakable acts of violence But The Orchid Strangler is more than just a crime story It is a fascinating exploration of the world of orchids their captivating beauty and the dark history of their collection We discover the lengths to which some will go to possess these rare and exotic flowers blurring the lines between passion and obsession This book is a mesmerizing blend of true crime botanical intrigue and psychological suspense It is a journey into the darkness that lurks beneath the surface of beauty a tale of obsession murder and the enduring power of flowers Prepare to be captivated by The Orchid Strangler a haunting and unforgettable exploration of the dark side of desire If you like this book write a review on google books

[Beyond Adaptation](#) Phyllis Frus,Christy Williams,2010-03-16 Some film and novel revisions go so far beyond adaptation that they demand a new designation This critical collection explores movies plays essays comics and video games that supersede adaptation to radically transform their original sources Fifteen essays investigate a variety of texts that rework everything from literary classics to popular children's books demonstrating how these new stand alone creations critically engage their sources and contexts Particular attention is paid to parody intertextuality and fairy tale transformations in the examination of these works which occupy a unique narrative and creative space

The New York Times Guide to the Best 1,000 Movies Ever Made Peter M. Nichols,2004-02-21 From the film critics of The New York Times come these uncut original reviews of the most popular and influential movies ever made from the Talkies to blockbuster megahits like Chicago and The Wizard of Oz from timeless classics like Casablanca and Notorious to beloved foreign films by Truffaut and Kurosawa Fellini and Almodovar The reviews eloquent incisive and intuitive reflect Hollywood history at its best must have reading for movie

lovers or Students In addition this essential volume includes Full cast and production credits for every movie The 10 Best lists for every year from 1931 to the present An index of films by genre and an index of foreign films by country of origin This edition is thoroughly updated to include all the important movies of the past several years as well as a new introduction by A Times film critic A O Scott

The Orchid Hunter Leif Bersweden, 2018-04-12 He has just a few months to complete his quest no one has ever done it before within one growing season and it will require ingenuity stamina and a large dose of luck As he battles the vagaries of the British climate feverishly chasing each emerging bloom Leif Bersweden takes the reader on a remarkable botanical journey This study of the 52 native species is a fantastic gateway into the compendious world of orchids one that will open your eyes to the rare hidden delights to be found on our doorstep Like Two Owls at Eton and My Family and Other Animals The Orchid Hunter is a charming account of a precocious adolescent s obsession with the natural world Leif s enthusiasm for his quest is infectious as is the quiet conviction with which he keeps at it showing how plant hunting can be the ultimate mindful activity

The Philosophy of Charlie Kaufman David LaRocca, 2011-05-27 From the Academy Award winning Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind 2004 and Academy Award nominated Adaptation 2002 to the cult classic Being John Malkovich 1999 writer Charlie Kaufman is widely admired for his innovative philosophically resonant films Although he only recently made his directorial debut with Synecdoche New York 2008 most fans and critics refer to Kaufman films the way they would otherwise discuss works by directors Woody Allen Martin Scorsese or the Coen brothers Not only has Kaufman transformed our sense of what can take place in a film but he also has made a significant impact on our understanding of the role of the screenwriter The Philosophy of Charlie Kaufman edited by David LaRocca is the first collection of essays devoted to a rigorous philosophical exploration of Kaufman s work by a team of capable and critical scholars from a wide range of disciplines From political theorists to philosophers classicists to theologians professors of literature to filmmakers the contributing authors delve into the heart of Kaufman s innovative screenplays offering not only original philosophical analyses but also extended reflections on the nature of film and film criticism

Authorship in Film Adaptation Jack Boozer, 2009-06-03 Authoring a film adaptation of a literary source not only requires a media conversion but also a transformation as a result of the differing dramatic demands of cinema The most critical central step in this transformation of a literary source to the screen is the writing of the screenplay The screenplay usually serves to recruit producers director and actors to attract capital investment and to give focus to the conception and production of the film project Often undergoing multiple revisions prior to production the screenplay represents the crucial decisions of writer and director that will determine how and to what end the film will imitate or depart from its original source Authorship in Film Adaptation is an accessible provocative text that opens up new areas of discussion on the central process of adaptation surrounding the screenplay and screenwriter director collaboration In contrast to narrow binary comparisons of literary source text and film the twelve essays in this collection also give attention to the underappreciated role of the screenplay and

film pre production that can signal the primary intention for a film Divided into four parts this collection looks first at the role of Hollywood s activist producers and major auteurs such as Hitchcock and Kubrick as they worked with screenwriters to formulate their audio visual goals The second part offers case studies of *Devil in a Blue Dress* and *The Sweet Hereafter* for which the directors wrote their own adapted screenplays Considering the variety of writer director working relationships that are possible Part III focuses on adaptations that alter genre time and place and Part IV investigates adaptations that alter stories of romance sexuality and ethnicity

The Forbidden Orchid Sharon Biggs Waller,2016-03-08 The adventures of a British girl in China hunting for the orchid that will save her family Staid responsible Elodie Buchanan is the eldest of ten sisters growing up in a small English market town in 1861 The girls barely know their father a plant hunter usually off adventuring through China more myth than man Then disaster strikes Mr Buchanan reneges on his contract to collect an extremely rare and valuable orchid He will be thrown into debtors prison while his daughters are sent to the orphanage and the workhouse Elodie can t stand by and see her family destroyed so she persuades her father to return to China once more to try to hunt down the flower only this time despite everything she knows about her place in society Elodie goes with him She has never before left her village but what starts as fear turns to wonder as she adapts to seafaring life aboard the tea clipper *The Osprey* and later to the new sights dangers and romance of China She comes to find that both the world and her place in it are so much bigger than she d ever dreamed But now even if she can find the orchid how can she ever go back to being the staid responsible Elodie that everybody needs

Rare and Exotic Orchids Joel L. Schiff,2017-12-08 Comprising some 28 000 different species orchids are by far the largest flowering plant family on Earth Every year new species are being uncovered in the wild or created by humans and so this number has only continued to blossom This book is intended for those who wish to learn about the multifaceted nature of this amazing plant It covers many different aspects of orchid study from its cultural history to its evolutionary development and from its first discoveries to ongoing scientific research No matter your specialty or level of orchid expertise you can find in this book new and fascinating facts and stories that will make you gasp laugh and read on Through the many exotic and beautiful pictures permeating these pages you will come to know something of the infinite diversity of this plant family and at last learn why so many orchid growers and fanatics have embarked on this same endless path I was smitten with this book after reading the very first chapter on the history of Orchids There are plenty of interesting facts to charm your orchid friends and impress even the most studied researcher All in all a fabulous read that is well illustrated and with a reference section the likes of which I have never seen before with its vast and varied appendices on a slew of subjects If you are looking for a book that is engaging and educational with lots of good humor thrown in then this book is for you I know that I will treasure my copy for years to come Laura Newton American Orchid Society Awards Registrar and Accredited Judge ORCHIDS Magazine May 2018 Joel L Schiff brings to life not just the science surrounding orchids but the human process of recognizing cataloging and appreciating them It s this approach

combined with lovely close up color photos throughout which makes *Rare and Exotic Orchids* a recommendation not just for professionals or botany libraries but for general interest readers who will enjoy a highly accessible study that invites an in depth interest in orchids and their importance to human affairs Diane Donovan's Pick of the Month April 2018 *Going Places* Robert Burgin, 2013-01-08 Successfully navigate the rich world of travel narratives and identify fiction and nonfiction read alike with this detailed and expertly constructed guide Just as savvy travelers make use of guidebooks to help navigate the hundreds of countries around the globe smart librarians need a guidebook that makes sense of the world of travel narratives *Going Places A Reader's Guide to Travel Narratives* meets that demand helping librarians assist patrons in finding the nonfiction books that most interest them It will also serve to help users better understand the genre and their own reading interests The book examines the subgenres of the travel narrative genre in its seven chapters categorizing and describing approximately 600 titles according to genres and broad reading interests and identifying hundreds of other fiction and nonfiction titles as read alike and related reads by shared key topics The author has also identified award winning titles and spotlighted further resources on travel lit making this work an ideal guide for readers advisors as well a book general readers will enjoy browsing

Joyride Susan Orlean, 2025-10-14 From the beloved New Yorker writer Susan Orlean New York Times bestselling author of *The Orchid Thief* and *The Library Book* and hailed as a national treasure by The Washington Post *Joyride* is a masterful memoir of finding her creative calling and purpose that invites us to approach life with wonder curiosity and an irrepressible sense of delight The story of my life is the story of my stories writes Susan Orlean in this extraordinary era defining memoir from one of the greatest practitioners of narrative nonfiction of our time *Joyride* is a magic carpet ride through Orlean's life and career where every day is an opportunity for discovery and every moment holds the potential for wonder Throughout her storied career her curiosity draws her to explore the most ordinary and extraordinary of places from going deep inside the head of a regular ten year old boy for a legendary profile *The American Man Age Ten* to reporting on a woman who owns twenty seven tigers from capturing the routine magic of Saturday night to climbing Mt Fuji Not only does Orlean's account of a writing life offer a trove of indispensable gleanings for writers it's also an essential and practical guide to embracing any creative path She takes us through her process of dreaming up ideas managing deadlines connecting with sources chasing every possible lead confronting writer's block and self doubt and crafting the perfect lede a Susan specialty While Orlean has always written her way into other people's lives in order to understand the human experience *Joyride* is her most personal book ever a searching journey through finding her feet as a journalist recovering from the excruciating collapse of her first marriage falling head over heels in love again becoming a mother while mourning the decline of her own mother sojourning to Hollywood for films based on her work including *Adaptation* and *Blue Crush* and confronting mortality *Joyride* is also a time machine to a bygone era of journalism from Orlean's bright start in the golden age of alt weeklies to her career making days working alongside icons such as Robert Gottlieb Tina Brown David Remnick

Anna Wintour Sonny Mehta and Jonathan Karp forces who shaped the media industry as we know it today Infused with Orlean s signature warmth and wit Joyride is a must read for anyone who hungers to start build and sustain a creative life Orlean inspires us to seek out daily inspiration and rediscover the marvels that surround us **The Passing of**

Postmodernism Josh Toth,2010-03-24 The Passing of Postmodernism addresses the increasingly prevalent assumption that a period marked by poststructuralism and metafiction has passed and that literature and film are once again engaging sincerely with issues of ethics and politics In discussions of various twentieth and twenty first century writers directors and theorists from Michel Foucault and Slavoj i ek to Thomas Pynchon and David Lynch Josh Toth demonstrates that a certain utopian spirit persisted within and actually defined the postmodern project Just as modernism was animated by an idealistic belief that it could finally realize the utopia beckoning on the horizon postmodernism was compelled by an equally utopian belief that it could finally reject the possibility of all such illusory ideals Toth argues that this specter of an impossible future is and must remain both possible and impossible a ghostly promise of what is always still to come Josh Toth teaches literature and critical theory at Grant MacEwan College and is coeditor with Neil Brooks of The Mourning After Attending the Wake of Postmodernism **From Camera Lens To Critical Lens** Rebecca Housel,2009-01-14 From Camera Lens to Critical Lens A

Collection of Best Essays on Film Adaptation edited by Rebecca Housel takes the reader through films by directors like Alfred Hitchcock to examining the relevance of twenty first century British politics with current film from screenwriter Charlie Kaufman to author Virginia Woolf and examining new theoretical approaches to international film adaptations from China Japan Britain Canada and France as well as films like Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind and Daughters of the Dust The collection is derived from the Popular Culture Association PCA film adaptation area conference papers researched and written by fourteen diverse scholars from all over the world who gathered together in San Diego California in April 2005 to further their research by presenting their ideas on film adaptation now in full text versions within this exciting new volume Accessible engaging and informative any audience may read and enjoy this edited collection on film adaptation The volume would also work well for pedagogical purposes both in and out of the classroom Such a volume may easily be used in courses for English film studies gender studies women s studies fine art psychology political science history and more A work of diverse international voices this collection represents the very best on film adaptation today **Books and Beyond** Kenneth

Womack,2008-10-30 There s a strong interest in reading for pleasure or self improvement in America as shown by the popularity of Harry Potter and book clubs including Oprah Winfrey s Although recent government reports show a decline in recreational reading the same reports show a strong correlation between interest in reading and academic achievement This set provides a snapshot of the current state of popular American literature including various types and genres The volume presents alphabetically arranged entries on more than 70 diverse literary categories such as cyberpunk fantasy literature flash fiction GLBTQ literature graphic novels manga and anime and zines Each entry is written by an expert contributor and

provides a definition of the genre an overview of its history a look at trends and themes a discussion of how the literary form engages contemporary issues a review of the genre s reception a discussion of authors and works and suggestions for further reading Sidebars provide fascinating details and the set closes with a selected general bibliography Reading in America for pleasure and knowledge continues to be popular even while other media compete for attention While students continue to read many of the standard classics new genres have emerged These have captured the attention of general readers and are also playing a critical role in the language arts classroom This book maps the state of popular literature and reading in America today including the growth of new genres such as cyberpunk zines flash fiction GLBTQ literature and other topics Each entry is written by an expert contributor and provides a definition of the genre an overview of its history a look at trends and themes a discussion of how the literary form engages contemporary issues a review of the genre s critical reception a discussion of authors and works and suggestions for further reading Sidebars provide fascinating details and the set closes with a selected general bibliography Students will find this book a valuable guide to what they re reading today and will appreciate its illumination of popular culture and contemporary social issues

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