52 MCGS.: THE BEST OBITUARIES FROM LEGENDARY NEW YORK TIMES REPORTER ROBERT MCG. THOMAS JR.

Among his devoted fans, his pieces were known simply as McGs. With a "genius for illuminating that sometimes ephemeral apogee in people's lives when they prove capable of generating a brightly burning spark" "(Columbia Journalism Review), " Robert McG. Thomas Jr. commemorated fascinating, unconventional lives with signature style and wit."The New York Times" received countless letters over the years from readers moved to tears or...



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Reader's Opinions

Each 'obituary' is actually a short biographical essay - sparkling, dense, and observant - Thomas finds interest and humanity in each subject. After reading about half the book, I recalled the only other book and writings that I could compare to it: A Universal History of Infamy by Jorge Luis Borges.

OK...let me pre-empt. My darkside does lead me to the Valley & State section of the paper to read the latest. I don't know why...I just do. I am fascinated and I want to...