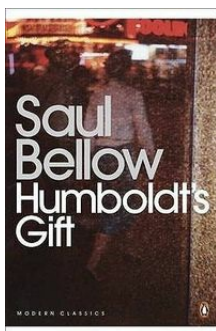


HUMBOLDT'S GIFT

For many years, the great poet Von Humboldt Fleisher and Charlie Citrine, a young man inflamed with a love for literature, were the best of friends. At the time of his death, however, Humboldt is a failure, and Charlie's life has reached a low point: his career is at a standstill, and he's enmeshed in an...



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Humboldt's Gift

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Peek Inside the Book

Fidelity is for phonographs Saul Bellow, Humboldt's Gift //

Socrates tried to soothe us, true enough. He said there were only two possibilities. Either the soul is immortal or, after death, things would be again as blank as they were before we were born. This is...

Reader's Opinions

"(..) I thought of Humboldt more seriously and suffering than may appear in this response. I did not like so many people like that. He could have the luxury of losing someone. An infallible sign of love was the fact I dream often with Humboldt. Every time I saw him, was tremendously moved and cried in my sleep. I once dreamed that in...

Maybe I just read this at the wrong time of life. The only other Bellow I'd read were Herzog many many years ago, plus scattered short stories. More vivid in my mind is Brent Staples' brilliant University of Chicago memoir "Parallel Time: Growing up In Black and White," in which Staples confesses, hilariously, to stalking, even terrorizing,...