

Floating opera.

Avon Books - Floating Opera New York



Description: -

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The Floating Opera by John Barth

No, come along with me, reader, and don't fear for your weak heart; I've one myself, and know the value of inserting first a toe, then a foot, next a leg, very slowly your hips and stomach, and finally your whole self into my story, and taking a good long time to do it. To this explanation he offers a second one that deepens the significance: he reveals that his dream was to build a forever drifting showboat with a single open deck where shows be played continually for an audience on the shore who would see only that part of the show the tide would bring in when the boat floated past. And so are its many structural foundations like the business of law in which a rich white politically well-connected plaintiff's cause of bringing a lawsuit against another rich white politically well-connected defendant boils down to the grievous injustice of not getting an invitation from President Roosevelt to visit him on his Presidential yacht.

Floating Opera

John Barth's first novel is an exploration of nihilism. It's a floating opera, friend, fraught with curiosities, melodrama, spectacle, instruction, and entertainment, but it floats willy-nilly on the tide of my vagrant prose.

Floating Opera

Barth doesn't stop with humor on this floating opera; he talks in depth philosophy about the big stuff, and he does it with tact and even entertains. Our ahistorical nature is all bundled up in our self-mythologizing as the forward-looking country of the future, the last glorious free empire on earth.

Floating Opera

It chronicles one day in the life of Todd Andrews, a day on which he makes a very important decision. Todd's an odd type of guy.

The Floating Opera by John Barth

It was Barth's first novel. One of the cornerstones of the novel is an open-marriage situation that Todd finds himself in the middle of.

The Floating Opera by John Barth

It's a rather philosophical novel, given a kind of central question with which the protagonist grapples through the events of a single day--digressing often to fill us in on the interesting backstory. However, I beg to differ. Also, how is it that when he lines up a whole array of 'why's to aim at daily observations derived from occurrences both significant and fatuous for the sake of satiating self-professed academic curiosity, he never questions the casual condescension in his voice towards 'negroes' and female acquaintances who are pigeonholed either as sirens or coquettes? Everything is black and white still.

The Floating Opera

However, every character and anecdote in this book is very intriguing. Opera can be in a barge, in a cemetery, in a time-warp. Feel free to take your pick.

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