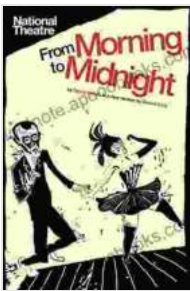


From Morning to Midnight: A Literary Labyrinth of Despair

In the twilight realm of modern literature, Franz Kafka's "From Morning to Midnight" stands as a towering monument to the existential void that permeates the human condition. This enigmatic play, a quintessential masterpiece of Oberon Modern Plays, invites us to delve into the depths of one man's tormentuous quest for meaning in a world devoid of it.



From Morning to Midnight (Oberon Modern Plays)

by Carolyne Larrington

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 682 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Print length	: 96 pages
Paperback	: 48 pages
Item Weight	: 4.8 ounces
Dimensions	: 8.5 x 0.11 x 11 inches



At the heart of the play lies the protagonist, a nameless bank clerk who embarks on a harrowing journey through his own psyche. Haunted by a profound sense of inadequacy and alienation, he finds himself trapped in a cycle of despair, his life spiraling downwards into a vortex of self-doubt and anxiety.

Unraveling the Knot of Existentialism

Throughout the play, Kafka masterfully weaves a tapestry of existential themes that resonate deeply with our modern consciousness. The protagonist's struggles mirror the universal human experience of searching for purpose and meaning in a seemingly meaningless universe. His encounters with various characters, each embodying different aspects of his own fractured psyche, serve as catalysts for his descent into despair.

The bank clerk's interactions with his authoritarian father, the elusive traveler, and the mysterious family reveal the profound influence of societal expectations and inner conflicts on his fragile mental state. Kafka's use of symbolism and allegory invites us to contemplate the limitations of human existence, the weight of guilt and responsibility, and the elusive nature of truth.

A Labyrinth of Enigmatic Characters

The characters in "From Morning to Midnight" are not mere literary devices but complex psychological archetypes that embody the protagonist's inner turmoil. The father figure represents the suffocating weight of societal norms, while the traveler symbolizes the tantalizing yet unattainable search for freedom and fulfillment.

The enigmatic family, with their peculiar rituals and distorted perceptions, reflects the protagonist's own fractured sense of self. Each encounter becomes a mirror, forcing him to confront the hidden corners of his mind and the contradictions that define his existence.

Haunting Symbolism and Dreamlike Imagery

Kafka's prose in "From Morning to Midnight" is a symphony of haunting symbolism and dreamlike imagery. He adeptly uses mundane objects and

everyday situations to evoke a sense of profound unease. The corridors of the bank transform into labyrinthine passages of the mind, while the city becomes a surreal landscape of alienation and despair.

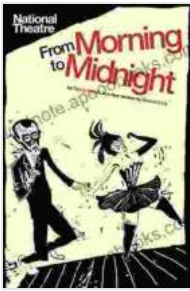
The imagery of light and darkness plays a central role in the play, mirroring the protagonist's internal struggle between hope and despair. Dreams and nightmares become indistinguishable from reality, blurring the boundaries between the conscious and the unconscious.

Legacy and Literary Significance

Franz Kafka's "From Morning to Midnight" has left an enduring mark on modern literature. Its existential themes, enigmatic characters, and haunting symbolism continue to captivate and challenge readers today. The play serves as a timeless reminder of the human struggle for meaning in an often-absurd world.

As a cornerstone of Oberon Modern Plays, "From Morning to Midnight" has inspired countless adaptations and interpretations. Its influence can be seen in the works of authors such as Jean-Paul Sartre, Albert Camus, and Harold Pinter, cementing its place as a seminal text in the realm of existential literature.

"From Morning to Midnight" is a masterpiece of existentialism, a literary labyrinth that invites us to confront the profound questions of human existence. Through its enigmatic characters, haunting symbolism, and dreamlike imagery, the play offers a glimpse into the depths of despair and the relentless search for meaning. It is a work that will continue to haunt and inspire readers for generations to come.

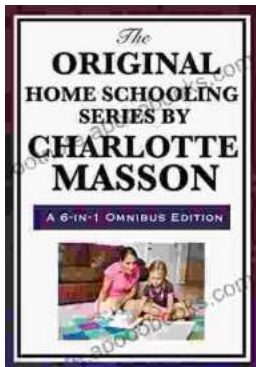


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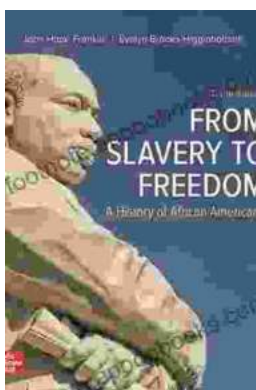
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