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# Access Free The Eye Vladimir Nabokov

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## KEY=THE - DALE GIOVANNA

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### THE EYE

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*Vintage* **After being humiliated by her husband, Smurov commits suicide, only to experience even greater embarrassment in the afterlife.**

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### THE EYE

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*Penguin UK* **Smurov, a fussily self-conscious Russian tutor, shoots himself after a humiliating beating by his mistress' husband. Unsure whether his suicide has been successful or not, Smurov drifts around Berlin, observing his acquaintances, but finds he can discover very little about his own life from the opinions of his distracted, confused fellow-émigrés. Nabokov's shortest novel, The Eye is both a satirical detective story and a wonderfully layered exploration of identity, appearance and the loss of self in a world of word-play and confusion.**

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### THE EYE

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*Vintage* **Nabokov's fourth novel, The Eye is as much a farcical detective story as it is a profoundly refractive tale about the vicissitudes of identities and appearances. Nabokov's protagonist, Smurov, is a lovelorn, excruciatingly self-**

conscious Russian émigré living in prewar Berlin, who commits suicide after being humiliated by a jealous husband, only to suffer even greater indignities in the afterlife.

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## THE EYE

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## THE EYE

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## A NOVEL BY VLADIMIR NABOKOV, TRANSLATED FROM THE RUSSIAN BY DMITRI NABOKOV

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## THE EYE, BY VLADIMIR NABOKOV

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## VLADIMIR NABOKOV

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## SELECTED LETTERS: 1940-1977

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*HMH* “Wonderful, compulsively readable, delicious” personal correspondences, spanning decades in the life and literary career of the author of *Lolita* (*The Washington Post Book World*). An icon of twentieth-century literature, Vladimir Nabokov was a novelist, poet, and playwright, whose personal life was a fascinating story in itself. This collection of more than four hundred letters chronicles the author’s career, recording his struggles in the publishing world, the battles over *Lolita*, and his relationship with his wife, among other subjects, and gives a surprising look at the personality behind the creator of such classics as *Pale Fire* and *Pnin*. “Dip in anywhere, and delight follows.” —John Updike

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## KING, QUEEN, KNAVE

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*Vintage* Berlin in the late twenties provides the setting for this novel about a woman's scheme to murder her husband to live on his money with his nephew

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## THE ENCHANTER

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*Vintage* Paints a portrait of a seemingly respectable man whose desire for a twelve-year-old girl becomes an obsession that can only end in the splintering of his life.

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## TRANSPARENT THINGS

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*Vintage* Probes the mind of a man whose unconscious sexual and destructive obsessions drive him to strangle his wife and escape into the Europe of his past

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## PALE FIRE

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*Vintage* In **Pale Fire** Nabokov offers a cornucopia of deceptive pleasures: a 999-line poem by the reclusive genius John Shade; an adoring foreword and commentary by Shade's self-styled Boswell, Dr. Charles Kinbote; a darkly comic novel of suspense, literary idolatry and one-upmanship, and political intrigue.

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## BEND SINISTER

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*Penguin UK* The state has been recently taken over and is being run by the tyrannical and philistine 'Average Man' party. Under the slogans of equality and happiness for all, it has done away with individualism and freedom of thought. Only John Krug, a brilliant philosopher, stands up to the regime. His antagonist, the leader of the new party, is his old school enemy, Paduk - known as the 'Toad'. Grieving over his wife's recent death, Krug is at first dismissive of Paduk's activities and sees no threat in them. But the sinister machine which Paduk has set in motion may prove stronger than the individual, stronger even than the grotesque 'Toad' himself.

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## PNIN

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*Vintage* Pnin is a professor of Russian at an American college who takes the wrong train to deliver a lecture in a language he cannot master. Pnin is a tireless lover who writes to his treacherous Liza: "A genius needs to keep so much in store, and thus cannot offer you the whole of himself as I do." Pnin is the focal point of subtle academic conspiracies he cannot begin to comprehend, yet he stages a faculty party to end all faculty parties forever.

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## LOLITA

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*Vintage* Awe and exhilaration--along with heartbreak and mordant wit--abound in **Lolita**, Nabokov's most famous and controversial novel, which tells the story of the aging Humbert Humbert's obsessive, devouring, and doomed passion for the nymphet Dolores Haze. **Lolita** is also the story of a hypercivilized European colliding with the cheerful barbarism

of postwar America. Most of all, it is a meditation on love--love as outrage and hallucination, madness and transformation.

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## **THE SECRET HISTORY OF VLADIMIR NABOKOV**

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*Open Road Media* **A startling and revelatory examination of Nabokov's life and works—notably *Pale Fire* and *Lolita*—bringing new insight into one of the twentieth century's most enigmatic authors** Novelist Vladimir Nabokov witnessed the horrors of his century, escaping Revolutionary Russia then Germany under Hitler, and fleeing France with his Jewish wife and son just weeks before Paris fell to the Nazis. He repeatedly faced accusations of turning a blind eye to human suffering to write artful tales of depravity. But does one of the greatest writers in the English language really deserve the label of amoral aesthete bestowed on him by so many critics? Using information from newly-declassified intelligence files and recovered military history, journalist Andrea Pitzer argues that far from being a proponent of art for art's sake, Vladimir Nabokov managed to hide disturbing history in his fiction—history that has gone unnoticed for decades. Nabokov emerges as a kind of documentary conjurer, spending the most productive decades of his career recording a saga of forgotten concentration camps and searing bigotry, from World War I to the Gulag and the Holocaust. *Lolita* surrenders Humbert Humbert's secret identity, and reveals a Nabokov appalled by American anti-Semitism. The lunatic narrator of *Pale Fire* recalls Russian tragedies that once haunted the world. From Tsarist courts to Nazi film sets, from CIA front organizations to wartime Casablanca, the story of Nabokov's family is the story of his century—and both are woven inextricably into his fiction.

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## **LECTURES ON LITERATURE**

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*Houghton Mifflin Harcourt* **The acclaimed author of *Lolita* offers unique insight into works by James Joyce, Franz Kafka, Jane Austen, and others—with an introduction by John Updike.** In the 1940s, when Vladimir Nabokov first embarked on his academic career in the United States, he brought with him hundreds of original lectures on the authors he most admired. For two decades those lectures served as the basis for Nabokov's teaching, first at Wellesley and then at Cornell, as he introduced undergraduates to the delights of great fiction. This volume collects Nabokov's famous lectures on Western European literature, with analysis and commentary on Charles Dickens's *Bleak House*, Gustav Flaubert's *Madam Bovary*, Marcel Proust's *The Walk by Swann's Place*, Robert Louis Stevenson's "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," and other works. This volume also includes photographic reproductions of Nabokov's original

notes, revealing his own edits, underlined passages, and more. Edited and with a Foreword by Fredson Bowers  
Introduction by John Updike

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## **THE GARLAND COMPANION TO VLADIMIR NABOKOV**

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*Routledge* First published in 1995. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

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## **A QUESTION OF GUILT**

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*Michael Joseph*

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## **A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF VLADIMIR NABOKOV'S THE EYE; AND, A STUDY OF THE ARTIST AS AN ISOLATED CHARACTER IN FOUR WORKS OF MODERN PROSE**

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## **INVITATION TO A BEHEADING**

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*Vintage* Like Kafka's *The Castle*, *Invitation to a Beheading* embodies a vision of a bizarre and irrational world. In an unnamed dream country, the young man Cincinnatus C. is condemned to death by beheading for "gnostical turpitude," an imaginary crime that defies definition. Cincinnatus spends his last days in an absurd jail, where he is visited by chimerical jailers, an executioner who masquerades as a fellow prisoner, and by his in-laws, who lug their furniture with them into his cell. When Cincinnatus is led out to be executed, he simply wills his executioners out of existence: they disappear, along with the whole world they inhabit.

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## **THE REAL LIFE OF SEBASTIAN KNIGHT**

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*New Directions Publishing* Nabokov's first novel in English, one of his greatest and most overlooked

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## **DESPAIR**

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## **SHADES OF LAURA**

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## **VLADIMIR NABOKOV'S LAST NOVEL, THE ORIGINAL OF LAURA**

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*McGill-Queen's Press - MQUP* Shortly before Vladimir Nabokov died in 1977, he left instructions that the draft for his last novel, *The Original of Laura*, be destroyed. But in 2008 Dmitri Nabokov, the writer's only child and sole surviving heir, contravened his father's wishes. Formed from novelistic fragments that had been hidden from the public eye for three decades, *The Original of Laura* is a construction based on the conjecture of the Nabokov estate, publishers, and scholars. *Shades of Laura* returns to the "scene of the crime," elucidating the process of publishing Nabokov's unfinished novel from its conception - the reproduction of 138 handwritten index cards - to the simultaneous publication of translations of the final text in several languages. The essays in this collection investigate the event of publication and reconstitute the book's critical reception, reproducing a selection of some of the most salient reviews. Critics condemned Dmitri's choice, but as contributors to this volume attest, there are many more "shades" and "nuances" to his decision. The book also endeavours to allow readers to understand and evaluate an incomplete novel; contributors analyze its plot, structure, imagery, and motifs. Published after prolonged public debate, Vladimir Nabokov's *The Original of Laura* was dubbed "the most eagerly awaited literary novel of this fledgling century." Covering the publication from a broad spectrum of perspectives, this collection reassesses the Nabokov canon and the roots of his literary prestige. Contributors include Paul Ardoin (Florida State University), Gennady Barabtarlo (University of Missouri), Brian Boyd (University of Auckland), Marijeta Bozovic (Colgate University), Maurice Couturier (University of Nice), Lara Delage-Toriel (Strasbourg University), Galya Diment (University of Washington), Leland de la Durantaye (Claremont McKenna College), Michael Juliar (Private collector), Eric Naiman (University of California, Berkeley), Ellen Pifer (University of Delaware), Anna Raffetto (Adelphi Publishing House, Milan), Michael Rodgers (University of Strathclyde), Rien Verhoef (Leiden University), Olga Voronina (Bard College), Tadashi Wakashima (Kyoto University), Michael Wood (Princeton University), and Barbara Wyllie (Slavonic and East European Review).

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### **THE PERSEVERING EYE**

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### **THE READER AND VLADIMIR NABOKOV**

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### **THE GIFT**

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*Penguin UK* *The Gift* is the phantasmal autobiography of Fyodor Godunov-Cherdynev, a writer living in the closed

world of Russian intellectuals in Berlin shortly after the First World War. This gorgeous tapestry of literature and butterflies tells the story of Fyodor's pursuits as a writer. Its heroine is not Fyodor's elusive and beloved Zina, however, but Russian prose and poetry themselves.

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## ON REREADING

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*Harvard University Press* After retiring from teaching literature, Patricia Meyer Spacks embarked on a year-long project of rereading dozens of novels: childhood favorites, young adult fiction, canonical works she didn't like, guilty pleasures. *On Rereading* records the surprising, fascinating results of her personal experiment and raises a number of intriguing questions.

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## ANATOMY OF A SHORT STORY

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### NABOKOV'S PUZZLES, CODES, "SIGNS AND SYMBOLS"

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*Bloomsbury Publishing USA* Since its first publication in 1948, one of Vladimir Nabokov's shortest short stories, "Signs and Symbols," has generated perhaps more interpretations and critical appraisal than any other that he wrote. It has been called "one of the greatest short stories ever written" and "a triumph of economy and force, minute realism and shimmering mystery" (Brian Boyd, *Vladimir Nabokov: The American Years*). *Anatomy of a Short Story* contains: • the full text of "Signs and Symbols," line numbered and referenced throughout • correspondence about the story, most of it never before published, between Nabokov and the editor of *The New Yorker*, where the story was first published • 33 essays of literary criticism, bringing together classic essays and new interpretations • a round-table discussion in which a screenwriter, a theater scholar, a mathematician, a psychiatrist, and a literary scholar bring their perspectives to bear on "Signs and Symbols" *Anatomy of a Short Story* illuminates the ways in which we interpret fiction, and the short story in particular.

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## VÉRA

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### (MRS. VLADIMIR NABOKOV)

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*Modern Library* **NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER** Winner of the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for biography and hailed by critics as both "monumental" (*The Boston Globe*) and "utterly romantic" (*New York magazine*), Stacy Schiff's *Véra* (Mrs.

Vladimir Nabokov) brings to shimmering life one of the greatest literary love stories of our time. Vladimir Nabokov—the émigré author of *Lolita*; *Pale Fire*; and *Invitation of a Small Creature*—wrote his books first for himself, second for his wife, Véra, and third for no one at all. “Without my wife,” he once noted, “I wouldn’t have written a single novel.” Set in prewar Europe and postwar America, spanning much of the century, the story of the Nabokovs’ fifty-two-year marriage reads as vividly as a novel. Véra, both beautiful and brilliant, is its outsized heroine—a woman who loves as deeply and intelligently as did the great romantic heroines of Austen and Tolstoy. Stacy Schiff’s *Véra* is a triumph of the biographical form.

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### THE STORIES OF VLADIMIR NABOKOV

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*Vintage* From the writer who shocked and delighted the world with his novels *Lolita*, *Pale Fire*, and *Invitation of a Small Creature*, and so many others, comes a magnificent collection of stories. Written between the 1920s and 1950s, these sixty-five tales—eleven of which have been translated into English for the first time—display all the shades of Nabokov’s imagination. They range from sprightly fables to bittersweet tales of loss, from claustrophobic exercises in horror to a connoisseur’s samplings of the table of human folly. Read as a whole, *The Stories of Vladimir Nabokov* offers an intoxicating draft of the master’s genius, his devious wit, and his ability to turn language into an instrument of ecstasy.

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### COLLECTED POEMS

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*Penguin UK* This landmark new collection brings together the best of the poetry of Vladimir Nabokov, one of the twentieth century’s greatest writers and author of *Lolita* and *Pale Fire*. It includes an extensive number of poems that have never appeared in English before, newly translated from the Russian by his son Dmitri Nabokov. These masterly poems span the decades of Nabokov’s career, from ‘Music’, written in 1914 and probably Nabokov’s first recorded poem, to the short, playful ‘To Vera’, composed in 1974. ‘The University Poem’, one of Nabokov’s major poetic works, is here in English for the first time: an extraordinary autobiographical poem looking back at his time at Cambridge, with its dinners, games, girls and memories, it is suffused with rich description, wit and verbal dexterity. Included too are the surreally comic ‘A Literary Dinner’, the enchanting, lyrical ‘Eve’, the wryly humorous ‘An Evening of Russian Poetry’ and a meditation on the act of creation, ‘Tolstoy’, as well as verse written on America, lepidoptery, sport, love and Nabokov’s Russian homeland.

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## **LAUGHTER IN THE DARK**

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*New Directions Publishing* Tragedy of a rich and respectable Berlin art dealer and his passion for his young mistress.

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## **THINK, WRITE, SPEAK**

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## **UNCOLLECTED ESSAYS, REVIEWS, INTERVIEWS, AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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*Vintage* A rich compilation of the previously uncollected Russian and English prose and interviews of one of the twentieth century's greatest writers, edited by Nabokov experts Brian Boyd and Anastasia Tolstoy. "I think like a genius, I write like a distinguished author, and I speak like a child": so Vladimir Nabokov famously wrote in the introduction to his volume of selected prose, *Strong Opinions*. *Think, Write, Speak* follows up where that volume left off, with a rich compilation of his uncollected prose and interviews, from a 1921 essay about Cambridge to two final interviews in 1977. The chronological order allows us to watch the Cambridge student and the fledgling Berlin reviewer and poet turn into the acclaimed Paris émigré novelist whose stature brought him to teach in America, where his international success exploded with *Lolita* and propelled him back to Europe. Whether his subject is Proust or Pushkin, the sport of boxing or the privileges of democracy, Nabokov's supreme individuality, his keen wit, and his alertness to the details of life illuminate the page.

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## **NABOKOV IN AMERICA**

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## **ON THE ROAD TO LOLITA**

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*Bloomsbury Publishing USA* "As seductive and engaging a book as I have come across in a while . . . Would have brought a gleam of enjoyment even to Nabokov's gimlet eye." --Daphne Merkin, *The New York Times Book Review*

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## **NABOKOV AND THE REAL WORLD**

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## **BETWEEN APPRECIATION AND DEFENSE**

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*Princeton University Press* From award-winning literary scholar Robert Alter, a masterful exploration of how Nabokov used artifice to evoke the dilemmas, pain, and exaltation of the human condition Admirers and detractors of Vladimir

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Nabokov have viewed him as an ingenious contriver of literary games, teasing and even outsmarting his readers through his self-reflexive artifice and the many codes and puzzles he devises in his fiction. Nabokov himself spoke a number of times about reality as a term that always has to be put in scare quotes. Consequently, many critics and readers have thought of him as a writer uninterested in the world outside literature. Robert Alter shows how Nabokov was passionately concerned with the real world and its complexities, from love and loss to exile, freedom, and the impact of contemporary politics on our lives. In these illuminating and exquisitely written essays, Alter spans the breadth of Nabokov's writings, from his memoir, lectures, and short stories to major novels such as *Lolita*. He demonstrates how the self-reflexivity of Nabokov's fiction becomes a vehicle for expressing very real concerns. What emerges is a portrait of a brilliant stylist who is at once serious and playful, who cared deeply about human relationships and the burden of loss, and who was acutely sensitive to the ways political ideologies can distort human values. Offering timeless insights into literature's most fabulous artificer, *Nabokov and the Real World* makes an elegant and compelling case for Nabokov's relevance today.

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## **THE PRISMATIC EYE OF VLADIMIR NABOKOV**

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### **VLADIMIR NABOKOV IN CONTEXT**

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*Cambridge University Press* Vladimir Nabokov, bilingual writer of dazzling masterpieces, is a phenomenon that both resists and requires contextualization. This book challenges the myth of Nabokov as a sole genius who worked in isolation from his surroundings, as it seeks to anchor his work firmly within the historical, cultural, intellectual and political contexts of the turbulent twentieth century. *Vladimir Nabokov in Context* maps the ever-changing sites, people, cultures and ideologies of his itinerant life which shaped the production and reception of his work. Concise and lively essays by leading scholars reveal a complex relationship of mutual influence between Nabokov's work and his environment. Appealing to a wide community of literary scholars this timely companion to Nabokov's writing offers new insights and approaches to one of the most important, and yet most elusive writers of modern literature.

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### **GLORY**

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*Vintage* Hoping to impress the girl he loves, Martin Edelweiss embarks on an illegal attempt to re-enter the Soviet Union, from which he and his mother had fled in 1919.

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**THE EYE**

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**ADA, OR ARDOR**

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**A FAMILY CHRONICLE**

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*Vintage* Published two weeks after his seventieth birthday, *Ada, or Ardor* is one of Nabokov's greatest masterpieces, the glorious culmination of his career as a novelist. It tells a love story troubled by incest. But more: it is also at once a fairy tale, epic, philosophical treatise on the nature of time, parody of the history of the novel, and erotic catalogue. *Ada, or Ardor* is no less than the supreme work of an imagination at white heat. This is the first American edition to include the extensive and ingeniously sardonic appendix by the author, written under the anagrammatic pseudonym Vivian Darkbloom.

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**COLLECTED SHORTER FICTION**

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*Everyman's Library* Collects Tolstoy's shorter fiction, offering insight into his life as a soldier, married life, interest in peasantry, belief in truth and simplicity, and interest in religion.