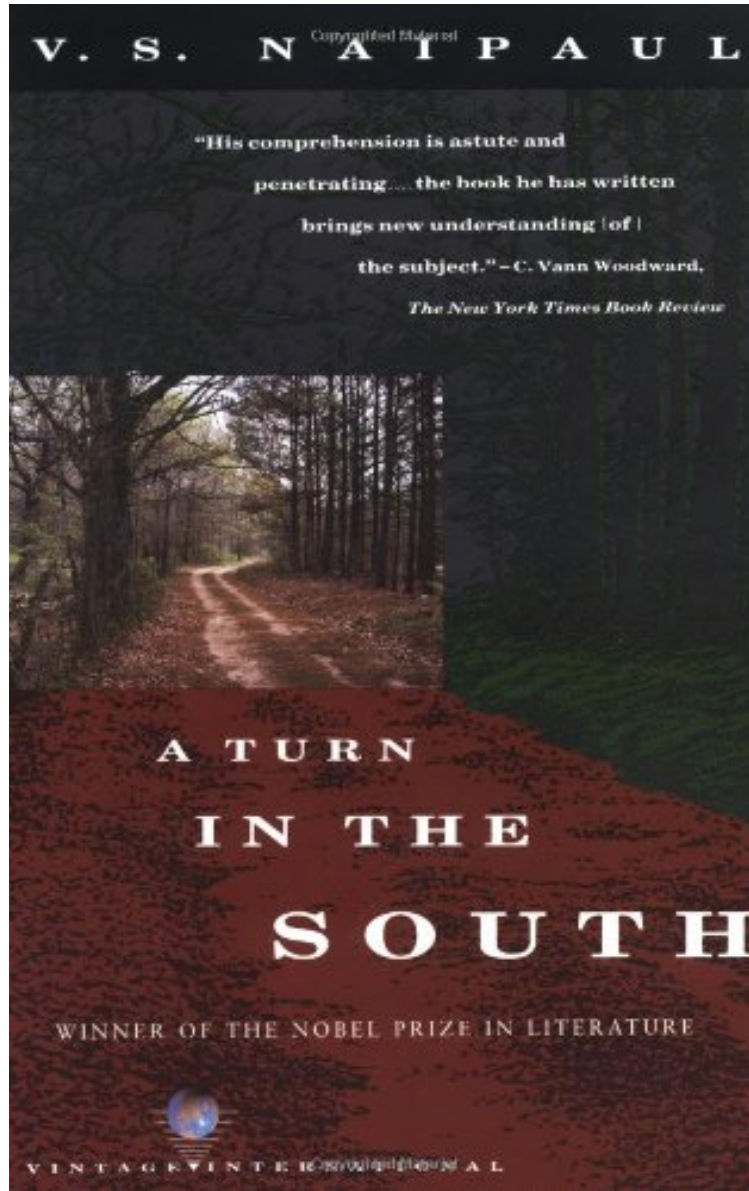


(Download pdf) A Turn in the South

A Turn in the South

V.S. Naipaul

ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF



 Download

 Read Online

#635461 in Books 1990-02-19 1990-02-19 Format: International Edition Original language: English PDF # 1
8.00 x .64 x 5.201, .60 #File Name: 0679724885320 pages | File size: 64.Mb

V.S. Naipaul : A Turn in the South before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Turn in the South:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Well written By Michael Naipaul is a good writer and it shows. This book is an intriguing look at different segments of the South as it was in 1985-86 (keep that in mind). I have to wonder if he traveled today if he would have written the same book. Massive influxes of new immigrants to the South the past

25 years have rendered it unrecognizable compared to some of what Naipaul wrote. Hispanic, African and yes, south Asian communities have massively grown in urban AND rural parts of the old Confederacy. If writing today, Naipaul would have had to visit Hispanics, Indians and Ghanaians, among others, to make his look at the South complete. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Have attitudes changed? By SopsInteresting discussion of race relations in the south in late 1900's. The author gets to the heart of the matter rather quickly, very informative from a sociological point-of-view. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The past is more real than the present By Luc REYNAERT In this very personal report, V.S. Naipaul tries to uncover the extreme moods and the violent mentalities in the Southern States of the US, a world of faith, order, melancholy and music. The past as a wound An inscription on a grave says it all: 'Death saved him the pain of defeat.' For V.S. Naipaul, the South had moved from crisis to crisis: agricultural and industrial depression; civil-rights movement; the Great Depression; Reconstruction and the Civil War. 'And at the back of it all was the institution that had seeded most of the crises or aggravated them: slavery.' 'Slavery and after' The freed slaves remained, no longer mere units of labor and wealth, a kind of currency; they bore the brunt of the South's anguish.' Now, they are the main beneficiaries of the welfare programs. Other people resent the free check, 'seeing people being given for nothing the equivalent of what you've had to work hard to earn. Medicare is another thing.' On the white side, 'a lot of us find it almost too stifling to live with the idea of race. Those black hands, which we hated and feared more than anything in the world.' On the black side, there is 'the burden of being black. There's not a day, not a moment in my life when I don't have to think about the color of my skin. If you were black, you were living in a hostile environment.' Faith 'Southern people have a tremendous capacity for faith - black and white. The saving grace for black Southerners is the Church.' But, on the white side, 'the religious ideas of the God-given talent, work and accountability coincided with sound business practice, the coincidence of religious devotion and business sense.' Music Besides religious music and country music about family values, there is also a contrary current. 'Audiences see the singers struggling with their own demons. And they identify with the struggle. White soul music is comparable to the role that music played for slaves. It creates community among oppressed people (blacks and poor whites).' V.S. Naipaul is a formidable and outspoken traveler with a hawk eye. He never shunts the big questions and goes to the heart of the matter. This book is a must read for all lovers of V.S. Naipaul's work, by an outstanding Nobel Prize winner.

In the tradition of political and cultural revelation V.S. Naipaul so brilliantly made his own in *Among The Believers, A Turn In The South*, his first book about the United States, is a revealing, disturbing, elegiac book about the American South -- from Atlanta to Charleston, Tallahassee to Tuskegee, Nashville to Chapel Hill.

From Publishers Weekly "Naipaul portrays the American South as a strange mixture of self-reliance and community, desperation and playfulness," wrote PW. coffey/i like your changes/ok i suppose since the quote is ours?/pk "Part travelogue, part oral history, this ruminative ramble permits Naipaul to depict the South as only an 'outsider' could, with wonderment and multiple cross-cultural references." Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal In this work, parts of which originally appeared in the New Yorker, noted essayist and novelist Naipaul travels the American South in an attempt to explore and explain this unique region. Stopping at places as diverse as Atlanta and rural Mississippi, Naipaul develops contacts and sources which span race, class, and sex. He admits that at the start of his journey he had no central theme. And, indeed, at the end, no clear "mind" of the South emerges. Rather, the South seems infinitely varied in outlook and attitude, vaguely unified only by a common past that tends to emphasize a sense of order, reverence for "the land," and intense religious faith. Because of a perhaps necessary lack of focus, this will not be easy reading for everyone. But Naipaul's insights--and those of the Southerners he talks to--are penetrating enough to make this a valuable addition to most libraries.- Anthony O. Edmonds, Ball State Univ., Muncie, Ind. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Naipaul's chapters honor the diversity that marks the South.... Conservatives and liberals, whites and blacks, men and women speak for themselves, and reveal the dark side of the story in their own ways...fascinating and revealing." -- Eugene D. Genovese, New Republic "His writing is clean and beautiful, and he has a great eye for nuance.... No American writer could achieve [his] kind of evenhandedness, and it gives Naipaul's perceptions an almost built-in originality." -- Atlantic Monthly