

# JOAN DIDION

THE 1960s & 70s

---

*Run River*

*Slouching Towards Bethlehem*

*Play It As It Lays*

*A Book of Common Prayer*

*The White Album*

---

David L. Ulin, *editor*



THE LIBRARY OF AMERICA

# Contents

RUN RIVER . . . . .	I
SLOUCHING TOWARDS BETHLEHEM . . . . .	215
A PREFACE . . . . .	219
I. LIFE STYLES IN THE GOLDEN LAND	
Some Dreamers of the Golden Dream. . . . .	225
John Wayne: A Love Song. . . . .	243
Where the Kissing Never Stops . . . . .	252
Comrade Laski, C.P.U.S.A. (M.-L.) . . . . .	265
7000 Romaine, Los Angeles 38 . . . . .	269
California Dreaming . . . . .	274
Marrying Absurd . . . . .	278
Slouching Towards Bethlehem . . . . .	282
II. PERSONALS	
On Keeping a Notebook. . . . .	315
On Self-Respect . . . . .	323
I Can't Get That Monster out of My Mind . . . . .	328
On Morality . . . . .	334
On Going Home . . . . .	339
III. SEVEN PLACES OF THE MIND	
Notes from a Native Daughter . . . . .	345
Letter from Paradise, 21° 19' N., 157° 52' W. . . . .	356
Rock of Ages. . . . .	368
The Seacoast of Despair . . . . .	371
Guaymas, Sonora . . . . .	374
Los Angeles Notebook . . . . .	376
Goodbye to All That. . . . .	382
PLAY IT AS IT LAYS . . . . .	393
A BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER . . . . .	537
THE WHITE ALBUM. . . . .	745
I. THE WHITE ALBUM	
The White Album . . . . .	749

II. CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC	
James Pike, American . . . . .	781
Holy Water . . . . .	787
Many Mansions. . . . .	793
The Getty . . . . .	798
Bureaucrats . . . . .	802
Good Citizens. . . . .	807
Notes Toward a Dreampolitik . . . . .	814
III. WOMEN	
The Women's Movement . . . . .	825
Doris Lessing . . . . .	833
Georgia O'Keeffe . . . . .	838
IV. SOJOURNS	
In the Islands . . . . .	845
In Hollywood . . . . .	859
In Bed . . . . .	870
On the Road. . . . .	874
On the Mall . . . . .	879
In Bogotá . . . . .	884
At the Dam. . . . .	892
V. ON THE MORNING AFTER THE SIXTIES	
On the Morning After the Sixties . . . . .	897
Quiet Days in Malibu . . . . .	900
<i>Chronology</i> . . . . .	913
<i>Note on the Texts</i> . . . . .	929
<i>Notes</i> . . . . .	934
<i>Index</i> . . . . .	960