

At Swim Two Birds Flann O'Brien

The Complete Novels
The Dismemberment of Orpheus
Assembling Flann O'Brien
The Dalkey Archive
The Best of Myles
Swim-two-birds
The Various Lives of Keats and Chapman
Strumpet City
The Time Between
At Swim-Two-Birds
You Can't Do Both
Themes and Structures in Flann O'Brien's "At Swim-two-birds" (An béal bocht)
Short Fiction of Flann O'Brien
Four Irish Legendary Figures in "At Swim-Two-Birds"
Stories and Plays
Four Irish Legendary Figures in At Swim-Two-Birds
And the Ass Saw the Angel
1916: The Easter Rising
At War
The Collected Letters of Flann O'Brien
The Third Policeman
At swim-two-birds
The Hard Life
The Third Policeman
Flann O'Brien
Round Ireland with a Fridge
Alive-alive O!
The Hard Life
The Abbey Players in Flann O'Brien's Comic Masterpiece At Swim Two Birds, Adapted for the Stage by Audrey Welsh
No Laughing Matter
Walking with Ghosts
Conference at Cold Comfort Farm
Pure Juliet
Flann O'Brien's At Swim-two-birds a Case Study
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At Swim-Two-Birds
Flann O'Brien
At Swim, Two Boys
The Convertible Hearse

The Complete Novels

An indolent college student creates a chaotic fictional world in this classic of Irish literature: "A marvel of imagination, language, and humor" (New Republic). In this

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comic masterpiece, our unnamed narrator—a student at University College, Dublin, who spends more time drinking and working on his novel than attending classes—creates a character, a pub owner named Trellis, who himself is devoted mainly to writing and sleeping. Soon Trellis is collaborating with an author of cowboy romances, and from there unspools a brilliantly unpredictable adventure that James Joyce himself called “a really funny book.” “’Tis the odd joke of modern Irish literature—of the three novelists in its holy trinity, James Joyce, Samuel Beckett and Flann O’Brien, the easiest and most accessible of the lot is O’Brien. . . . Flann O’Brien was too much his own man, Ireland’s man, to speak in any but his own tongue.” —The Washington Post “As with Scott Fitzgerald, there is a brilliant ease in [O’Brien’s] prose, a poignant grace glimmering off every page.” —John Updike “One of the best books of our century.” —Graham Greene

The Dismemberment of Orpheus

Flann O'Brien's writing career was launched in 1939 with his brilliant first novel AT SWIM TWO BIRDS--a cult classic praised by James Joyce--quickly followed by other influential novels. But O'Brien lived a dark and tragic life, his writing obscured by various pseudonyms. Here Anthony Cronin, a member of O'Brien's intimate circle, offers a remarkable and fascinating portrait of the writer. photos.

Assembling Flann O'Brien

Robin Davies knows how to look after number one. Raised in a bland suburb of South London in the 1930s, Robin longs for the freedom to do what he wants. When he escapes to study in Oxford, he meets Nancy Bennett, a young woman even less worldly than himself. As Robin stumbles through his rites of passage to adulthood, involving rebellion, self-discovery, sex, war, seduction and the threat of commitment, we come to realise just how far he will go to have his cake and eat it.

The Dalkey Archive

Le narrateur de Swim-Two-Birds est un jeune étudiant irlandais qui vit à Dublin en compagnie de son oncle et préfère aller au pub avec ses amis plutôt que de travailler. À partir de ce simple argument commence l'histoire la plus folle, la plus cocasse, la plus joyeuse. Ou plutôt les histoires : car notre étudiant en écrit lui-même, où il invente des courses-poursuites entre policiers irlandais et Indiens d'Amérique, des femmes qui donnent naissance à des adultes, et autres extravagances. Roman à tiroirs, aventures à l'intérieur des aventures, toutes plus folles les unes que les autres. Premier roman de Flann O'Brien (1911-1966), Swim-Two-Birds, publié en Irlande en 1939, y est un roman aussi célèbre et aimé que l'Ulysse de Joyce. Véritable bacchanale d'humour, de farce, de fantaisie et

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d'intelligence, *Swim-Two-Birds* est présenté ici dans une nouvelle traduction, qui rend justice à son génie.

The Best of Myles

Swim-two-birds

Now who would kill a used-car salesman? In a city like L.A., Brock Callahan figures there's about a million suspects—each with a motive. Nevertheless, the former gridiron star turned private eye is hired by the widow to find out just who killed the one and only Loony Leo Dunbar. It seems someone offed the king of the dubious deal as he was sitting in the front seat of his Lincoln. And now Brock “the Rock” is looking for Loony Leo's killer. It's not easy work; Brock's got to go through a bevy of Leo's girlfriends and seedy associates on a trail that leads into the sleaziest side of the used-car business he's ever seen ...

The Various Lives of Keats and Chapman

"That's a real writer, with the true comic spirit. A really funny book." James Joyce.

Strumpet City

Flann O'Brien - also known as Brian O'Nolan or Myles na gCopaleen - is now widely recognised as one of the foremost of Ireland's modern authors. *Assembling Flann O'Brien* explores the author's innovative and experimental work by reading him in relation to some of the 20th century's most important theorists, including Derrida, Agamben, Freud, Lacan and Žižek. *Assembling Flann O'Brien* offers a detailed study of O'Brien's five major novels - including *At Swim-Two-Birds* and *The Third Policeman* - as well as his plays, short stories, journalistic output and unpublished archival material. The book presents new theoretical perspectives on his works, exploring his compelling engagements with questions of the proper name, the archive, law, and desire, and the problems of identity, language, sexuality and censorship which acutely troubled Ireland's new state. Combining a wide range of contemporary theory with a sensitivity to the cultural and political context in which the author wrote, Maebh Long opens up entirely new aspects of Flann O'Brien's writings, and explores the ingenious and the problematic within his oeuvre.

The Time Between

At Swim-Two-Birds

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"The best comic writer I can think of." S.J. Perelman

You Can't Do Both

Centring on the seminal lockout of 20,000 workers in Dublin in 1913, *Strumpet City* by Irish writer James Plunkett encompasses a wide sweep of city life. From the destitution of "Rashers" Tierney, the poorest of the poor, to the solid, aspirant respectability of Fitz and Mary, the priestly life of Father O'Connor, and the upper-class world of Yearling and the Bradshaws, it paints a portrait of a city of stark contrasts, with an urban working class mired in vicious poverty. *Strumpet City* is much more than a book about the Lockout. Through the power of vivid fiction we encounter all the complexities of humanity. The brilliant and much-loved TV series, originally screened by RTÉ, Ireland's national broadcaster, in 1980, is fondly remembered by many but to read the book is to immerse yourself in social and historical writing akin to Chekhov and Tolstoy. *Strumpet City* is the great, sweeping Irish historical novel of the 20th century.

Themes and Structures in Flann O'Brien's "At Swim-two-birds"

(An béal bocht)

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The Easter Rising began at 12 noon on 24 April, 1916 and lasted for six short but bloody days, resulting in the deaths of innocent civilians, the destruction of many parts of Dublin and the true beginning of Irish independence. The 1916 Rising was born out of the Conservative and Unionist parties' illegal defiance of the democratically expressed wish of the Irish electorate for Home Rule; and of confusion, mishap and disorganisation, compounded by a split within the Volunteer leadership. Tim Pat Coogan introduces the major players, themes and outcomes of a drama that would profoundly affect twentieth-century Irish history. Not only is this the story of a turning point in Ireland's struggle for freedom, but also a testament to the men and women of courage and conviction who were prepared to give their lives for what they believed was right.

Short Fiction of Flann O'Brien

Four Irish Legendary Figures in "At Swim-Two-Birds"

The essays collected in this volume draw unprecedented critical attention to the centrality of politics in Flann O'Brien's art. The organising theme of Gallows humour focuses these inquiries onto key encounters between the body and the law, between death and the comic spirit in the author's canon. These innovative

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analyses explore the place of biopolitics in O'Brien's modernist experimentation and popular writing through reflections on his handling of the thematics of violence, justice, capital punishment, eugenics, prosthetics, skin, prostitution, syphilis, rape, reproduction, illness, auto-immune deficiency, abjection, drinking, Gaelic games and masculinist nationalism across a diverse range of genres, intertexts, contexts.

Stories and Plays

Employing a wide range of critical perspectives and new comparative contexts, *Flann O'Brien: Contesting Legacies* breaks new ground in Brian O'Nolan scholarship (he wrote his novels under the name of Flann O'Brien) by testing a number of popular commonplaces about this Irish (post-) Modernist author. Challenging the narrative that Flann O'Brien wrote two good novels and then retired to the inferior medium of journalism (as Myles na gCopaleen), the collection engages with overlooked shorter, theatrical, and non-fiction works and columns ('John Duffy's Brother', 'The Martyr's Crown', 'Two in One') alongside *At Swim-Two-Birds*, *The Third Policeman*, and *An Béal Bocht*. The depth and consistency of O'Nolan's comic inspiration that emerges from this scholarly engagement with his broader body of work underlines both the imperative and opportunity of reassessing O'Brien's literary legacy. Finally, the contributors excavate O'Nolan's oeuvre as fertile territory for a broad range of critical perspectives by confronting some of the more

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complex ideological positions tested in his writing. Employing perspectives from genetic criticism and cultural materialism to post-modernism and deconstruction, the essays gathered in this volume address with new critical rigor the author's gender politics, his language politics, his parodies of nationalism, his ideology of science, and his treatment of the theme of justice.

Four Irish Legendary Figures in At Swim-Two-Birds

Program for the 1981 Abbey Players production of At Swim Two Birds, adapted for the stage by Audrey Welsh and directed by Eamon Morrissey. Includes historical note by Niall Sheridan.

And the Ass Saw the Angel

1916: The Easter Rising

Recounts the author's experiences hitchhiking on a bet all the way around Ireland with a small refrigerator, and shares his impressions of the people and places along the way.

At War

A collection of humorous vignettes by the late author of At Swim-Two Birds, culled from his Irish Times columns, includes The Brother, a tale of an opinionated Dublin male archetype. 15,000 first printing.

The Collected Letters of Flann O'Brien

In a story set against the backdrop of Dublin in 1915, two boys who meet at the local swimming hole plan to swim to an island in Dublin Bay the following Easter, but their plans coincide with the Easter uprising--a historic rebellion that changes their li

The Third Policeman

At swim-two-birds

Presents a collection of short stories and part of an unfinished novel by the Irish writer.

The Hard Life

Seeking atonement over her guilt that she caused her sister's paralyzation, Eleanor takes a job caring for an elderly woman and becomes caught up in the woman's life of passion, danger, heartache and deception in Hungary during World War II.

The Third Policeman

“Make no mistake about it: *Walking with Ghosts* is a masterpiece. A book that will wring out our tired hearts. It is by turns poetic, moving, and very funny. You will find it on the shelf alongside other great Irish memoirs including those by Frank McCourt, Nuala O'Faolain and Edna O'Brien.” —Colum McCann As a young boy growing up in the outskirts of Dublin, Gabriel Byrne sought refuge in a world of imagination among the fields and hills near his home, at the edge of a rapidly encroaching city. Born to working class parents and the eldest of six children, he harbored a childhood desire to become a priest. When he was eleven years old, Byrne found himself crossing the Irish Sea to join a seminary in England. Four years later, Byrne had been expelled and he quickly returned to his native city. There he took odd jobs as a messenger boy and a factory laborer to get by. In his spare time, he visited the cinema where he could be alone and yet part of a crowd. It was here that he could begin to imagine a life beyond the grey world of 60s Ireland. He

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reveled in the theatre and poetry of Dublin's streets, populated by characters as eccentric and remarkable as any in fiction, those who spin a yarn with acuity and wit. It was a friend who suggested Byrne join an amateur drama group, a decision that would change his life forever and launch him on an extraordinary forty-year career in film and theatre. Moving between sensual recollection of childhood in a now almost vanished Ireland and reflections on stardom in Hollywood and Broadway, Byrne also courageously recounts his battle with addiction and the ambivalence of fame. *Walking with Ghosts* is by turns hilarious and heartbreaking as well as a lyrical homage to the people and landscapes that ultimately shape our destinies.

Flann O'Brien

One man wants to publish, so another must perish, in this darkly witty philosophical novel by “a spectacularly gifted comic writer” (*Newsweek*). *The Third Policeman* follows a narrator who is obsessed with the work of a scientist and philosopher named de Selby (who believes that Earth is not round but sausage-shaped)—and has finally completed what he believes is the definitive text on the subject. But, broke and desperate for money to get his scholarly masterpiece published, he winds up committing robbery—and murder. From here, this remarkably imaginative dark comedy proceeds into a world of riddles, contradictions, and questions about the nature of eternity as our narrator meets

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some policemen with an obsession of their own (specifically, bicycles), and engages in an extended conversation with his dead victim—and his own soul, which he nicknames Joe. By the celebrated Irish author praised by James Joyce as “a real writer, with the true comic spirit,” *The Third Policeman* is an incomparable work of fiction. “’Tis the odd joke of modern Irish literature—of the three novelists in its holy trinity, James Joyce, Samuel Beckett and Flann O’Brien, the easiest and most accessible of the lot is O’Brien. . . . Flann O’Brien was too much his own man, Ireland’s man, to speak in any but his own tongue.” —The Washington Post

Round Ireland with a Fridge

Two orphaned boys, Manus and Finbarr, descend into the house of the disputatious Mr. Collopy. This is a tale of growing up in the midst of eccentricity: of Mr. Collopy's mysterious humanitarian work on behalf of women; of his progressive-sounding (and often blasphemous) arguments with his priest, Father Fahrt. Manus quickly proves himself a master of business, teaching people by post to walk the tightrope in Edwardian Dublin. He soon dispatches Collopy on a trip to Rome, seeking relief from the unexpected effects of his eldest charge's attempts at pharmaceuticals. Finbarr, meanwhile, watches and waits, a young boy with only the foggiest notion of the world he is describing

Alive-alive O!

The Hard Life

An unprecedented gathering of the correspondence of one of the great writers of twentieth century, the Collected Letters of Flann O'Brien presents an intimate look into the life and thought of Brian O'Nolan, a prolific author of novels, stories, sketches, and journalism who famously wrote and presented works to the reading public under a variety of pseudonyms. Spanning the years 1934 to 1966, these compulsively readable letters show us O'Nolan, or O'Brien, or Myles Na gCopaleen--or whatever his name may be--at his most cantankerous and most intimate.

The Abbey Players in Flann O'Brien's Comic Masterpiece At Swim Two Birds, Adapted for the Stage by Audrey Welsh

First published in Gaelic in 1941 under the title An Beal Bocht, this book was translated into English in 1973. A parody of the Gaelic peasant writings of the Irish revival, the book features Bonaparte O'Coonassa - who tells the story of his life. By the author of The Dalkey Archive.

No Laughing Matter

Outcast and mute, Euchrid Eucrow of Ukulore inhabits a nightmarish Southern valley of preachers, incest and ignorance. When the God-fearing folk of the town declare a foundling child to be chosen by the Almighty, Euchrid is disturbed. He sees her very differently, and his conviction, and increasing isolation and insanity, may have terrible consequences for them both . . . Compelling and astonishing, Nick Cave's acclaimed first novel is a fantastic journey into a world of Gothic tragedy.

Walking with Ghosts

Robert Poste's child is back at Cold Comfort Farm. But all is not well. Flora finds the farm transformed into a twee haven filled with Toby jugs and peasant pottery, and rooms labelled 'Quiete Retreate' and 'Greate laundrie'. It is, Flora winces, 'exactly like being locked in the Victoria and Albert Museum after closing time'. Worse, the farm is hosting a conference of the pretentious International Thinkers Group - a group made up of the 'sadistic owl' Mr Peccavi, loathsome Mr Mybug and the overpowering Mrs Ernestine Thump. And worst of all, there are no Starkadders at Cold Comfort Farm. All the he-cousins have gone abroad to make their fortunes and the female cousins are having a pretty thin time of it. Once again the sensible

Flora decides to take the situation in hand.

Conference at Cold Comfort Farm

Pure Juliet

In this book, the first edition of which was published in 1971 by Oxford University Press, Ihab Hassan takes Orphic dismemberment and regeneration as his metaphor for a radical crisis in art and language, culture and consciousness, which prefigures postmodern literature. The modern Orpheus, he writes, "sings on a lyre without strings." Thus, his sensitive critique traces a hypothetical line from Sade through four modern authors--Hemingway, Kafka, Genet, and Beckett--to a literature still to come. But the line also breaks into two Interludes, one concerning 'Pataphysics, Dada, and Surrealism, and the other concerning Existentialism and Aliterature. Combining literary history, brief biography, and critical analysis, Hassan surrounds these authors with a complement of avant-garde writers whose works also foreshadow the postmodern temper. These include Jarry, Apollinaire, Tzara, Breton, Sartre, Camus, Nathalie Sarraute, Robbe-Grillet, and in America, Cage, Salinger, Ginsberg, Barth, and Burroughs. Hassan takes account also of related contemporary developments in art, music, and philosophy, and of many

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works of literary theory and criticism. For this new edition, Hassan has added a new preface and postface on the developing character of postmodernism, a concept which has gained currency since the first edition of this work, and which he himself has done much to theorize.

Flann O'Brien's At Swim-two-birds a Case Study

A Casebook on Flann O'Brien's "At Swim-Two-Birds"

With the publication of *The Third Policeman*, Dalkey Archive Press now has all of O'Brien's fiction back in print.

At Swim-Two-Birds

A compilation of five novels by one of the leading novelists of modern Irish literature features such works as "At Swim-Two-Birds," "The Third Policeman," and "The Poor Mouth."

Flann O'Brien

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A comic look at Irish life. The narrator is Finbarr, an orphan raised amid the odor of good whisky and bad cooking. With a mixture of admiration and unease he watches his brother, Manus, turn into a young man of business, successful enough to move to England.

At Swim, Two Boys

The Convertible Hearse

Creepy. Peculiar. Fairy. Goblin. Liar. Weirdo. Crank. Genius. No one knows what to make of Juliet Slater, not even her mother. And clothes, boys, school, friends, the changing seasons and what other people think - none of these things seem to matter to Juliet. She spends hours in her room with incomprehensible mathematical text books, her mind voyaging in strange seas of thought, alone. Is she a genius? It might take the rest of her life to find out. While Stella Gibbons was celebrated for her beloved bestseller *Cold Comfort Farm*, the manuscript for *Pure Juliet* lay unseen and forgotten until it was brought to light by her family in 2014, and is published here for the first time in *Vintage Classics*. A tale that travels from an eco-millionaire's British country idyll to an Arabian Nights-style fantasy of the Middle East, this is a treat for fans of this witty, curious and always surprising

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author.

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