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# Chess Story Stefan Zweig

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A Farewell to Europe

Detailed Summary, Analysis and Reading Guide

The World of Yesterday

The Post-Office Girl

The Royal Game

Those Who Forget

Tales of Obsession and Desire

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The Collected Stories of Stefan Zweig

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## **AGUIRRE JAYLEN**

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### **A Farewell to Europe** Pushkin Press

This collection of short stories by a major German writer of the twentieth century includes Fear, Amok, The Burning Secret, The Royal Game, and Letter From an Unknown Woman

*Detailed Summary, Analysis and Reading Guide* Other Press, LLC

At the beginning of the century, a small pension on the Riviera. The guests of the establishment are in an uproar: the wife of one of the boarders, Mrs. Henriette, has left with a young man who had only

been there one day. Only the narrator defends this morally bankrupt creature. And his only ally is a dry and distinguished old English lady. It is she who, in the course of a long conversation, will explain to him which badly extinguished fires this adventure has rekindled in her

The World of Yesterday Chess Story  
Unlock the more straightforward side of The Royal Game with this concise and insightful summary and analysis! This engaging summary presents an analysis of The Royal Game by Stefan Zweig which tackles the themes of insanity and passion, as well as the reality of the Second World War, metaphorically

through a chess tournament. The story has been adapted for film and stage, as both an opera and a play. Zweig was, during his time, the most translated author in the world and another of his works was featured in Le Monde's 100 Books of the Century. Find out everything you need to know about *The Royal Game* in a fraction of the time! This in-depth and informative reading guide brings you:

- A complete plot summary
- Character studies
- Key themes and symbols
- Questions for further reflection

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improve your literary knowledge in no time. See the very best of literature in a whole new light with BrightSummaries.com!

*The Post-Office Girl* U of Nebraska Press  
An NYRB Classics Original

Stefan Zweig was particularly drawn to the novella, and *Confusion*, a rigorous and yet transporting dramatization of the conflict between the heart and the mind, is among his supreme achievements in the form. A young man who is rapidly going to the dogs in Berlin is packed off by his father to a university in a sleepy provincial town. There a brilliant lecture awakens in him a wild passion for learning—as well as a peculiarly intense fascination with the graying professor who gave the talk. The student grows close to the professor, becoming a

regular visitor to the apartment he shares with his much younger wife. He takes it upon himself to urge his teacher to finish the great work of scholarship that he has been laboring at for years and even offers to help him in any way he can. The professor welcomes the young man's attentions, at least on some days. On others, he rages without apparent reason or turns away from his disciple with cold scorn. The young man is baffled, wounded. He cannot understand. But the wife understands. She understands perfectly. And one way or another she will help him to understand too.

**The Royal Game** Pushkin Press

A collection of the great writer's observations, made during his travels across the Europe he loved so much

When I am on a journey, all ties suddenly fall away. I feel myself quite unburdened, disconnected, free - There is something in it marvellously uplifting and invigorating. Whole past epochs suddenly return: nothing is lost, everything still full of inception, enticement. For the insatiably curious and ardent Europhile Stefan Zweig, travel was both a necessary cultural education and a personal balm for the depression he experienced when rooted in one place for too long. He spent much of his life weaving between the countries of Europe, visiting authors and friends, exploring the continent in the heyday of international rail travel. Comprising a lifetime's observations on Zweig's travels in Europe, this collection can be dipped into or savoured at length, and

paints a rich and sensitive picture of Europe before the Second World War. *Those Who Forget* Pushkin Press  
 Wes Anderson on Stefan Zweig: "I had never heard of Zweig...when I just more or less by chance bought a copy of *Beware of Pity*. I loved this first book. I also read the *The Post-Office Girl*. The *Grand Budapest Hotel* has elements that were sort of stolen from both these books. Two characters in our story are vaguely meant to represent Zweig himself — our "Author" character, played by Tom Wilkinson, and the theoretically fictionalised version of himself, played by Jude Law. But, in fact, M. Gustave, the main character who is played by Ralph Fiennes, is modelled significantly on Zweig as well." 2009 PEN Translation Prize Finalist The logic of

capitalism, boom and bust, is unremitting and unforgiving. But what happens to human feeling in a completely commodified world? In *The Post-Office Girl*, Stefan Zweig, a deep analyst of the human passions, lays bare the private life of capitalism. Christine toils in a provincial post office in post-World War I Austria, a country gripped by unemployment. Out of the blue, a telegram arrives from Christine's rich American aunt inviting her to a resort in the Swiss Alps. Christine is immediately swept up into a world of inconceivable wealth and unleashed desire. She feels herself utterly transformed: nothing is impossible. But then, abruptly, her aunt cuts her loose. Christine returns to the post office, where yes, nothing will ever be the

same. Christine meets Ferdinand, a bitter war veteran and disappointed architect, who works construction jobs when he can get them. They are drawn to each other, even as they are crushed by a sense of deprivation, of anger and shame. Work, politics, love, sex: everything is impossible for them. Life is meaningless, unless, through one desperate and decisive act, they can secretly remake their world from within. Cinderella meets Bonnie and Clyde in Zweig's haunting and hard-as-nails novel, completed during the 1930s, as he was driven by the Nazis into exile, but left unpublished at the time of his death. *The Post-Office Girl*, available here for the first time in English, transforms our image of a modern master's achievement.

*Tales of Obsession and Desire* Rosetta Books

On a cruise ship bound for Buenos Aires, an electrifying encounter takes place between the reigning world chess champion and an unknown passenger. The stranger's diffident manner masks his extraordinary ability to challenge the grandmaster in a game of chess; it also conceals his dark and damaged past, the horror of which emerges as the game unfolds.

Mini Modern Classics New York Review of Books

THE CLASSIC INTERNATIONAL

BESTSELLER A new edition of this classic Zweig story - an epic chess match on a transatlantic liner during WW2 unearths a story of persecution and obsession On the deck of a transatlantic ocean liner, a

crowd of passengers gathers to watch reigning chess world champion Mirko Czentovic take on a series of amateur challengers. The haughty grandmaster dispatches all of his opponents with ease, until one Dr B steps forward from the crowd - a passionate lover of the royal game who still bears the mental scars of imprisonment by the Nazis in his native Austria. The enigmatic genius reluctantly agrees to challenge Czentovic, but at what cost to his sanity? Written during the Second World War, *The Royal Game* was the great Stefan Zweig's final work - a searing, suspenseful tale of psychological torment and the price of obsession.

**The Collected Stories of Stefan**

**Zweig** W. W. Norton & Company

Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan

(1480-1521), the first to circumnavigate the globe, sailed on behalf of the Spanish monarch from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, and discovered the straights that now bear his name and the Philippines. “Magellan is written in a tone of astonished wonder... a persuasive and crisp portrait of Magellan... Stefan Zweig brings the story of Magellan to life.” — Charles Poore, *The New York Times* “[A]n extremely well-written narrative, fired by a keen sense of justice, and with its dramatic and emotional qualities well sustained... [Zweig’s] own passion for his subject carries the story well.” — R. L. Duffus, *The New York Times* “A superb piece of reconstruction, intensely interesting first as a record of one of the greatest achievements in human history, and

second, as a live picture of a tragic figure, Magellan, lonely and misunderstood and cheated at the end of the reward in recognition of the stupendous and courageous task he had envisioned and achieved. Fascinating reading, and enlightening as a minutely detailed picture of the problems faced and met, from the first step to the last. A book which will last..." — Kirkus Review "Zweig's story opens with a fascinating chapter on spices. He explains the reasons for Magellan's sailing under a Spanish flag after a youth spent in the service of Portugal. Such matters as the making of Magellan's will, the absurd circumstances of his death, the reception of the 18 who returned, the corruption at court, are told in the light of present-day psychology and with an

understanding of human nature that makes this tale of an adventurer excellent and provocative reading." — The English Journal "Zweig's accumulated historical and cultural studies, whether in essay or monograph form, remain a body of achievement almost too impressive to take in... Full-sized books on Marie-Antoinette, Mary Stuart, and Magellan were international best sellers." — Clive James, Cultural Amnesia

Stefan Zweig at the End of the World  
eBook Partnership

A doctor in the Dutch East Indies torn between his medical duty to help and his own mixed emotions; a middle-aged maidservant whose devotion to her master leads her to commit a terrible act; a hotel waiter whose love for an

unapproachable aristocratic beauty culminates in an almost lyrical death and a prisoner-of-war longing to be home again in Russia. In these four stories, Stefan Zweig shows his gift for the acute analysis of emotional dilemmas. His four tragic and moving cameos of the human condition are played out against cosmopolitan and colonial backgrounds in the first half of the twentieth century. Tales of Longing and Liberation Alma Books

An original study of exile, told through the biography of Austrian writer Stefan Zweig By the 1930s, Stefan Zweig had become the most widely translated living author in the world. His novels, short stories, and biographies were so compelling that they became instant best sellers. Zweig was also an

intellectual and a lover of all the arts, high and low. Yet after Hitler's rise to power, this celebrated writer who had dedicated so much energy to promoting international humanism plummeted, in a matter of a few years, into an increasingly isolated exile—from London to Bath to New York City, then Ossining, Rio, and finally Petrópolis—where, in 1942, in a cramped bungalow, he killed himself. The Impossible Exile tells the tragic story of Zweig's extraordinary rise and fall while it also depicts, with great acumen, the gulf between the world of ideas in Europe and in America, and the consuming struggle of those forced to forsake one for the other. It also reveals how Zweig embodied, through his work, thoughts, and behavior, the end of an era—the implosion of Europe as an ideal

of Western civilization.

Journey Into the Past Re-Image  
Publishing

\* Our summary is short, simple and pragmatic. It allows you to have the essential ideas of a big book in less than 30 minutes. By reading this summary, you will learn what interests you in identifying and cultivating your gifts. You will also learn: that your talents reveal part of your individuality; that strengthening your faculties gives you the opportunity to accomplish yourself; that by perfecting his chess skills, the main character has sharpened his intelligence and learned to better control his emotions; that by devoting yourself to your passion, you can overcome moral trials. Published posthumously in 1943, Stefan Zweig's short story The

Chess Player relates the meeting and confrontation of two chess players who are at odds with each other. One is a peasant who has become a world champion thanks to his skill at chess, the only talent he possesses. The other is an Austrian aristocrat, whom the Gestapo officers have subjected to total isolation in a hotel room. To resist this psychological torture, he played mental chess games. Despite their different backgrounds, each of them benefited from exploiting their talent. What benefits can you gain from your passion? \*Buy now the summary of this book for the modest price of a cup of coffee!  
*Schnitzler's Century: The Making of Middle-Class Culture 1815-1914*  
iUniverse  
Sam Renshaw is giving up everything

to follow his chess dream. It's 1990 and he's in Yugoslavia for the Chess Olympiad where he is playing the most important game of his career. However, events on the board cause him to reconsider his life, especially the recent split from his girlfriend caused by his chess addiction. How much is he willing to sacrifice to achieve his goals? In lucid prose, 'Chess Fever' is a fresh, surprising, funny and moving novel that celebrates chess, but also literature, love and life.

The Royal Game by Stefan Zweig (Book Analysis) Proglen Trading Co., Ltd.

Born in Vienna in 1881, Stefan Zweig was one of the most respected authors of his time. Foreseeing Nazi Germany's domination of Europe, Zweig left Austria in 1933. In 1941, following a successful

lecture tour of South America and several months in New York, Stefan Zweig and his wife Lotte emigrated to Brazil. Despairing at Europe's future and feeling increasingly isolated, the Zweigs committed suicide together in 1942.

Stefan Zweig was an incessant correspondent but as the 1930s progressed, it became difficult for him to maintain contact with friends and colleagues. As Zweig's correspondence all but ceased with the outbreak of World War II, little is known about his final years. Even less is known about Lotte Zweig, his second-wife, secretary and travel-companion. This book provides an analysis of the Zweigs' time together and for the first time reproduces personal letters, written by the couple in Argentina and Brazil, along with editorial

commentary. Furthermore, Lotte finally emerges from her husband's shadows, with the letters offering significant insights into their relationship and her experience of exile.

Brief Notes from the Hills Penguin Classics

“A bravura performance...An entertaining book” (Kirkus Reviews) about the dramatic 2016 World Chess Championship between Norway’s Magnus Carlsen and Russia’s Sergey Karjakin, which mirrored the world’s geopolitical unrest and rekindled a global fascination with the sport. The first week of November 2016, hundreds of people descended on New York City’s South Street Seaport to watch the World Chess Championship between Norway’s Magnus Carlsen and Russia’s Sergey

Karjakin. By the time it was over would be front-page news and thought by many the greatest finish in chess history. With both Carlsen and Karjakin just twenty-five years old, it was the first time the championship had been waged among those who grew up playing chess against computers. Originally from Crimea, Karjakin had recently repatriated to Russia under the direct assistance of Putin. Carlsen, meanwhile, had expressed admiration for Donald Trump, and the first move of the tournament he played was called a Trompowsky Attack. Then there was the Russian leader of the World Chess Federation being barred from attending due to US sanctions, and chess fanatic and Trump adviser Peter Thiel being called on to make the honorary first

move in sudden death. That the tournament even required sudden death was a shock. Oddsmakers had given Carlsen, the defending champion, an eighty percent chance of winning. It would take everything he had to retain his title. Author Brin-Jonathan Butler was granted unique access to the two-and-half-week tournament and watched every move. The Grandmaster “is not the usual chronicle of a world-championship chess match....Butler offers insight into what it takes to become the best chess player on the planet...A vibrant and provocative look at chess and its metaphorical battle for territory and power” (Booklist).

**Amok and other Stories** Pushkin Press  
A new collection of essays by Stefan Zweig: tributes to the great artists and

thinkers of the Europe of his day Stefan Zweig was one of the twentieth century's greatest authors and a tireless champion of freedom, tolerance and friendship across borders. Encounters and Destinies collects his most impassioned and moving tributes to his many illustrious friends and peers: literary, philosophical and artistic luminaries from across the Old Europe that Zweig loved so much, and which he grieved to see so cruelly destroyed by two world wars. Including pieces on Rainer Maria Rilke, Marcel Proust, Sigmund Freud, Maxim Gorky and Arturo Toscanini, this essential collection is also Zweig's tribute to the ideal of friendship: an ideal he clung to as the world he knew was torn apart.

**Fantastic Night** Pushkin Press

Jim Berzchak has a gift. His capabilities in the game of chess are remarkable and his brain works at levels most people only dream about. However, a horrific blunder while playing at the high school state tournament costs his Escanaba Eskimos the team championship. Depressed, he slips into a world of solitude. His life stalls and although he studies chess aggressively and enhances his skills, other aspects to his well being become reclusive. 15 years later a group of high school students coax Jim into reopening the defunct chess program. Through the kids, he finds he has an even better gift, the ability to teach the game and make it exciting. "The Eskychess Express is back on track!" or so it seems. Issues abound with their newfound success. Personal problems

infect the team. Opponents take notice and hone their skills to incomprehensible levels. The pressure of competition makes Jim feel like collapsing. Can he get his life in order and lead his Eskimos over the second place hump? Or will they end up like him, devastated in life because they pinned too many hopes on winning a state championship title?

Journeys Pushkin Press

Chess Story New York Review of Books

Twenty-four hours of a woman's life

Simon & Schuster

"This is cultural history of the first order, and it is liberal and humane history at its very best."—David Cannadine An essential work for anyone who wishes to understand the social history of the nineteenth century, Schnitzler's Century is the culmination of Peter Gay's thirty-

five years of scholarship on bourgeois culture and society. Using Arthur Schnitzler, the sexually emboldened Viennese playwright, as his master of ceremonies, Gay offers a brilliant reexamination of the hundred-year period that began with the defeat of Napoleon and concluded with the conflagration of 1914. This is a defining work by one of America's greatest historians.

*The Collected Novellas of Stefan Zweig*  
Pushkin Press

'... a human being, an intellectual human

being who constantly bends the entire force of his mind on the ridiculous task of forcing a wooden king into the corner of a wooden board, and does it without going mad!' A group of passengers on a cruise ship challenge the world chess champion to a match. At first, they crumble, until they are helped by whispered advice from a stranger in the crowd - a man who will risk everything to win. Stefan Zweig's acclaimed novella *Chess* is a disturbing, intensely dramatic depiction of obsession and the price of genius.

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