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# In A State Vs Naipaul

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Impressions of Five Societies, British, French and Dutch, in the West Indies and South America

Ways of Looking and Feeling

A State of Freedom: A Novel

V.S. Naipaul

Fiction and Travel Writing

V. S. Naipaul, Man and Writer

A Million Mutinies Now

A House for Mr. Biswas

From Periphery to Center

V. S. Naipaul: Displacement and Autobiography

India

A House for Mr Biswas

Finding the Center

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Two Narratives

In a Free State

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Conversations with V. S. Naipaul

Among the Believers

The Mimic Men

A Turn in the South  
Magic Seeds  
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Stories  
Xala  
V.S. Naipaul  
Islamic Excursions Among the Converted Peoples  
The Loss of El Dorado  
Collected Short Fiction  
The Writer and the World  
V.S. Naipaul's In a Free State  
A Writer's People

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## **LOPEZ VANESSA**

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### **Impressions of Five Societies, British, French and Dutch, in the West Indies and South America**

In a Free State

A sober novel about a tempestuous and tormented soul carrying the burdens of postcolonialism in London. Winner of the W. H. Smith Literary Award.

*Ways of Looking and*

*Feeling* Vintage  
Canada

For forty years V. S. Naipaul has been traveling and, through his writing, creating one of the most wide-ranging and sustained meditations on our world. Now, for the first time, his finest shorter pieces of reflection and reportage -- nearly all of them heretofore out of print -- are collected in one volume. With an abiding faith in the redemptive power of modernity balanced by

a sense of wonder about the past, Naipaul has explored an astonishing variety of societies and peoples through the many-sided prism of his own experience. Whether writing about the Muslim invasions of India, Mobutu's mad reign in Zaire, or the New York mayoral elections, he has demonstrated again and again that no one has a shrewder intuition of the ways in which power works, of the universal relation of the exploiter and the exploited. And no one has put forth a more consistently eloquent defense of the dignity of the individual and the value of civilization. Infused with a deeply felt humanism, *The Writer and the World* attests powerfully not only to

Naipaul's status as the great English prose stylist of our time but also to his keen, often prophetic, understanding. *A State of Freedom: A Novel* Routledge  
A stunning novel of the present moment that takes us into the hearts and minds of those who use terrorism as an ideal and a way of life, and those who aspire to the frightening power of wealth. Abandoning a life he felt was not his own, Willie Chandran (the hero of *Half a Life*) moves to Berlin where his sister's radical political awakening inspires him to join a liberation movement in India. There, in the jungles and dirt-poor small villages, through months of secrecy and night marches, Willie — a solitary, inward man

— discovers both the idealism and brutality of guerilla warfare. When he finally escapes the movement, he is imprisoned for the murder of three policemen. Released unexpectedly on condition he return to England, he attempts to climb back into life in the West, but his experience of wealth, love and despair in London only bedevils him further. *Magic Seeds* is a moving tale of a man searching for his life and fearing he has wasted it, and a testing study of the conflicts between the rich and the poor, and the struggles within each. Its spare, elegant prose sizzles with devastating psychological analysis, bleak humour and astonishing characters.

Only V. S. Naipaul could have written a novel so attuned to the world and so much a challenge to it.

**V.S. Naipaul** Vintage Canada

Winner of the 1971 Booker Prize, this grouping of two stories — a short novel within a prologue and an epilogue from Naipaul's travel journals — is held together by Naipaul's pervading concern with the themes of exile, freedom and prejudice.

**Fiction and Travel Writing** Vintage

A novel of colonialism and revolution, death, sexual violence and political and spiritual impotence.

**V. S. Naipaul, Man and Writer** Palgrave

In 1975, at the height of Indira Gandhi's "Emergency," V. S. Naipaul returned to

India, the country his ancestors had left one hundred years earlier. Out of that journey he produced this concise masterpiece: a vibrant, defiantly unsentimental portrait of a society traumatized by centuries of foreign conquest and immured in a mythic vision of its past. Drawing on novels, news reports, political memoirs, and his own encounters with ordinary Indians—from a supercilious prince to an engineer constructing housing for Bombay's homeless—Naipaul captures a vast, mysterious, and agonized continent inaccessible to foreigners and barely visible to its own people. He sees both the burgeoning space

program and the 5,000 volunteers chanting mantras to purify a defiled temple; the feudal village autocrat and the Naxalite revolutionaries who combined Maoist rhetoric with ritual murder. Relentless in its vision, thrilling in the keenness of its prose, India: A Wounded Civilization is a work of astonishing insight and candor.

A Million Mutinies Now  
Vintage

Offers insight into the author's range and creative process, in a treasury that includes pieces from such classics as "Miguel Street" and "In a Free State."

A House for Mr. Biswas  
Vintage

In his forty-six short years, Mr. Mohun Biswas has been fighting against destiny

to achieve some semblance of independence, only to face a lifetime of calamity. Shuttled from one residence to another after the drowning death of his father, for which he is inadvertently responsible, Mr. Biswas yearns for a place he can call home. But when he marries into the domineering Tulsi family on whom he indignantly becomes dependent, Mr. Biswas embarks on an arduous -- and endless -- struggle to weaken their hold over him, and purchase a house of his own.

From Periphery to Center Vintage Canada  
A Constant Concern Of Naipaul S Novels And Travel Writing Is The Negotiation Of Where The Individual Is Situated. Many Of His

Fictional Figures Remain Unhoused, Displaced, Uprooted With No Distinct Place Called Home To Be Proud Of And Are, Therefore, Located On The Margins Of Fixed And Shifting Identities. In Formal Terms, Naipaul Experiments Along The Boundaries Of Fiction And Non-Fiction, In Particular Travel Writing, And Often Fuses Genres To Give Birth To New Ones. On The Occasion Of Naipaul S Winning The Nobel Prize For Literature This Anthology Presents A Perceptive Assessment Of Some Of His Important Works Of Fiction And Travel Writing And Puts Into Perspective His Contribution To Literature As A Whole.  
V. S. Naipaul:

Displacement and  
Autobiography

Harmondsworth ; New York [etc.] : Penguin  
A gripping masterpiece, hailed as one of the 20th century's finest novels. A House for Mr Biswas is V.S. Naipaul's unforgettable third novel. Born the "wrong way" and thrust into a world that greeted him with little more than a bad omen, Mohun Biswas has spent his 46 years of life striving for independence. But his determined efforts have met only with calamity. Shuttled from one residence to another after the drowning of his father, Mr Biswas yearns for a place he can call home. He marries into the domineering Tulsis family, on whom he becomes indignantly dependent, but rebels

and takes on a succession of occupations in an arduous struggle to weaken their hold over him and purchase a house of his own. Heartrending and darkly comic, A House for Mr Biswas masterfully evokes a man's quest for autonomy against the backdrop of post-colonial Trinidad.

**India** Tim Duggan Books

In his long-awaited, vastly innovative new novel, Naipaul, "one of literature's great travelers" (Los Angeles Times), spans continents and centuries to create what is at once an autobiography and a fictional archaeology of colonialism.

"Dickensian... a brilliant new prism through which to view

(Naipaul's) life and work."—New York Times.

**A House for Mr Biswas** Vintage

This grouping of two short stories, a short novel within a prologue and an epilogue from Naipaul's travel journals, is held together by Naipaul's pervading concern with the themes of exile, freedom and prejudice.

*Finding the Center* Vintage

In the "brilliant novel" (The New York Times) V.S. Naipaul takes us deeply into the life of one man—an Indian who, uprooted by the bloody tides of Third World history, has come to live in an isolated town at the bend of a great river in a newly independent African nation. Naipaul gives us the most convincing and

disturbing vision yet of what happens in a place caught between the dangerously alluring modern world and its own tenacious past and traditions.

Beyond Belief Vintage Canada

"Brilliant. . . . A powerfully observed, stylistically elegant exploration." --The New York Times A New York Times Notable Book of the Year "The book's strength lies in Naipaul's extraordinary ability as a storyteller to draw striking portraits of a cross section of individuals." -The Boston Globe  
Fourteen years after the publication of his landmark travel narrative *Among the Believers*, V. S. Naipaul returned to the four non-Arab Islamic countries he reported on so vividly at the

time of Ayatollah Khomeini's triumph in Iran. *Beyond Belief* is the result of his five-month journey in 1995 through Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan, and Malaysia--lands where descendants of Muslim converts live at odds with indigenous traditions, and where dreams of Islamic purity clash with economic and political realities. In extended conversations with a vast number of people--a rare survivor of the martyr brigades of the Iran-Iraq war, a young intellectual training as a Marxist guerilla in Baluchistan, an impoverished elderly couple in Teheran whose dusty Baccarat chandeliers preserve the memory of vanished wealth, and countless others--V. S. Naipaul deliberately

effaces himself to let the voices of his subjects come through. Yet the result is a collection of stories that has the author's unmistakable stamp. With its incisive observation and brilliant cultural analysis, *Beyond Belief* is a startling and revelatory addition to the Naipaul canon. "Highly accomplished. . . . Another display of Naipaul's remarkable talent." --The Independent (London) *The Enigma of Arrival* Vintage Canada V. S. Naipaul is a reader-friendly introduction to the writing of one of the most influential contemporary authors and the 2001 Nobel laureate in Literature. Bruce King provides a novel by novel analysis of the fiction with

attention to structure, significance, and Naipaul's development as a writer, while setting the texts in their autobiographical, philosophical, social, political, colonial and postcolonial contexts. King shows how Naipaul modified Western and Indian literary traditions for the West Indies and then the wider world to become an international writer whose subject matter includes the Caribbean, England, India, Africa, the United States, Argentina, and contemporary Islam. Thoroughly revised and updated, the second edition of V. S. Naipaul now includes an expanded Introduction, and discussion of his most recent novels *A Way in the World* and *Half a Life*, his Nobel

Lecture, Naipaul's writings on Islam, and a survey of the main criticism by other writers and postcolonial theorists. *India* Pan Macmillan A New York Times Notable Book of 2018 A devastating novel of multiple narratives, “a mark of Neel Mukherjee’s range and force and ambition” (New York Times Book Review). *A State of Freedom* wrests open the central, defining events of our century: displacement and migration. Five characters, in very different circumstances—from a domestic cook in Mumbai to a vagrant and his dancing bear—find out the meanings of dislocation and the desire to get more out of life.

*Glimpses of African Belief* Univ. Press of Mississippi  
 V.S. Naipaul Has Claimed That All His Work Is Really One And He Has Been Writing One Big Book All These Years; Also, Considering The World He Has Stepped Into And The World He Has To Look At, He Cannot Be A Professional Novelist In The Old Sense. In Early Youth Naipaul Took Up The Vocation Of A Writer As His Religion And, Since The Beginning Five Decades Ago, Has Drawn On His Intensely Personal Experience Of An Uprooted Person Adrift In The World, His Experience Of The Two Worlds To None Of Which He Could Really Belong An Experience That Imparts The Authentic Voice To His Works Both Non-Fiction

And Fiction Enriched By A Distinct Autobiographical Flavour. Naipaul Himself Is Split Into His Characters In Whom Are Manifested Subtle Shades Of His Emotions And Traits. He Is Accidental Man, Dangling Man, History Man And The Mimic Man All Rolled Into One. Naipaul Is Also One Of Literature S Great Travellers, And His Absorption Into The Experience Of Rootlessness, The Alienating Effects Of Colonial Past On Today S Postcolonial People Has Taken Him To Africa, South America, India And All Over The World Not In Search Of Roots But In Search Of Rootlessness, And Has Yielded A Rich Harvest Of Travelogues Which Are About Much More Than Travel. An Author

Of A Large Number Of Fictional And Non-Fictional Works, Naipaul Continues To Surprise, Excite, Provoke And Move Readers At Every Turn Of His Literary Voyage. Naipaul Has Unseverable Emotional Bond With India Which Remains For Him An Area Of Pain, An Ache For Which One Has A Great Tenderness Yet From Which He Wishes To Separate Himself. The World Of V.S. Naipaul Is The World Of Two Worlds. The Present Volumes Of Papers On Naipaul, Led By Naipaul S Nobel Lecture, Offer Illuminating Perspectives And Interesting Explorations Into This Rich, Enigmatic, Sad, Hilarious And Fascinating World Of Naipaul.

A Colonial History  
Oxford University Press  
In his first book of non-fiction since 2003, V.S. Naipaul gives us an eloquent, candid, wide-ranging narrative that delves into the sometimes inadvertent process of creative and intellectual assimilation. Born in Trinidad of Indian descent, a resident of England for his entire adult life, and a prodigious traveller, Nobel Laureate V. S. Naipaul has always faced the challenges of “fitting one civilisation to another.” In A Writer’s People, he discusses the writers to whom he was exposed early on, Derek Walcott, Flaubert and his own father among them; how Anthony Powell and Francis Wyndham influenced his first encounters

with literary culture; what we have retained—and forgotten—of the world portrayed in Caesar’s *The Gallic War* and Virgil’s *Aeneid*; how the writings of Gandhi, Nehru and other Indian writers both reveal and conceal the authors and their nation. And he brings the same scrutiny to bear on his own life: his years in Trinidad; the gaps in his family history; the “private India” kept alive through story, ritual, religion and culture; his ever-evolving reaction to the more complicated and demanding true India he would encounter for the first time when he was thirty. Part meditation, part remembrance, as elegant as it is revelatory, *A Writer’s People* allows us

privileged insight—full of incident, humour and feeling—into the mind of one of our greatest writers. “He brings to non-fiction an extraordinary capacity for making art out of lucid thought. . . . I can no longer imagine the world without Naipaul’s writing.” *Los Angeles Times Book Review*

### **V. S. Naipaul's**

***Journeys*** Picador USA  
Naipul's first work of travel writing is an account of his journey in 1950 from London to his birthplace, Trinidad. He offers a record of his impressions there and elsewhere in the West Indies and South America, and examines their common heritage of colonialism and slavery.

### **Naipaul** Vintage

The history of Trinidad begins with a delusion: the belief that

somewhere nearby on the South American mainland lay El Dorado, the mythical kingdom of gold. In this extraordinary and often gripping book, V. S. Naipaul—himself a native of Trinidad—shows how that delusion drew a small island into the vortex of world events, making it the object of Spanish and English colonial designs and a mecca for treasure-seekers, slave-traders, and revolutionaries. Amid massacres and poisonings, plunder and multinational intrigue, two themes emerge: the grinding down of the Aborigines

during the long rivalries of the El Dorado quest and, two hundred years later, the man-made horror of slavery. An accumulation of casual, awful detail takes us as close as we can get to day-to-day life in the slave colony, where, in spite of various titles of nobility, only an opportunistic, near-lawless community exists, always fearful of slave suicide or poison, of African sorcery and revolt. Naipaul tells this labyrinthine story with assurance, withering irony, and lively sympathy. The result is historical writing at its highest level.

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