

Christopher And His Kind Isherwood

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Eventually, you will enormously discover a further experience and success by spending more cash. nevertheless when? do you say you will that you require to get those all needs next having significantly cash? Why dont you try to get something basic in the beginning? Thats something that will lead you to understand even more all but the globe, experience, some places, in the same way as history, amusement, and a lot more?

It is your completely own grow old to take steps reviewing habit. in the course of guides you could enjoy now is **Christopher And His Kind Isherwood** below.

[Down There on a Visit](#) Mar 17 2021 Bremen, 1928. The Greek Islands, 1932. London, 1938. California, 1940. Four portraits, four settings, four narrators all named Christopher Isherwood. Here are the postcards home from a spiritual tourist looking for a new mode of life as well as a new place to live while Europe, and then the world, moves relentlessly toward war. Which of the guides he encounters can lead him to a better future? The businessman, the utopian, the guru, the geisha? Published in 1962, *Down There on a Visit* is based on material from a proposed epic that would also have incorporated *The Berlin Stories*. It is now widely regarded as the most accomplished of Isherwood's novels.

[Ramakrishna and His Disciples](#) Aug 02 2022 Excerpt: This is the story of a phenomenon. I will begin by calling him simply that, rather than 'holy man', 'mystic', or 'saint', all emotive words with mixed associations which may attract some readers, repel others. A phenomenon is always a fact, an object of experience. That is how I shall try to approach Ramakrishna... I only ask you to approach Ramakrishna with the same open-minded curiosity you might feel for any highly unusual human being. Christopher Isherwood unfolds a fantastic story with a calm finesse...

[Christopher and His Kind](#) Oct 04 2022 "Originally published in 1976, *Christopher and His Kind* covers the most memorable ten years in the writer's life - from 1929, when Isherwood left England to spend a week in Berlin and decided to stay there indefinitely, to 1939, when he arrived in America." "What most impressed the first readers of this memoir was the candor with which he describes his life in gay Berlin of the 1930s and his struggles to save his companion, Heinz, from the Nazis. An engrossing and dramatic story and a fascinating glimpse into a little-known world, *Christopher and His Kind* remains one of Isherwood's greatest achievements."--BOOK JACKET. Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

The Animals: Love Letters Between Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy Jan 27 2022 The love story between Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy—in their own words The English novelist and screenwriter Christopher Isherwood was already famous as the author of *Goodbye to*

Berlin when he met Don Bachardy, a California teenager, on the beach in Santa Monica in 1952. Within a year, they began to live together as an openly gay couple, defying convention in the closeted world of Hollywood. Isherwood was forty-eight; Bachardy was eighteen. *The Animals* is the testimony in letters to their extraordinary partnership, which lasted until Isherwood's death in 1986—despite the thirty year age gap, affairs and jealousy (on both sides), the pressures of increasing celebrity, and the disdain of twentieth-century America for love between two men. The letters reveal the private world of the *Animals*: Isherwood was "Dobbin," a stubborn old workhorse; Bachardy was the rash, playful "Kitty." Isherwood had a gift for creating a safe and separate domestic milieu, necessary for a gay man in midtwentieth-century America. He drew Bachardy into his semi-secret realm, nourished Bachardy's talent as a painter, and launched him into the artistic career that was first to threaten and eventually to secure their life together. The letters also tell of public achievements—the critical acclaim for *A Single Man*, the commercial success of *Cabaret*—and the bohemian whirl of friendships in Los Angeles, London, and New York with such stars as Truman Capote, Julie Harris, David Hockney, Vanessa Redgrave, Gore Vidal, and Tennessee Williams. Bold, transgressive, and playful, *The Animals* articulates the devotion, in tenderness and in storms, between two uniquely original spirits.

[Christopher and His Kind, 1929-1939](#) Sep 03 2022 Describes ten years in the writer's life, from 1929 when he left England for a stay in Berlin, through his years of wanderings around a troubled Europe to his 1939 arrival in the United States

Conversations with Christopher Isherwood Jan 03 2020 To many readers Christopher Isherwood means Berlin. The author of *Goodbye to Berlin* (1939), the British Isherwood found fame through the adaptation of that work into the stage play and film *I Am a Camera* and then into the stage musical and film *Cabaret*. Throughout his career he was a keen observer, always seemingly in the right place at the right time. Whether in Berlin in the 1930s or in Los Angeles in the 1960s and 1970s, Isherwood (1904--86) reflected on his life and his world and wrote perceptive commentary on contemporary European and American history and culture. His ties to California made him

more American than British. "I have spent half my life in the United States," he said. "Los Angeles is a great place for feeling at home because everybody's from someplace else." Isherwood can be credited for helping make L.A. an acceptable setting for serious fiction, paving the way for John Rechy, Joan Didion, Paul Monette, and Bernard Cooper, among others. The interviews in this volume—two of which have never before been published—stretch over a period of forty years. They address a wide range of topics, including the importance of diary-keeping to his life and work; the interplay between fiction and autobiography; his turning from Christianity to Hinduism; his circle of friends, including W. H. Auden, Aldous Huxley, and E. M. Forster; several important places in his life—Berlin, England, and California; and his homosexual identity. These interviews are substantive, smart, and insightful, allowing the author to discuss his approach to writing of both fiction and nonfiction. "More and more," he explains, "writing is appearing to me as a kind of self-analysis, a finding-out of something about myself and about the past and about what life is like, as far as I'm concerned: who I am, who these people are, what it's all about." This emphasis on self-discovery comes as no surprise from a writer who mined his own diaries and experiences for inspiration. As an interviewee, Isherwood is introspective, thoughtful, and humorous. James J. Berg is the program director for the Center for Teaching and Learning, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. Chris Freeman is an assistant professor of English at St. John's University. Berg and Freeman are editors of *The Isherwood Century: Essays on the Life and Work of Christopher Isherwood*, which was a finalist for the 2001 Lambda Literary Award for Gay Studies.

Black Deutschland Jan 15 2021 An intoxicating, provocative novel of appetite, identity, and self-construction, Darryl Pinckney's *Black Deutschland* tells the story of an outsider, trapped between a painful past and a tenebrous future, in Europe's brightest and darkest city. Jed—young, gay, black, out of rehab and out of prospects in his hometown of Chicago—flees to the city of his fantasies, a museum of modernism and decadence: Berlin. The paradise that tyranny created, the subsidized city isolated behind the Berlin Wall, is where he's chosen to become the figure that

he so admires, the black American expatriate. Newly sober and nostalgic for the Weimar days of Isherwood and Auden, Jed arrives to chase boys and to escape from what it means to be a black male in America. But history, both personal and political, can't be avoided with time or distance. Whether it's the judgment of the cousin he grew up with and her husband's bourgeois German family, the lure of white wine in a down-and-out bar, a gang of racists looking for a brawl, or the ravaged visage of Rock Hudson flashing behind the face of every white boy he desperately longs for, the past never stays past even in faraway Berlin. In the age of Reagan and AIDS in a city on the verge of tearing down its walls, he clambers toward some semblance of adulthood amid the outcasts and expats, intellectuals and artists, queers and misfits. And, on occasion, the city keeps its Isherwood promises and the boy he kisses, incredibly, kisses him back.

[The Berlin Stories](#) Feb 02 2020 The Sally Bowles character was the subject of a play, I am a camera; and a musical, Cabaret.

A Meeting by the River Sep 30 2019

Isherwood's final work of fiction—an epistolary novel that explores sexual identity and Eastern mysticism After a long separation, two English brothers meet in India. Oliver, the idealistic younger brother, prepares to take his final vows as a Hindu monk. Patrick, a successful publisher with a wife and children in London and a male lover in California, has publicly admired his brother's convictions while privately criticizing his choices. First published in 1967, *A Meeting by the River* delicately depicts the complexity of sibling relationships—the resentment and competitiveness as well as the love and respect. Ultimately, the brothers' exposure to each other's differences deepens their awareness of themselves. In *A Meeting by the River*, Christopher Isherwood dramatizes the conflict between sexuality and spirituality that inspired his late writings. “The best prose writer in English.” Gore Vidal

The World in the Evening Feb 25 2022 A deeply introspective book about war, religion, and sexuality Against the backdrop of World War II, *The World in the Evening* charts the emotional development of Stephen Monk, an aimless Englishman living in California. After his second marriage suddenly ends, Stephen finds himself living with a relative in a small Pennsylvania Quaker town, haunted by memories of his prewar affair with a younger man during a visit to the Canary Islands. The world traveler comes to a gradual understanding of himself and of his newly adopted homeland. When first published in 1953, *The World in the Evening* was notable for its clear-eyed depiction of European and American mores, sexuality, and religion. Today, readers herald Christopher Isherwood's frank portrayal of bisexuality and his early appreciation of low and high camp.

[The Memorial](#) Apr 29 2022 With *The Memorial*, Christopher Isherwood began his lifelong work of rewriting his own experiences into witty yet almost forensic portraits of modern society. Set in the aftermath of World War I, *The Memorial* portrays the dissolution of a tradition-bound English family. Cambridge student Eric Vernon finds himself torn between his desire to emulate his heroic father, who led a life of quiet

sacrifice before dying in the war, and his envy for his father's great friend Edward Blake, who survived the war only to throw himself into gay life in Berlin and the pursuit of meaningless relationships. Published in 1932, when Isherwood was twenty-eight years old, *The Memorial* is the immediate precursor to the first volume of the famous *Berlin Stories*, but it stands in its own right as the first book in which Isherwood really found his literary voice.

[Sally Bowles](#) Mar 05 2020

[Isherwood on Writing](#) Feb 13 2021 Isherwood's lectures on writing and writers, now all available for the first time In the 1960s, Christopher Isherwood gave an unprecedented series of lectures at California universities about his life and work. During this time Isherwood, who would liberate the memoir and become the founding father of modern gay writing, spoke openly for the first time about his craft—on writing for film, theater, and novels—and spirituality. *Isherwood on Writing* brings these free-flowing, wide-ranging public addresses together to reveal a distinctly American Isherwood at the top of his form. This updated edition contains the long-lost conclusion to the second lecture, published here for the first time, including its discussion of *A Single Man*, his greatest novel, and *A Meeting by the River*, his final novel.

[Goodbye to Berlin](#) May 31 2022

[Down There on a Visit](#) Oct 12 2020 Berlin, the Greek Islands, London and California. 1928, 1932, 1988 and 1940. Four portraits, four settings, four narrators, all known as "Christopher Isherwood"; all connected through their own experiences of private sexual hell. Often regarded as the best of his novels, *Down There on a Visit* tells the vivid stories of Isherwood's life that, together with the *Berlin Stories*, were to have comprised his great unfinished epic novel.

[Isherwood](#) Dec 26 2021 Born into the English landed gentry, the heir to a substantial country estate, Christopher Isherwood ended up in California, an American citizen and the disciple of a Hindu swami. En route, he became a leading writer of the 1930's generation, an unmatched chronicler of pre-Hitler Berlin, an experimental dramatist, a war reporter, a travel writer, a pacifist, a Hollywood screenwriter, a monk, and a grand old man of the emerging gay liberation movement. In this biography, the first to be written since Isherwood's death, and the only one with access to all Isherwood's papers, Peter Parker traces the long journey of a man who never felt at home wherever he lived. Isherwood's travels were a means of escape: from his family, his class, his country, and the dead weight of the past. Parker reveals the truth about Isherwood's relationship with his war-hero father, his strong-willed mother, and his disturbed younger brother, Richard, who was also homosexual. He also draws upon a vast number of letters to describe Isherwood's complicated relationships with such lifelong friends as W. H. Auden, Stephen Spender, Edward Upward and John Lehmann. The result is a frank portrait of contradictions, a man searching for meaning in life, and one of the twentieth century's most significant writers.

Isherwood in Transit Oct 31 2019 New perspectives on Christopher Isherwood as a searching and transnational writer “Perhaps I had traveled too much, left my heart in too

many places,” muses the narrator of Christopher Isherwood's novel *Prater Violet* (1945), which he wrote in his adopted home of Los Angeles after years of dislocation and desperation. In *Isherwood in Transit*, James J. Berg and Chris Freeman bring together diverse Isherwood scholars to understand the challenges this writer faced as a consequence of his travel. Based on a conference at the Huntington Library, where Isherwood's recently opened papers are held, *Isherwood in Transit* considers the writer not as an English, continental, or American writer but as a transnational one, whose identity, politics, and beliefs were constantly transformed by global connections and engagements arising from journeys to Germany, Japan, China, and Argentina; his migration to the United States; and his conversion to Vedanta Hinduism in the 1940s. Approaching Isherwood's rootlessness and restlessness from various perspectives, these essays show that long after he made a new home in California and became an American citizen, Christopher Isherwood remained unsettled, although his wanderings became spiritual and personal rather than geographic. Contributors: Barrie Jean Borich, DePaul U; Jamie Carr, Niagara U; Robert L. Caserio, Penn State U, University Park; Lisa Colletta, American U of Rome; Lois Cucullu, U of Minnesota; Jaime Harker, U of Mississippi; Carola M. Kaplan, California State U, Pomona; Calvin W. Keogh, Central European U, Budapest; Victor Marsh; Wendy Moffat, Dickinson College; Xenobe Purvis; Bidhan Roy, California State U, Los Angeles; Katharine Stevenson, U of Texas at Austin; Edmund White.

[Christopher Isherwood](#) Oct 24 2021

[A Single Man](#) Dec 02 2019 Welcome to sunny suburban 1960s Southern California. George is a gay middle-aged English professor, adjusting to solitude after the tragic death of his young partner. He is determined to persist in the routines of his former life. *A Single Man* follows him over the course of an ordinary twenty-four hours. Behind his British reserve, tides of grief, rage, and loneliness surge—but what is revealed is a man who loves being alive despite all the everyday injustices. When Christopher Isherwood's *A Single Man* first appeared, it shocked many with its frank, sympathetic, and moving portrayal of a gay man in maturity. Isherwood's favorite of his own novels, it now stands as a classic lyric meditation on life as an outsider.

[The Temple](#) Jul 29 2019 “Beyond the wonderful insights ... there is a portrait of the world in the eye of the storm between two world wars. It is a novel of awakening -- awakening to sex, yes ... but also an awakening to the presence of evil in the world and to the possibilities of love and friendship.” -- The Bloomsbury Review

[The Mortmere Stories](#) Jun 07 2020 The rector, Casimir Welken, resembles a 'diseased goat' and breeds angels in the church belfry; his sidekick Ronald Gunball is a dipsomaniac and an unashamed vulgarian; Sergeant Claptree, assisted by Ensign Battersea, keeps the Skull and Trumpet Inn; the mannish Miss Belmare, domineering and well starched, is sister to the squire, and Gustave Shreeve is headmaster of Frisbald College for boys.

[Christopher and His Kind, 1929-1939](#) May 19 2021

All the Conspirators Mar 29 2022 The accomplished British playwright and fiction writer's first novel, originally published in England in 1928, tells the story of a young middle-class man on the point of revolt
Lost Years Nov 24 2021 Book description to come.

Mr Norris Changes Trains Aug 22 2021
Christopher and His Kind Nov 05 2022 An indispensable memoir by one of the most prominent writers of his generation Originally published in 1976, *Christopher and His Kind* covers the most memorable ten years in the writer's life—from 1928, when Christopher Isherwood left England to spend a week in Berlin and decided to stay there indefinitely, to 1939, when he arrived in America. His friends and colleagues during this time included W. H. Auden, Stephen Spender, and E. M. Forster, as well as colorful figures he met in Germany and later fictionalized in his two Berlin novels—and who appeared again, fictionalized to an even greater degree, in *I Am a Camera* and *Cabaret*. What most impressed the first readers of this memoir, however, was the candor with which he describes his life in gay Berlin of the 1930s and his struggles to save his companion, a German man named Heinz, from the Nazis. An engrossing and dramatic story and a fascinating glimpse into a little-known world, *Christopher and His Kind* remains one of Isherwood's greatest achievements.

Kathleen and Frank Aug 10 2020 *Kathleen and Frank* is a love story set in the glory days of the British Empire, the last decades before World War I It is the story of Christopher Isherwood's parents, the winsome and lively daughter of a successful wine merchant and the reticent, artistically gifted soldier-son of a country squire. They met in 1895 outside a music rehearsal in an army camp and married in 1903 after Christopher's father returned from the Boer War. Frank was killed in an assault near Ypres in 1915; Kathleen remained a widow for the rest of her life. Their story is told through letters and Kathleen's diary, with connecting commentary by Isherwood. *Kathleen and Frank* is a family memoir, but it is also a richly detailed social history of a period of striking change—Queen Victoria's funeral, Blériot's flight across the English Channel, Sarah Bernhardt's *Hamlet*, suffragettes, rising hemlines, the beginning of the Troubles in Ireland—the period that shaped Isherwood himself. As a young man, Isherwood fled the tragedy that engulfed his parents' lives and threatened his own; in *Kathleen and Frank*, he reweaves the tapestry of family and heritage and places himself in the pattern.

The Memorial May 07 2020 Set in the aftermath of World War I, Christopher Isherwood's *The Memorial* is the witty, almost forensic portrayal of the dissolution of a tradition-bound English family. On the cusp of adulthood, the Cambridge student Eric Vernon finds himself torn between his desire to emulate his heroic father, who led a life of quiet sacrifice before dying in the war, and his envy of his father's roguish friend who survived the war and afterward threw himself into gay life. Published in 1932, when Isherwood was twenty-eight years old, *The Memorial* is the novel in which a dazzlingly talented young writer found his literary voice, the book in which Isherwood became Isherwood.

Christopher Isherwood Sep 22 2021 A detailed study of Isherwood's fiction shows how the author made use of his own experiences to create his novels

The American Isherwood Apr 17 2021 Novelist, memoirist, diarist, and gay pioneer Christopher Isherwood left a wealth of writings. Known for his crisp style and his camera-like precision with detail, Isherwood gained fame for his *Berlin Stories*, which served as source material for the hit stage musical and Academy Award-winning film *Cabaret*. More recently, his experiences and career in the United States have received increased attention. His novel *A Single Man* was adapted into an Oscar-nominated film; his long relationship with the artist Don Bachardy, with whom he shared an openly gay lifestyle, was the subject of an award-winning documentary, *Chris & Don: A Love Story*; and his memoir, *Christopher and His Kind*, was adapted for the BBC. Isherwood's colorful journeys took him from post-World War I England to Weimar Germany to European exile to Golden Age Hollywood to Los Angeles in the full flower of gay liberation. After the publication of his diaries, which run to more than one million words and span nearly a half century, it is possible to fully assess his influence. This collection of essays considers Isherwood's diaries, his vast personal archive, and his published works and offers a multifaceted appreciation of a writer who spent more than half of his life in southern California. James J. Berg and Chris Freeman have brought together the most informative scholarship of the twenty-first century to illuminate the craft of one of the singular figures of the twentieth century. Isherwood, the American, emerges from the shadow of his English reputation to stake his claim as a significant force in late twentieth-century American culture whose legacy continues in the twenty-first century. Contributors: Joshua Adair, Murray State U; Jamie Carr, Niagara U; Robert L. Caserio, Pennsylvania State U; Niladri Chatterjee, U of Kalyani, India; Lisa Colletta, American U of Rome; Lois Cucullu, U of Minnesota; Mario Faraone; Peter Edgerly Firchow; Rebecca Gordon Stewart; William R. Handley, U of Southern California; Jaime Harker, U of Mississippi; Sara S. Hodson, Huntington Library; Carola M. Kaplan, California State U, Pomona; Benjamin Kohlmann, U of Freiburg, Germany; Victor Marsh, U of Queensland; Tina Mascara; Stephen McCauley; Paul M. McNeil, Columbia U; Guido Santi, College of the Canyons, California; Kyle Stevens, Brandeis U.
Journey to a War Jun 19 2021

Diaries: 1939-1960 Jul 09 2020 Den engelske forfatters (1904-1986) dagbøger

Ziegfeld Apr 05 2020 Any girl who twists her hat will be fired! - Florenz Ziegfeld And no Ziegfeld girl ever did as she made her way down the gala stairways of the Ziegfeld Follies in some of the most astonishing spectacles the American theatergoing public ever witnessed. When Florenz Ziegfeld started in theater, it was flea circus, operetta and sideshow all rolled into one. When he left it, the glamorous world of "show-biz" had been created. Though many know him as the man who "glorified the American girl," his first real star attraction was the bodybuilder Eugen Sandow, who flexed his muscles and thrilled the society matrons who came backstage to squeeze his biceps. His

lesson learned with Sandow, Ziegfeld went on to present Anna Held, the naughty French sensation, who became the first Mrs. Ziegfeld. He was one of the first impresarios to mix headliners of different ethnic backgrounds, and literally the earliest proponent of mixed-race casting. The stars he showcased and, in some cases, created have become legends: Billie Burke (who also became his wife), elfin Marilyn Miller, cowboy Will Rogers, Bert Williams, W. C. Fields, Eddie Cantor and, last but not least, neighborhood diva Fanny Brice. A man of voracious sexual appetites when it came to beautiful women, Ziegfeld knew what he wanted and what others would want as well. From that passion, the Ziegfeld Girl was born. Elaborately bejeweled, they wore little more than a smile as they glided through eye-popping tableaux that were the highlight of the Follies, presented almost every year from 1907 to 1931. Ziegfeld's reputation and power, however, went beyond the stage of the Follies as he produced a number of other musicals, among them the ground-breaking *Show Boat*. In *Ziegfeld: The Man Who Created Show Business*, Ethan Mordden recreates the lost world of the Follies, a place of long-vanished beauty masterminded by one of the most inventive, ruthless, street-smart and exacting men ever to fill a theatre on the Great White Way : Florenz Ziegfeld.

Kathleen and Frank Jul 21 2021 A pivotal book in Isherwood's career that reveals as much about him as the parents he set out to portray Kathleen and Frank is the story of Christopher Isherwood's parents—their meeting in 1895, marriage in 1903 after his father had returned from the Boer War, and his father's death in an assault on Ypres in 1915, which left his mother a widow until her own death in 1960. As well as a family memoir, it is a social history of a period of striking change, and a portrait of the world that shaped Isherwood and that he rejected.

My Guru and His Disciple Dec 14 2020 *My Guru and His Disciple* is a sweetly modest and honest portrait of Isherwood's spiritual instructor, Swami Prabhavananda, the Hindu priest who guided Isherwood for some thirty years. It is also a book about the often amusing and sometimes painful counterpoint between worldliness and holiness in Isherwood's own life. Sexual sprees, all-night drinking bouts, a fast car ride with Greta Garbo, scriptwriting conferences at M-G-M, intellectual sparring sessions with Berthold Brecht alternated with nights of fasting at the Vedanta Center, a six-month period of celibacy and sobriety, and the pious drudgery of translating (in collaboration with the Swami) the *Bhagavad-Gita*. Seldom has a single man been owed with such strong drives toward both sensuality and spirituality, abandon and discipline; out of the passionate dialectic between these drives, *My Guru and His Disciple* has been written.

The Berlin of Sally Bowles Jun 27 2019
A Single Man Jul 01 2022 Welcome to sunny suburban 1960s Southern California. George is a gay middle-aged English professor, adjusting to solitude after the tragic death of his young partner. He is determined to persist in the routines of his former life. *A Single Man* follows him over the course of an ordinary twenty-four hours. Behind his British reserve, tides of grief, rage, and loneliness surge—but what is revealed is a man who loves being alive despite

all the everyday injustices. When Christopher Isherwood's *A Single Man* first appeared, it shocked many with its frank, sympathetic, and moving portrayal of a gay man in maturity. Isherwood's favorite of his own novels, it now stands as a classic lyric meditation on life as an outsider.

The Berlin stories Sep 10 2020

Queer Times Aug 29 2019 This book maps Christopher Isherwood's intellectual and aesthetic reflections from the late 1930s through the late 1970s. Drawing on the queer theory of Eve Sedgwick and the ethical theory

of Michel Foucault, Carr illuminates Isherwood's post-war development of a queer ethos through his focus on the aesthetic, social, and historical politics of the 1930s in his novels *Prater Violet* (1945), *The World in the Evening* (1954), and *Down There on a Visit* (1962), and in his memoir, *Christopher and His Kind: 1929-1939* (1976).

Lions and Shadows Nov 12 2020 A witty, appealing, and often outrageous portrait of some of the twentieth century's most influential and creative minds Subtitled "An Education in

the Twenties," *Lions and Shadows* blends autobiography and fiction to describe the inner life of a writer evolving from precocious schoolboy to Cambridge dropout-at-large in London's bohemia. It contains thinly veiled portraits of Christopher Isherwood's contemporaries W. H. Auden, Edward Upward, and Stephen Spender, whose intimate friendships and cult of rebellion shaped the literary identity of England in the 1930s. Witty and outrageous, Isherwood pokes fun at the stars of his generation, above all himself, even as he testifies to their unique early gifts.