

## Random House Inc Slaughterhouse Five

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Now all they have to is flip at least four more seats next year, five if a Republican wins the ... The March 12, 2019, special election for 114th state House District representative, which took ...

A special fiftieth anniversary edition of Kurt Vonnegut ' s masterpiece, " a desperate, painfully honest attempt to confront the monstrous crimes of the twentieth century " (Time), featuring a new introduction by Kevin Powers, author of the National Book Award finalist *The Yellow Birds* Selected by the Modern Library as one of the 100 best novels of all time *Slaughterhouse-Five*, an American classic, is one of the world ' s great antiwar books. Centering on the infamous World War II firebombing of Dresden, the novel is the result of what Kurt Vonnegut described as a twenty-three-year struggle to write a book about what he had witnessed as an American prisoner of war. It combines historical fiction, science fiction, autobiography, and satire in an account of the life of Billy Pilgrim, a barber ' s son turned draftee turned optometrist turned alien abductee. As Vonnegut had, Billy experiences the destruction of Dresden as a POW. Unlike Vonnegut, he experiences time travel, or coming " unstuck in time. " An instant bestseller, *Slaughterhouse-Five* made Kurt Vonnegut a cult hero in American literature, a reputation that only strengthened over time, despite his being banned and censored by some libraries and schools for content and language. But it was precisely those elements of Vonnegut ' s writing—the political edginess, the genre-bending inventiveness, the frank violence, the transgressive wit—that have inspired generations of readers not just to look differently at the world around them but to find the confidence to say something about it. Authors as wide-ranging as Norman Mailer, John Irving, Michael Crichton, Tim O ' Brien, Margaret Atwood, Elizabeth Strout, David Sedaris, Jennifer Egan, and J. K. Rowling have all found inspiration in Vonnegut ' s words. Jonathan Safran Foer has described Vonnegut as " the kind of writer who made people—young people especially—want to write. " George Saunders has declared Vonnegut to be " the great, urgent, passionate American writer of our century, who offers us . . . a model of the kind of compassionate thinking that might yet save us from ourselves. " Fifty years after its initial publication at the height of the Vietnam War, Vonnegut's portrayal of political disillusionment, PTSD, and postwar anxiety feels as relevant, darkly humorous, and profoundly affecting as ever, an enduring beacon through our own era ' s uncertainties. " Poignant and hilarious, threaded with compassion and, behind everything, the cataract of a thundering moral statement. " —The Boston Globe

Finalist for the National Book Award, *The Yellow Birds* is the harrowing story of two young soldiers trying to stay alive in Iraq "The war tried to kill us in the spring." So begins this powerful account of friendship and loss. In Al Tafari, Iraq, twenty-one-year old Private Bartle and eighteen-year-old Private Murphy cling to life as their platoon launches a bloody battle for the city. Bound together since basic training when Bartle makes a promise to bring Murphy safely home, the two have been dropped into a war neither is prepared for. In the endless days that follow, the two young soldiers do everything to protect each other from the forces that press in on every side: the insurgents, physical fatigue, and the mental stress that comes from constant danger. As reality begins to blur into a hazy nightmare, Murphy becomes increasingly unmoored from the world around him and Bartle takes actions he could never have imagined. With profound emotional insight, especially into the effects of a hidden war on mothers and families at home, *The Yellow Birds* is a groundbreaking novel that is destined to become a classic.

Billy Pilgrim survives capture by the Germans in World War II, the Dresden bombings, and the struggle for financial success only to be kidnapped in a flying saucer and taken to the planet Talfamadore.

As a young man and a prisoner of war, Kurt Vonnegut witnessed the 1945 Allied fire-bombing of Dresden in Germany, which reduced the once proudly beautiful city to rubble and claimed the lives of thousands of its citizens. For many years, Vonnegut tried to write about Dresden by the words would not come. When he did write about it, he combined his trademark humour, unfettered imagination, boundless humanity and keen sense of irony to create one of the most powerful anti-war books ever written. Fifty years on from first publication, *Slaughterhouse Five* remains unique in its wild storytelling, its powerful delivery of unavoidable truths, and its alchemy of love and tragedy. -- from jacket.

The New York Times bestseller from the author of *Slaughterhouse-Five*—a " gripping " posthumous collection of Kurt Vonnegut ' s previously unpublished work on the subject of war and peace. A fitting tribute to a literary legend and a profoundly humane humorist, *Armageddon in Retrospect* is a collection of twelve previously unpublished writings. Imbued with Vonnegut's trademark rueful humor and outraged moral sense, the pieces range from a letter written by Vonnegut to his family in 1945, informing them that he'd been taken prisoner by the Germans, to his last speech, delivered after his death by his son Mark, who provides a warmly personal introduction to the collection. Taken together, these pieces provide fresh insight into Vonnegut's enduring literary genius and reinforce his ongoing moral relevance in today ' s world. Includes an Introduction by Mark Vonnegut

From the New York Times bestselling author of *Slaughterhouse-Five* comes an irresistible novel that combines " clever wit with keen social observation...[and] re-establishes Mr. Vonnegut ' s place as the Mark Twain of our times " (Atlanta Journal & Constitution). Here is the adventure of Eugene Debs Hartke. He ' s a Vietnam veteran, a jazz pianist, a college professor, and a prognosticator of the apocalypse (and other things Earth-shattering). But that ' s neither here nor there. Because at Tarkington College—where he teaches—the excrement is about to hit the air-conditioning. And it ' s all Eugene ' s fault.

A never-before-seen collection of deeply personal love letters from Kurt Vonnegut to his first wife, Jane, compiled and edited by their daughter “ A glimpse into the mind of a writer finding his voice. ” —The Washington Post “ If ever I do write anything of length—good or bad—it will be written with you in mind. ” Kurt Vonnegut ’ s eldest daughter, Edith, was cleaning out her mother ’ s attic when she stumbled upon a dusty, aged box. Inside, she discovered an unexpected treasure: more than two hundred love letters written by Kurt to Jane, spanning the early years of their relationship. The letters begin in 1941, after the former schoolmates reunited at age nineteen, sparked a passionate summer romance, and promised to keep in touch when they headed off to their respective colleges. And they did, through Jane ’ s conscientious studying and Kurt ’ s struggle to pass chemistry. The letters continue after Kurt dropped out and enlisted in the army in 1943, while Jane in turn graduated and worked for the Office of Strategic Services in Washington, D.C. They also detail Kurt ’ s deployment to Europe in 1944, where he was taken prisoner of war and declared missing in action, and his eventual safe return home and the couple ’ s marriage in 1945. Full of the humor and wit that we have come to associate with Kurt Vonnegut, the letters also reveal little-known private corners of his mind. Passionate and tender, they form an illuminating portrait of a young soldier ’ s life in World War II as he attempts to come to grips with love and mortality. And they bring to light the origins of Vonnegut the writer, when Jane was the only person who believed in and supported him supported him, the young couple having no idea how celebrated he would become. A beautiful full-color collection of handwritten letters, notes, sketches, and comics, interspersed with Edith ’ s insights and family memories, Love, Kurt is an intimate record of a young man growing into himself, a fascinating account of a writer finding his voice, and a moving testament to the life-altering experience of falling in love.

The story of Kurt Vonnegut and Slaughterhouse-Five, an enduring masterpiece on trauma and memory Kurt Vonnegut was twenty years old when he enlisted in the United States Army. Less than two years later, he was captured by the Germans in the single deadliest US engagement of the war, the Battle of the Bulge. He was taken to a POW camp, then transferred to a work camp near Dresden, and held in a slaughterhouse called Schlachthof Fünf where he survived the horrific firebombing that killed thousands and destroyed the city. To the millions of fans of Vonnegut ’ s great novel Slaughterhouse-Five, these details are familiar. They ’ re told by the book ’ s author/narrator, and experienced by his enduring character Billy Pilgrim, a war veteran who “ has come unstuck in time. ” Writing during the tumultuous days of the Vietnam conflict, with the novel, Vonnegut had, after more than two decades of struggle, taken trauma and created a work of art, one that still resonates today. In The Writer ’ s Crusade, author Tom Roston examines the connection between Vonnegut ’ s life and Slaughterhouse-Five. Did Vonnegut suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder? Did Billy Pilgrim? Roston probes Vonnegut ’ s work, his personal history, and discarded drafts of the novel, as well as original interviews with the writer ’ s family, friends, scholars, psychologists, and other novelists including Karl Marlantes, Kevin Powers, and Tim O ’ Brien. The Writer ’ s Crusade is a literary and biographical journey that asks fundamental questions about trauma, creativity, and the power of storytelling.

From Slapstick's "Turkey Farm" to Slaughterhouse-Five's eternity in a Tralfamadorean zoo cage with Montana Wildhack, the question of the afterlife never left Kurt Vonnegut's mind. In God Bless You, Dr. Kevorkian, Vonnegut skips back and forth between life and the Afterlife as if the difference between them were rather slight. In thirty odd "interviews," Vonnegut trips down "the blue tunnel to the pearly gates" in the guise of a roving reporter for public radio, conducting interviews: with Salvatore Biagini, a retired construction worker who died of a heart attack while rescuing his schnauzer from a pit bull, with John Brown, still smoldering 140 years after his death by hanging, with William Shakespeare, who rubs Vonnegut the wrong way, and with socialist and labor leader Eugene Victor Debs, one of Vonnegut's personal heroes. What began as a series of ninety-second radio interludes for WNYC, New York City's public radio station, evolved into this provocative collection of musings about who and what we live for, and how much it all matters in the end. From the original portrait by his friend Jules Feiffer that graces the cover, to a final entry from Kilgore Trout, God Bless You, Dr. Kevorkian remains a joy.

Curtis Smith writes about how Kurt Vonnegut's "Slaughterhouse-Five "influenced him as an author.

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