



The Mortgaged Heart

By Carson McCullers

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An absorbing look at the early beginnings of one of America's finest writers, *The Mortgaged Heart* is an important collection of Carson McCullers's work, including stories, essays, articles, poems, and her writing on writing. These pieces, written mostly before McCullers was nineteen, provide invaluable insight into her life and her gifts and growth as a writer. The collection also contains the working outline of "The Mute," which became her best-selling novel *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter*. As new generations of readers continue to discover her work, Carson McCullers's celebrated place in American letters survives more surely than ever. Edited by McCullers's sister and with a new introduction by Joyce Carol Oates, *The Mortgaged Heart* will be an inspiration to writers young and old.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Carson McCullers (1917-1967) was the author of numerous works of fiction and nonfiction, including *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*, *The Member of the Wedding*, *Reflections in a Golden Eye*, and *Clock Without Hands*. Born in Columbus, Georgia, on February 19, 1917, she became a promising pianist and enrolled in the Juilliard School of Music in New York when she was seventeen, but lacking money for tuition, she never attended classes. Instead she studied writing at Columbia University, which ultimately led to *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter*, the novel that made her an overnight literary sensation. On September 29, 1967, at age fifty, she died in Nyack, New York, where she is buried.

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