wit margaret edson pdf

wit margaret edson pdf is a frequently searched phrase by readers, students, and scholars interested in the acclaimed play "Wit" by Margaret Edson. This Pulitzer Prize-winning play is renowned for its profound exploration of life, death, and the human experience, wrapped in the narrative of a professor undergoing cancer treatment. Many seek a "wit margaret edson pdf" version for academic study, theatrical production, or personal reading. This article delves into the significance of the play, its thematic depth, and the considerations around accessing a legitimate PDF version. Additionally, it covers the author's background, the impact of the play on contemporary theatre, and best practices for engaging with "Wit" in digital formats. The following sections outline the essential aspects related to "wit margaret edson pdf" and provide a comprehensive understanding of this powerful work.

- Overview of "Wit" by Margaret Edson
- Margaret Edson: Author Background
- Thematic Elements in "Wit"
- Accessing "Wit" in PDF Format
- Legal and Ethical Considerations
- Impact of "Wit" on Theater and Education
- Using "Wit" for Study and Performance

Overview of "Wit" by Margaret Edson

"Wit" is a one-act play written by Margaret Edson that premiered in 1995. It tells the story of Vivian Bearing, a professor of English literature who is diagnosed with advanced ovarian cancer. The narrative intricately weaves her memories of studying John Donne's metaphysical poetry with the harrowing experience of her medical treatment. The play is celebrated for its poignant depiction of mortality, intellectualism, and human vulnerability. When searching for "wit margaret edson pdf," readers often seek a format that allows them to study the script in detail for academic, theatrical, or personal enrichment purposes.

Plot Summary

The play follows Vivian Bearing as she navigates aggressive cancer treatments, including chemotherapy and experimental drugs. Throughout the play, her reflections on John Donne's "Holy Sonnets" provide a powerful literary backdrop to her confrontation with death. The juxtaposition of her clinical treatment and poetic introspection highlights themes of compassion, isolation, and the search for meaning in suffering.

Structure and Style

"Wit" is structured as a single act divided into scenes that shift between the hospital setting and Vivian's memories. The play uses sharp, intellectual dialogue and poetic references, underscoring the protagonist's academic background. This blend of clinical realism and literary depth is a hallmark of Edson's dramatic style.

Margaret Edson: Author Background

Margaret Edson is an American playwright who wrote "Wit" as her first major work. Born in 1961, Edson has a background in English literature and education, which informs her writing style and thematic choices. Her play "Wit" earned her the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1999, bringing significant attention to her work and establishing her as a prominent voice in contemporary theater.

Career Highlights

Before writing "Wit," Edson worked as a teacher and hospital volunteer, experiences that deeply influenced the play's subject matter. The success of "Wit" led to various stage productions worldwide and an acclaimed HBO film adaptation. Despite its success, Edson has maintained a relatively low public profile, focusing primarily on the impact of her work rather than personal fame.

Influences and Inspirations

Edson's inspiration for "Wit" stemmed from her volunteer work with cancer patients and her academic interest in metaphysical poetry, particularly the works of John Donne. This unique combination of personal experience and literary scholarship is reflected in the play's nuanced treatment of illness and intellect.

Thematic Elements in "Wit"

The themes in "Wit" are multifaceted, exploring both the intellectual and emotional dimensions of the human experience. The play's rich symbolism and literary references make it a subject of extensive analysis and discussion, particularly in academic settings.

Mortality and Human Vulnerability

Central to "Wit" is the theme of mortality. Vivian Bearing's confrontation with death prompts reflections on the fragility of life and the inevitability of human vulnerability. The play challenges audiences to consider their own mortality and the nature of compassion in the face of suffering.

The Role of Intellectualism

Vivian's identity as a scholar of metaphysical poetry highlights the tension between intellectual pride and emotional openness. The play critiques the limitations of academic detachment when facing reallife crises, emphasizing the need for empathy alongside intellect.

Compassion and Care

Another significant theme is the importance of compassion in medical care. The character of Nurse Susie provides a contrast to the clinical detachment of the doctors, showing how kindness and human connection are vital in the healing process, even when a cure is not possible.

Accessing "Wit" in PDF Format

Many readers and practitioners search for "wit margaret edson pdf" to obtain a digital copy of the play for study or production purposes. Access to a PDF version can facilitate easier reading, annotation, and distribution among students or cast members.

Official Sources and Purchases

The most reliable way to obtain a legitimate "Wit" PDF is through official publishers or authorized distributors. Purchasing a licensed copy ensures that the author and rights holders are compensated and that the text is accurate and complete.

Educational and Library Resources

Some educational institutions and libraries provide access to "Wit" in digital format as part of their collections. Students enrolled in relevant courses may have legitimate access through their schools' digital libraries or interlibrary loan services.

Challenges with Unauthorized Copies

Unauthorized PDFs of "Wit" found online often violate copyright laws and may contain incomplete or altered texts. Using such copies can lead to legal issues and undermine the integrity of the work. It is advisable to avoid downloading from unverified sources.

Legal and Ethical Considerations

Respecting copyright laws when searching for "wit margaret edson pdf" is essential. The play is protected under intellectual property laws, and unauthorized distribution or downloading constitutes infringement.

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Ethical Use in Academic Settings

When using "Wit" for study, it is important to use authorized copies to maintain academic integrity.

Citing the source correctly and adhering to fair use guidelines also contributes to ethical scholarship.

Supporting the Arts

Purchasing official copies or attending authorized performances supports the playwright and the theatrical community. This support enables continued creation and dissemination of quality works like "Wit."

Impact of "Wit" on Theater and Education

"Wit" has had a profound impact on contemporary theater and educational curricula. Its critical acclaim and emotional depth have made it a staple in drama programs and literary studies.

Theatrical Influence

The play's innovative blend of intellectual rigor and emotional intensity has influenced many playwrights and directors. Its success demonstrated the viability of serious, thought-provoking drama in modern theater.

Use in Medical Humanities

"Wit" is frequently used in medical humanities courses to foster empathy and understanding among healthcare professionals. The play's portrayal of patient experience provides valuable insights into the human side of medicine.

Academic Study

Literature and drama courses often include "Wit" in their syllabi to explore themes of mortality, language, and ethics. The availability of "wit margaret edson pdf" versions aids in comprehensive textual analysis and classroom discussion.

Using "Wit" for Study and Performance

For educators, students, and theater practitioners, engaging with "Wit" requires careful preparation and understanding of its complex themes and language.

Study Tips

- 1. Read the play thoroughly, noting key themes and literary devices.
- 2. Research the historical and literary context, especially John Donne's poetry.
- 3. Analyze characters' development and the interplay between intellect and emotion.
- 4. Discuss ethical questions raised by the play in study groups or class discussions.

Performance Considerations

Directors and actors should focus on the play's emotional nuances and the protagonist's transformation. Attention to pacing, tone, and physicality enhances the audience's engagement with the material.

Supplementary Materials

- · Critical essays and analyses of "Wit"
- Recordings of notable performances
- Interviews with Margaret Edson
- Study guides and discussion questions

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I find a PDF of 'Wit' by Margaret Edson?

'Wit' by Margaret Edson is a copyrighted play, so free PDF versions are not legally available. You can purchase or borrow the play through bookstores, libraries, or authorized digital platforms.

Is there a free, legal PDF version of 'Wit' by Margaret Edson available online?

No, there is no free and legal PDF version of 'Wit' by Margaret Edson available online due to copyright restrictions. Consider checking your local library or authorized sellers for access.

What is the summary of 'Wit' by Margaret Edson?

'Wit' by Margaret Edson is a play about Vivian Bearing, a university professor diagnosed with terminal ovarian cancer, exploring themes of mortality, compassion, and the human experience through her treatment journey.

Can I use 'Wit' by Margaret Edson PDF for educational purposes?

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Are there any official study guides or PDFs related to 'Wit' by Margaret Edson?

Yes, several educational publishers offer study guides and summaries for 'Wit' by Margaret Edson, which can sometimes be found in PDF format for purchase or through academic resources.

How can I legally obtain a digital copy of 'Wit' by Margaret Edson?

You can legally obtain a digital copy of 'Wit' by Margaret Edson from authorized retailers such as Amazon Kindle, Google Books, or educational platforms that have licensing agreements.

Is 'Wit' by Margaret Edson available in PDF format for academic research?

While 'Wit' may be available in PDF format through academic libraries or databases, access usually requires institutional affiliation or a subscription due to copyright protections.

What are the main themes explored in 'Wit' by Margaret Edson?

The main themes in 'Wit' by Margaret Edson include mortality, the impact of language and literature, human dignity in the face of illness, and the importance of compassion in healthcare.

Additional Resources

1. Wit by Margaret Edson - A Study Guide

This guide provides an in-depth analysis of Margaret Edson's play "Wit," exploring its themes, characters, and dramatic techniques. It offers summaries, discussion questions, and critical essays to enhance understanding. Ideal for students and educators delving into the text.

2. Understanding Wit: A Comprehensive Companion to Margaret Edson's Play

This companion book delves into the literary and thematic elements of "Wit," discussing its portrayal of illness, mortality, and the human condition. It also examines Edson's use of poetry in the narrative.

The book is useful for readers seeking a deeper literary appreciation.

3. The Art of Dying: Reflections Inspired by Wit

Inspired by Margaret Edson's "Wit," this book reflects on themes of death, dignity, and compassion in medical care. It combines personal essays and philosophical insights, making it a thoughtful read for

those interested in the intersection of literature and healthcare.

4. Margaret Edson's Wit: Critical Essays and Perspectives

A collection of scholarly essays that analyze "Wit" from various critical perspectives, including feminist, medical humanities, and existential viewpoints. This volume is suited for academic readers and those studying contemporary American drama.

5. Teaching Wit: Strategies for Educators

Designed for teachers, this resource offers lesson plans, activities, and assessment ideas centered around Margaret Edson's "Wit." It emphasizes interactive and discussion-based approaches to exploring the play's complex themes.

6. Poetry and Medicine in Wit

This book explores the intersection of poetry and medical narrative in "Wit," focusing on how Edson uses John Donne's poetry to deepen the play's emotional impact. It is an insightful read for literature and medical humanities enthusiasts.

7. The Healing Power of Literature: Lessons from Wit

Examining how literature can offer solace and understanding in times of illness, this book draws heavily on themes from "Wit." It includes personal stories and literary analysis, making it relevant for caregivers, patients, and literary scholars.

8. Drama and Mortality: Exploring Themes in Wit and Beyond

This text situates "Wit" within the broader context of plays that tackle death and dying. It compares Edson's work with other dramatic treatments of mortality, providing a comprehensive overview for drama students and enthusiasts.

9. Margaret Edson: The Life and Works Behind Wit

A biographical and bibliographical account of Margaret Edson's career, this book offers insights into her writing process and the creation of "Wit." It includes interviews, background information, and analysis of her impact on contemporary theater.

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Wit Margaret Edson PDF

Book Title: Wit: A Play by Margaret Edson (PDF Version)

Contents Outline:

Introduction: A brief overview of Margaret Edson's Wit, its critical acclaim, and its enduring relevance. The accessibility of the PDF version and its benefits.

Chapter 1: Vivian Bearing's Character Analysis: Exploring the complexities of Professor Bearing's personality, her professional achievements, and her emotional vulnerabilities. Analysis of her relationships with colleagues and students.

Chapter 2: The Impact of Cancer on Vivian's Life: Detailed examination of the physical and emotional effects of cancer on Vivian. How the illness alters her perspectives on life, death, and relationships.

Chapter 3: Language and Metaphor in Wit: An in-depth analysis of Edson's use of language, particularly the interplay of academic formality and emotional honesty. Discussion of significant metaphors and their symbolic meaning.

Chapter 4: Relationships and Human Connection in Wit: Examination of Vivian's relationships with her doctor, her former student, and other supporting characters. How these relationships evolve throughout the play, and what they reveal about human connection in the face of mortality.

Chapter 5: Themes of Mortality, Legacy, and Meaning: An exploration of the play's central themes – the confrontation with mortality, the search for meaning, and the creation of a lasting legacy.

Chapter 6: Critical Reception and Interpretations of Wit: A review of the critical response to Wit since its premiere, exploring various interpretations and their validity.

Conclusion: Summary of key insights from the analysis, emphasizing the play's continued power and its ability to resonate with audiences across disciplines and backgrounds.

Wit: A Deep Dive into Margaret Edson's Masterpiece (PDF Version)

Finding a readily available PDF version of Margaret Edson's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, Wit, offers incredible access to this powerful and poignant work. This article explores the various aspects of this seminal piece of modern drama, delving into its characters, themes, and enduring relevance. Whether you're a seasoned theatre enthusiast, a student grappling with literary analysis, or a reader seeking an emotionally resonant experience, understanding Wit unlocks profound insights into the human condition.

1. Vivian Bearing: A Portrait of Complexity

Professor Vivian Bearing, the protagonist, is a celebrated scholar of John Donne's poetry. Edson masterfully crafts a character who is both intellectually brilliant and emotionally stunted. Vivian's rigorous academic approach has seemingly permeated her personal life, creating a distance from genuine human connection. Her dedication to her work, though admirable, has left her isolated and unprepared for the vulnerability brought on by her cancer diagnosis. Analyzing her interactions with her colleagues reveals a history of professional success built on a foundation of intellectual intimidation and emotional detachment. Her relationship with her mentor, for example, exemplifies a complex dynamic of admiration and unspoken resentment. This detailed exploration of Vivian's past relationships and professional trajectory illuminates the reasons behind her emotional walls and her ultimate journey of self-discovery. Her inability to form deep, meaningful relationships becomes a crucial aspect of her confrontation with mortality. Understanding this multifaceted personality is key to appreciating the play's depth and impact.

2. The Crushing Weight of Cancer: A Physical and Emotional Journey

The play unflinchingly portrays the physical and emotional devastation wrought by cancer. It's not just the debilitating side effects—the nausea, the pain, the constant medical procedures—but the gradual erosion of Vivian's physical and mental strength that Edson depicts with brutal honesty. The play meticulously charts Vivian's descent, highlighting the ways in which the illness strips her of her control, her dignity, and her sense of self. This intimate depiction of suffering isn't merely graphic; it serves as a powerful metaphor for the vulnerability inherent in the human experience. The loss of control extends beyond the physical realm; Vivian's professional expertise offers her little solace in this new landscape of pain and uncertainty. This stark depiction underscores the universality of mortality and the limitations of even the most brilliant minds in the face of disease.

3. The Power of Language: Metaphor and Meaning in Wit

Edson masterfully utilizes language as a central thematic element in Wit. The interplay between academic formality and raw emotional honesty mirrors Vivian's own struggle to reconcile her intellectual life with her deeply personal experience of illness. The frequent references to John Donne's poetry, especially his exploration of death and mortality, become a recurring motif. These literary allusions are not simply decorative; they provide a framework for understanding Vivian's emotional and intellectual journey. The use of wit itself – sharp, intellectual humor – serves as both a coping mechanism and a reflection of Vivian's personality, even as she loses her ability to control her bodily functions and her emotional responses. Analyzing the metaphors and symbolism within the play, particularly those related to her treatment, reveals deeper meanings and enhances understanding of the character's internal struggle.

4. The Fragility of Human Connection: Relationships and Their Impact

Wit isn't solely a study of individual suffering; it's also a poignant exploration of human connection—or rather, the lack thereof. Vivian's relationships with her doctor, her former student, and even her nurses, reveal the complexities of human interaction in the face of mortality. Her initial detached and clinical approach toward her treatment mirrors her previous detachment in personal life. The play highlights the limitations of professional relationships, especially in the context of a deeply personal and vulnerable experience like advanced cancer. The evolving dynamic between Vivian and her doctor, Dr. Kelekian, illustrates the tension between a professional relationship and a fundamental human need for compassion and empathy. The unexpected connection with her former student Susie Monahan, however, highlights the possibility of unexpected tenderness and forgiveness. These relationships, their successes and failures, demonstrate the importance of human connection, even as death approaches.

5. Facing Mortality: Legacy, Meaning, and the Search for Purpose

At its core, Wit is a profound exploration of mortality, legacy, and the relentless search for meaning in life. Vivian's initial intellectual detachment gives way to a desperate need to understand her own existence, as the mortality of her own body becomes undeniably real. The play does not offer easy answers, but it presents a powerful exploration of the struggles of individuals confronting the end of their lives. Her struggle to reconcile her intellectual achievements with the imminent termination of her life forms the narrative's central conflict. The play's impact lies in its unflinching depiction of the

challenges of finding meaning in the face of death and the search for a lasting legacy that transcends personal mortality.

6. Critical Reception and Enduring Relevance

Since its premiere, Wit has garnered significant critical acclaim, receiving the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. The play has been interpreted and reinterpreted through various lenses, with discussions focusing on its treatment of academic culture, the medical profession, and the experience of cancer. Analyzing these critical responses and differing interpretations provides further insight into the enduring power of the play and its continued ability to resonate with audiences. Understanding these various perspectives broadens comprehension and reveals the richness and depth of the work's various layers of meaning.

7. Conclusion: A Timeless Exploration of the Human Spirit

Margaret Edson's Wit is more than a play about cancer; it's a profound and moving exploration of the human spirit, of intellectual pursuits, and of our inherent need for connection in the face of mortality. The availability of a PDF version allows increased accessibility for readers to experience this powerful work. Its unflinching portrayal of illness, suffering, and the search for meaning continues to resonate with audiences long after the curtain falls (or the PDF is closed). The play's lasting legacy lies in its ability to provoke reflection on life, death, and the importance of genuine human connection, leaving the reader contemplating not only the specific situation in the play but also the universality of those experiences.

FAQs:

- 1. Where can I find a reliable PDF of Wit? Many online bookstores offer digital versions; however, ensure you obtain the PDF from a reputable source to avoid copyright infringement.
- 2. Is Wit suitable for all readers? Due to its mature themes of illness and mortality, it might not be suitable for younger readers.
- 3. What is the central theme of Wit? The central themes revolve around mortality, the search for meaning, human connection, and the limitations of intellectual pursuits in the face of existential crises.

- 4. How does Edson use language in Wit? Edson masterfully employs language to create a stark contrast between academic formality and raw emotion, reflecting Vivian's internal struggle.
- 5. What is the significance of John Donne's poetry in the play? Donne's poetry acts as a recurring motif, mirroring Vivian's confrontation with death and the complexities of human existence.
- 6. How is the character of Vivian Bearing developed throughout the play? Vivian undergoes a significant transformation, moving from detached intellectualism to a desperate search for human connection and meaning.
- 7. What are some key critical interpretations of Wit? Critical interpretations explore themes of feminism, the medical profession, academic culture, and the universal human experience of mortality.
- 8. Why is Wit considered a significant play? Wit earned critical acclaim for its poignant portrayal of illness, mortality, and the human search for meaning. Its use of language and character development remains impactful.
- 9. Can Wit be considered a feminist play? Some critics interpret the play through a feminist lens, highlighting the societal pressures faced by women in academia and the healthcare system.

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- 6. Feminist Interpretations of Wit: A deep dive into feminist readings of the play and their relevance to contemporary society.
- 7. The Theme of Mortality in 20th-Century Drama: Exploring the exploration of death and the afterlife in various dramatic works of the 20th century.

- 8. Stage Adaptations of Wit: An analysis of different stage productions of Wit and their variations in interpretation.
- 9. Comparing Wit to Other Plays about Illness: A comparative study of Wit with other notable plays that explore themes of illness, such as Angels in America or The Laramie Project.

wit margaret edson pdf: Wit Margaret Edson, 2014-05-20 Winner of the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, the Drama Desk Award, the Outer Critics Circle Award, the Lucille Lortel Award, and the Oppenheimer Award. Adapted to an Emmy Award-winning television movie, directed by Mike Nichols, starring Emma Thompson. Margaret Edson's powerfully imagined Pulitzer Prize-winning play examines what makes life worth living through her exploration of one of existence's unifying experiences—mortality—while she also probes the vital importance of human relationships. What we as her audience take away from this remarkable drama is a keener sense that, while death is real and unavoidable, our lives are ours to cherish or throw away—a lesson that can be both uplifting and redemptive. As the playwright herself puts it, The play is not about doctors or even about cancer. It's about kindness, but it shows arrogance. It's about compassion, but it shows insensitivity. In Wit, Edson delves into timeless questions with no final answers: How should we live our lives knowing that we will die? Is the way we live our lives and interact with others more important than what we achieve materially, professionally, or intellectually? How does language figure into our lives? Can science and art help us conquer death, or our fear of it? What will seem most important to each of us about life as that life comes to an end? The immediacy of the presentation, and the clarity and elegance of Edson's writing, make this sophisticated, multilayered play accessible to almost any interested reader. As the play begins, Vivian Bearing, a renowned professor of English who has spent years studying and teaching the intricate, difficult Holy Sonnets of the seventeenth-century poet John Donne, is diagnosed with advanced ovarian cancer. Confident of her ability to stay in control of events, she brings to her illness the same intensely rational and painstakingly methodical approach that has guided her stellar academic career. But as her disease and its excruciatingly painful treatment inexorably progress, she begins to guestion the single-minded values and standards that have always directed her, finally coming to understand the aspects of life that make it truly worth living.

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wit margaret edson pdf: The Playwright's Muse Joan Herrington, 2013-05-13 August Wilson penned his first play after seeing a man shot to death. Horton Foote began writing plays to create parts for himself as an actor. Edward Albee faced commercial pressures to modify his scripts-and

resisted. After Wit, Margaret Edson swore off playwriting altogether and decided to keep her day job as a kindergarten teacher, instead. The Playwright's Muse presents never-before-published interviews with some of the greatest names of American drama-all recent winners of the Pulitzer Prize. In these scintillating exchanges with eleven leading dramatists, we learn about their inspirations and begin to grasp how the creative process works in the mind of a writer. We learn how their first plays took shape, how it felt to read their first reviews, and what keeps them writing for theater today. Introductory essays on each playwright's life and work, written by theater artists and scholars with strong professional relationships to their subjects, provide additional insight into the writers' contributions to contemporary theater.

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wit margaret edson pdf: The Emperor of All Maladies Siddhartha Mukherjee, 2011-08-09 Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and a documentary from Ken Burns on PBS, this New York Times bestseller is "an extraordinary achievement" (The New Yorker)—a magnificent, profoundly humane "biography" of cancer—from its first documented appearances thousands of years ago through the epic battles in the twentieth century to cure, control, and conquer it to a radical new understanding of its essence. Physician, researcher, and award-winning science writer, Siddhartha Mukherjee examines cancer with a cellular biologist's precision, a historian's perspective, and a biographer's passion. The result is an astonishingly lucid and eloquent chronicle of a disease humans have lived with—and perished from—for more than five thousand years. The story of cancer is a story of human ingenuity, resilience, and perseverance, but also of hubris, paternalism, and misperception. Mukherjee recounts centuries of discoveries, setbacks, victories, and deaths, told through the eyes of his predecessors and peers, training their wits against an infinitely resourceful adversary that, just three decades ago, was thought to be easily vanguished in an all-out "war against cancer." The book reads like a literary thriller with cancer as the protagonist. Riveting, urgent, and surprising, The Emperor of All Maladies provides a fascinating glimpse into the future of cancer treatments. It is an illuminating book that provides hope and clarity to those seeking to demystify cancer.

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norms and analyzes plays common to the canon. A Student Guide to Play Analysis draws on thoughtful examinations of such dramas as The Cherry Orchard, The Good Woman of Setzuan, Fences, The Little Foxes, A Doll House, The Glass Menagerie, and The Emperor Jones. Each chapter ends with a list of questions that will guide students in further study.

wit margaret edson pdf: Bioethics and Medical Issues in Literature Mahala Yates Stripling, 2013-08-22 Many of the bioethical and medical issues challenging society today have been anticipated and addressed in literature ranging from Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, Albert Camus's The Plague, to Margaret Edson's Wit. The ten works of fiction explored in this book stimulate lively dialogue on topics like bioterrorism, cloning, organ transplants, obesity and heart disease, sexually transmitted diseases, and civil and human rights. This interdisciplinary and multicultural approach introducing literature across the curricula helps students master medical and bioethical concepts brought about by advances in science and technology, bringing philosophy into the world of science.

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the wars; marriage; food, drink, health, and weather; neighbors, gossip, quarrels, old age, and death. He discusses related idioms and epigrams and their evolution from prewar to present. Hoggart identifies the sayings and special nuances of the English working-class people that have made them identifiable as such, from the rude and obscene to the intellectual and imaginative. Hoggart also examines the areas of tolerance, local morality, and public morality, elaborating on current usage of words that have evolved from the fourteen through the eighteenth centuries. He touches on religion, superstition, and time, the beliefs that animate language. And finally, he focuses on aphorisms and social change and the emerging idioms of relativism, concluding that many early adages still in use seem to refuse to die. With inimitable verve and humor, Hoggart offers adages, apothegms, epigrams and the like in this colorful examination drawn from the national pool and the common culture. This volume will interest scholars and general readers interested in culture studies, communications, and education.

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post-secondary students. Unfitting Stories is essential reading for researchers using narrative methods or materials, for teachers, students, and professionals working in the field of health services, and for concerned consumers of the health care system. It deals with practical problems relevant to policy-makers as well as theoretical issues of interest to specialists in bioethics, gender analysis, and narrative theory. Read the chapter "Social Trauma and Serial Autobiography: Healing and Beyond" by Bina Freiwald on the Concordia University Library Spectrum Research Repository website.

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spiritual need of the dying. This work aims to help medical personnel and patients to view death as a defining part of life.

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University of California-Berkeley psychologist Arthur R. Jensen details the evolution of his thoughts on the nature of intelligence, tracing an intellectual odyssey that leads from the programs of the Great Society to the Bell Curve Wars and beyond. Miele cross-examines Jensen's views on general intelligence (the g factor), racial differences in IQ, cultural bias in IQ tests, and whether differences in IQ are due primarily to heredity or to remediable factors such as poverty and discrimination. With characteristic frankness, Jensen also presents his view of the proper role of scientific facts in establishing public policy, such as Affirmative Action. "Jensenism," the assertion that heredity plays an undeniably greater role than environmental factors in racial (and other) IQ differences, has entered the dictionary and also made Jensen a bitterly controversial figure. Nevertheless, Intelligence, Race, and Genetics carefully underscores the dedicated lifetime of scrupulously scientific research that supports Jensen's conclusions.

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