

half of yellow sun

half of yellow sun is an acclaimed novel that explores the complex tapestry of Nigerian history, love, and identity. Written by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, this literary masterpiece transports readers to the tumultuous era of the Biafran War, weaving together the lives of unforgettable characters as they navigate personal and political upheaval. This comprehensive article delves into the novel's plot, historical context, major themes, key characters, critical reception, and its adaptation into film. Whether you are seeking a deeper understanding of the story, its impact on literature, or its place in African cultural heritage, this guide provides all the essential insights. Discover how half of yellow sun stands as a pivotal work in modern literature, offering a profound reflection on war, resilience, and hope. Continue reading to explore its enduring legacy and significance.

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Overview of Half of Yellow Sun

Half of Yellow Sun is a powerful novel by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, published in 2006. Set in Nigeria during the 1960s, the story is centered on the Biafran War, a conflict that reshaped the nation and affected millions. The narrative is told through the perspectives of three main characters: Ugwu, a young houseboy; Olanna, a university professor; and Richard, an English writer. Their intertwined lives present a multifaceted view of love, loyalty, betrayal, and survival amid war.

The title, "half of yellow sun," refers to the emblem on the Biafran flag, symbolizing a new dawn for the secessionist state. Adichie's novel is celebrated for its vivid storytelling, historical accuracy, and emotional depth. By focusing on personal and collective experiences, it bridges the gap between individual struggles and broader sociopolitical events.

Historical Context and Setting

Half of Yellow Sun is set against the backdrop of the Nigerian Civil War, also known as the Biafran War, which lasted from 1967 to 1970. The conflict arose after the southeastern region of Nigeria declared independence as the Republic of Biafra. The war led to widespread famine, displacement, and loss of life, profoundly impacting the country's social and political landscape.

Depiction of the Biafran War

Adichie's novel meticulously portrays the realities of the Biafran War, from the initial optimism of independence to the devastating consequences of blockades and starvation. Through the eyes of her characters, readers witness the transformation of everyday life, the collapse of societal norms, and the struggle for survival. The author uses historical detail and personal stories to highlight the human cost of conflict.

Nigerian Society in the 1960s

The novel provides a rich depiction of Nigerian society before, during, and after the war. Adichie explores ethnic tensions, class divisions, and the intellectual climate of the era. By situating her characters in urban and rural settings, she captures the diversity and complexity of Nigerian life, as well as the impact of colonial legacies on national identity.

Major Themes in Half of Yellow Sun

Half of Yellow Sun addresses several profound themes, each resonating with the emotional and historical weight of its setting. The novel's exploration of war, love, and identity remains universally relevant.

War and Its Consequences

The devastation of war is a central theme. The novel illustrates how conflict disrupts families, alters relationships, and reshapes communities. Adichie does not shy away from depicting the brutality and hardship faced by civilians, using her characters' experiences to underscore the long-lasting effects of violence.

Love and Loyalty

Amid chaos and uncertainty, the characters struggle to maintain their bonds of love and loyalty. Romantic relationships, familial ties, and friendships are tested by political and personal betrayals. Adichie explores the resilience of love, showing how it can both heal and hurt in times of crisis.

Identity and Belonging

Identity is a recurring motif in *Half of a Yellow Sun*. The novel addresses questions of ethnicity, nationality, and self-definition. Through characters' evolving perspectives, readers witness the search for meaning and belonging in a fractured society.

- Ethnic tensions between Igbo and other Nigerian groups
- Colonial legacies and postcolonial identity
- The role of language, tradition, and modernity

Key Characters and Their Roles

The novel's impact is amplified by its well-developed characters, each representing different facets of Nigerian society during the Biafran War.

Ugwu

Ugwu, a young Igbo boy, serves as a houseboy to Odenigbo, a university professor. Through Ugwu's perspective, readers gain insight into the lives of ordinary Nigerians during the war. His transformation from a naive servant to a witness of atrocity exemplifies the loss of innocence and the adaptability required to survive.

Olanna

Olanna is a beautiful and educated woman from a wealthy family. Her relationship with Odenigbo and

her experiences during the war reveal the moral dilemmas and emotional struggles faced by those caught between privilege and peril. Olanna's journey reflects the resilience and vulnerability of women in times of crisis.

Richard

Richard, a British writer, becomes deeply involved with the Biafran cause after falling in love with Kainene, Olanna's twin sister. His outsider perspective offers a unique lens on Nigerian society and the complexities of war. Richard's attempts to document the conflict highlight the ethical challenges of representing suffering.

Supporting Characters

Other notable figures include Odenigbo, Kainene, and various family members and soldiers. Each character adds depth to the narrative, illustrating the diverse experiences and viewpoints present during the Biafran War.

Critical Reception and Awards

Since its release, *Half of Yellow Sun* has garnered widespread acclaim from critics and readers alike. The novel is praised for its elegant prose, nuanced character development, and insightful portrayal of historical events.

Literary Acclaim

Half of Yellow Sun received numerous accolades, including the Orange Prize for Fiction in 2007. Critics have lauded Adichie's ability to blend personal stories with historical fact, creating a work that is both emotionally compelling and intellectually stimulating.

Impact on Literature

The novel is recognized as a landmark in African literature, contributing to discussions on war, memory, and identity. It has been included in academic syllabi worldwide and continues to inspire research, debate, and artistic adaptation.

Film Adaptation of Half of Yellow Sun

Half of Yellow Sun was adapted into a film in 2013, directed by Biyi Bandele. The movie stars Thandiwe Newton as Olanna and Chiwetel Ejiofor as Odenigbo, bringing Adichie's characters to life on screen. The film received mixed reviews, with praise for its performances and visual storytelling but criticism for its condensation of the novel's complex narrative.

Challenges of Adaptation

Translating the depth and breadth of half of yellow sun to film posed significant challenges. The movie had to balance historical detail with personal drama, often simplifying or omitting key plotlines. Despite these limitations, the adaptation introduced the novel's themes to a broader audience and reignited interest in the history of Biafra.

Reception of the Film

While some viewers appreciated the film's emotional intensity, others felt it did not fully capture the richness of Adichie's novel. Nevertheless, the adaptation remains an important part of the cultural legacy of half of yellow sun.

Legacy and Influence

Half of Yellow Sun has cemented its place as a modern classic, influencing literature, film, and academic discourse. Adichie's work has contributed to greater awareness of Nigerian history and the Biafran War, fostering dialogue about conflict, reconciliation, and cultural identity.

Educational Impact

The novel is widely studied in universities and schools, serving as a gateway to understanding African history and literature. Its nuanced approach to storytelling encourages empathy and critical thinking.

Continued Relevance

The themes explored in half of yellow sun remain pertinent in discussions of war, displacement, and human rights. The novel's legacy endures through its ability to connect readers with the lived realities of its characters and the broader historical context.

Questions and Answers about Half of Yellow Sun

Q: What is the significance of the title "half of yellow sun"?

A: The title refers to the emblem on the Biafran flag, symbolizing hope and a new beginning for the secessionist state during the Nigerian Civil War.

Q: Who are the main characters in half of yellow sun?

A: The main characters are Ugwu, Olanna, and Richard. Each provides a unique perspective on the

events and themes of the novel.

Q: What historical events does half of yellow sun portray?

A: The novel depicts the Biafran War (Nigerian Civil War) from 1967 to 1970, focusing on its impact on individuals and society.

Q: What are the central themes of half of yellow sun?

A: Central themes include war and its consequences, love and loyalty, identity and belonging, and the effects of colonialism.

Q: How was half of yellow sun received by critics?

A: The novel was widely praised for its storytelling, historical accuracy, and emotional depth, receiving prestigious awards such as the Orange Prize for Fiction.

Q: How does the film adaptation differ from the novel?

A: The film condenses the novel's narrative, focusing on key characters and events but omitting some subplots due to time constraints.

Q: What impact has half of yellow sun had on African literature?

A: The novel is considered a modern classic and has significantly contributed to the global recognition of African literature and history.

Q: Is half of yellow sun based on real events?

A: While the characters are fictional, the novel is based on real historical events and accurately portrays the conditions during the Biafran War.

Q: Why is half of yellow sun important for understanding Nigerian history?

A: The novel offers an accessible, humanized account of the Biafran War, making Nigerian history more relatable and understandable for readers worldwide.

Q: What role does identity play in half of yellow sun?

A: Identity is a key theme, explored through ethnic, national, and personal dimensions as characters navigate the challenges of war and displacement.

[Half Of Yellow Sun](#)

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Half of a Yellow Sun: A Deep Dive into Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's Masterpiece

Are you captivated by stories of resilience, love, and loss amidst the backdrop of historical turmoil? Then Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun* is a must-read. This powerful novel, set during the Biafran War, offers a gripping narrative that transcends the confines of historical fiction, exploring the complexities of identity, colonialism, and the enduring human spirit. This blog post will delve into the heart of *Half of a Yellow Sun*, examining its key themes, characters, and lasting impact, offering insights for both seasoned readers and those new to Adichie's work. We'll explore

why this novel continues to resonate deeply with readers worldwide and solidify its place as a modern classic.

The Heart of the Matter: Key Themes in Half of a Yellow Sun

Half of a Yellow Sun is not simply a historical account; it's a profound exploration of several interconnected themes that resonate powerfully with contemporary readers.

1. The Brutality of War and its Impact on Individuals:

Adichie doesn't shy away from depicting the horrors of the Biafran War with unflinching honesty. The novel vividly portrays the violence, starvation, and displacement suffered by civilians, highlighting the devastating human cost of conflict. The characters' experiences showcase the lasting psychological scars of war, illustrating how it shatters lives and communities.

2. The Complexities of Identity and Nationality:

The novel deftly explores the shifting sands of identity within a nation grappling with its own definition. The characters navigate their Igbo heritage alongside the evolving political landscape, questioning their place in a rapidly changing world. The struggle for self-determination and the tension between tribal loyalties and national identity are central to the narrative.

3. Love, Loss, and Resilience in the Face of Adversity:

Amidst the chaos and brutality, the enduring power of human connection shines through. The intertwined love stories within the novel – particularly the relationship between Olanna and Odenigbo – highlight the resilience of the human spirit in the face of immense hardship. Their love story becomes a powerful metaphor for the perseverance of hope amidst despair.

4. The Scars of Colonialism:

Adichie masterfully weaves the legacy of colonialism into the fabric of the narrative, demonstrating how its impact continues to shape the lives and choices of the characters. The novel explores the lingering effects of British rule on Nigeria, revealing how historical injustices contribute to the underlying tensions that fuel the conflict.

Unforgettable Characters: The Heartbeat of Half of a Yellow Sun

The novel's success hinges on its compelling characters, each richly developed and undeniably human.

Olanna: The Intellectual and Idealist

Olanna, a brilliant young woman from a privileged background, embodies a certain naiveté that is gradually eroded by the harsh realities of war. Her journey is one of profound self-discovery and adaptation, showcasing her strength and vulnerability in equal measure.

Odenigbo: The Charismatic Professor

Odenigbo, Olanna's lover, is a complex figure whose intellectual pursuits are juxtaposed against the political turmoil surrounding him. His position as a university professor places him at the heart of the intellectual debates shaping the nation's destiny.

Kainene: The Driven and Independent Sister

Kainene, Olanna's fiery sister, is a compelling example of female strength and independence. She navigates the complexities of war with pragmatism and resilience, making difficult choices to survive.

Ugwu: The Loyal Houseboy

Ugwu's perspective, as a young houseboy observing the unfolding events, offers a unique lens through which to experience the war's impact. His personal narrative serves as a poignant reminder of the human cost of conflict, affecting individuals from all walks of life.

The Power of Adichie's Prose: A Literary Masterpiece

Adichie's writing style is both lyrical and brutally honest. She masterfully blends historical detail with deeply emotional storytelling, creating a narrative that is both informative and deeply moving. Her ability to weave together multiple perspectives and narrative threads elevates *Half of a Yellow Sun* beyond the typical historical fiction narrative, imbuing it with a profound emotional resonance.

Conclusion

Half of a Yellow Sun is more than just a novel; it's a testament to the human spirit's ability to endure even in the darkest of times. It's a story that stays with you long after you finish reading, prompting reflection on the complexities of war, identity, and the enduring power of love and resilience. Adichie's masterful storytelling and poignant exploration of crucial themes make it a truly unforgettable reading experience.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Is *Half of a Yellow Sun* based on a true story? While a work of fiction, *Half of a Yellow Sun* is deeply rooted in the historical context of the Biafran War, drawing on real events and the experiences of those who lived through it.
2. What is the significance of the title, "Half of a Yellow Sun"? The title is a metaphorical representation of Biafra, suggesting a nation divided and incomplete, mirroring the fractured lives and broken dreams of its people.
3. What age group is this book suitable for? Due to its mature themes of war, violence, and sexual content, it's most suitable for readers aged 16 and above.
4. Are there any film adaptations of *Half of a Yellow Sun*? Yes, there is a successful film adaptation of the novel, released in 2013.
5. What other books by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie should I read after finishing *Half of a Yellow Sun*? Adichie's other works, such as *Things We Lost in the Fire*, *Americanah*, and *Purple Hibiscus*, offer equally compelling explorations of identity, culture, and societal issues.

half of yellow sun: *Half of a Yellow Sun* Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, 2010-10-29 With her award-winning debut novel, *Purple Hibiscus*, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie was heralded by the Washington Post Book World as the "21st century daughter" of Chinua Achebe. Now, in her masterly, haunting new novel, she recreates a seminal moment in modern African history: Biafra's impassioned struggle to establish an independent republic in Nigeria during the 1960s. With the effortless grace of a natural storyteller, Adichie weaves together the lives of five characters caught up in the extraordinary tumult of the decade. Fifteen-year-old Ugwu is houseboy to Odenigbo, a university professor who sends him to school, and in whose living room Ugwu hears voices full of revolutionary zeal. Odenigbo's beautiful mistress, Olanna, a sociology teacher, is running away from her parents' world of wealth and excess; Kainene, her urbane twin, is taking over their father's business; and Kainene's English lover, Richard, forms a bridge between their two worlds. As we follow these intertwined lives through a military coup, the Biafran secession and the subsequent war, Adichie brilliantly evokes the promise, and intimately, the devastating disappointments that marked this time and place. Epic, ambitious and triumphantly realized, *Half of a Yellow Sun* is a more powerful, dramatic and intensely emotional picture of modern Africa than any we have had before.

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half of yellow sun: *Half of a Yellow Sun*, Americanah, Purple Hibiscus: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie Three-Book Collection Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, 2014-04-07 'A delicious, important novel' The Times 'Alert, alive and gripping' Independent 'Some novels tell a great story and others make you change the way you look at the world. Americanah does both' Guardian

half of yellow sun: *Sade* Anne Giwa-Amu, 1996

half of yellow sun: *The Last Wild Horses* Maja Lunde, 2022-02-15 Translated into 40 languages, winner of the Norwegian Bookseller's Prize, and the most successful Norwegian author of her generation, Maja Lunde returns with a heart-wrenching tale, set in the distant past and the dystopian future, about extinction and survival, family and hope. Mikhail lives in Russia in 1881. When a skeleton of a rare wild horse is brought to him, the zoologist plans an expedition to Mongolia to find the fabled Przewalski horse, a journey that tests not only his physicality, but his heart. In 1992, Karin, alongside her troubled son Mathias and several Przewalski horses, travels to Mongolia to re-introduce the magnificent horses to their native land. The veterinarian has dedicated her life to saving the breed from extinction, prioritizing the wild horses, even over her own son. Europe's future is uncertain in 2064, but Eva is willing to sacrifice nearly everything to hold onto her family's farm. Her teenage daughter implores Eva to leave the farm and Norway, but a pregnant wild mare Eva is tending is about to foal. Then, a young woman named Louise unexpectedly arrives on the farm, with mysterious intentions that will either bring them all together, or devastate them one by one. Spanning continents and centuries, *The Last Wild Horses* is a powerful tale of survival and connection—of humans, animals, and the indestructible bonds that unite us all. Translated from the Norwegian by Diane Oatley

half of yellow sun: *Purple Hibiscus* Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, 2012-11-29 The limits of fifteen-year-old Kambili's world are defined by the high walls of her family estate and the dictates of her fanatically religious father. Her life is regulated by schedules: prayer, sleep, study, prayer.

half of yellow sun: *The Manningtree Witches* A. K. Blakemore, 2022-08-30 Wolf Hall meets *The Favourite* in this beguiling debut novel that brilliantly brings to life the residents of a small English town in the grip of the seventeenth-century witch trials and the young woman tasked with saving them all from themselves. This is an intimate portrait of a clever if unworldly heroine who slides from amused observation of the 'moribund carnival atmosphere' in the household of a 'possessed' child to nervous uncertainty about the part in the proceedings played by her adored tutor to utter despair as a wagon carts her off to prison. —Alida Becker, *The New York Times Book Review* England, 1643. Puritanical fervor has gripped the nation. And in Manningtree, a town depleted of men since the wars began, the hot terror of damnation burns in the hearts of women left to their own devices. Rebecca West, fatherless and husbandless, chafes against the drudgery of her days, livened only occasionally by her infatuation with the handsome young clerk John Edes. But then a newcomer, who identifies himself as the Witchfinder General, arrives. A mysterious, pious figure dressed from head to toe in black, Matthew Hopkins takes over the Thorn Inn and begins to ask questions about what the women on the margins of this diminished community are up to. Dangerous rumors of covens, pacts, and bodily wants have begun to hang over women like Rebecca—and the future is as frightening as it is thrilling. Brimming with contemporary energy and resonance, *The Manningtree Witches* plunges its readers into the fever and menace of the English witch trials, where suspicion, mistrust, and betrayal run amok as a nation's arrogant male institutions start to realize that the very people they've suppressed for so long may be about to rise up and claim their freedom.

half of yellow sun: *Christmas in Biafra, and Other Poems* Chinua Achebe, 1973

half of yellow sun: *Stay with Me* Ayobami Adebayo, 2017-08-22 "Powerfully magnetic. . . . In the lineage of great works by Chinua Achebe and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. . . . A thoroughly contemporary—and deeply moving—portrait of a marriage." —*The New York Times Book Review* Ilesa, Nigeria. Ever since they first met and fell in love at university, Yejide and Akin have agreed: polygamy is not for them. But four years into their marriage—after consulting fertility doctors and healers, and trying strange teas and unlikely cures—Yejide is still not pregnant. She assumes she

still has time—until her in-laws arrive on her doorstep with a young woman they introduce as Akin's second wife. Furious, shocked, and livid with jealousy, Yejide knows the only way to save her marriage is to get pregnant. Which, finally, she does—but at a cost far greater than she could have dared to imagine. The unforgettable story of a marriage as seen through the eyes of both husband and wife, *Stay With Me* asks how much we can sacrifice for the sake of family. A New York Times Notable Book One of the Best Books of the Year: NPR, The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, Chicago Tribune, BuzzFeed, Entertainment Weekly, The New York Post, Southern Living, The Skimm A 2017 BEA Buzz Panel Selection A Belletrist Book-of-the-Month A Sarah Jessica Parker Book Club Selection Shortlisted for the 2017 Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction Shortlisted for the Wellcome Book Prize and the 9mobile Prize for Literature Longlisted for the International Dylan Thomas Prize

half of yellow sun: *For Love of Biafra* Amanda N. Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, 1998

half of yellow sun: *A Brief History of Seven Killings* Marlon James, 2015-09-08 A tale inspired by the 1976 attempted assassination of Bob Marley spans decades and continents to explore the experiences of journalists, drug dealers, killers, and ghosts against a backdrop of social and political turmoil.

half of yellow sun: *Discovering Home* , 2003 This third edition of stories from the Caine Prize for African Writing includes works by writers from Nigeria, Kenya, Zimbabwe and South Africa, most of whom have never before been published.

half of yellow sun: *Island Queen* Vanessa Riley, 2021-07-06 "Riveting and transformative, evocative and immersive...by turns vibrant and bold and wise, discovering Dorothy's story is a singular pleasure."--The New York Times A remarkable, sweeping historical novel based on the incredible true life story of Dorothy Kirwan Thomas, a free Black woman who rose from slavery to become one of the wealthiest and most powerful landowners in the colonial West Indies. Born into slavery on the tiny Caribbean island of Montserrat, Doll bought her freedom—and that of her sister and her mother—from her Irish planter father and built a legacy of wealth and power as an entrepreneur, merchant, hotelier, and planter that extended from the marketplaces and sugar plantations of Dominica and Barbados to a glittering luxury hotel in Demerara on the South American continent. Vanessa Riley's novel brings Doll to vivid life as she rises above the harsh realities of slavery and colonialism by working the system and leveraging the competing attentions of the men in her life: a restless shipping merchant, Joseph Thomas; a wealthy planter hiding a secret, John Coseveldt Cells; and a roguish naval captain who will later become King William IV of England. From the bustling port cities of the West Indies to the forbidding drawing rooms of London's elite, *Island Queen* is a sweeping epic of an adventurer and a survivor who answered to no one but herself as she rose to power and autonomy against all odds, defying rigid eighteenth-century morality and the oppression of women as well as people of color. It is an unforgettable portrait of a true larger-than-life woman who made her mark on history.

half of yellow sun: *Shadowplay* Joseph O'Connor, 2020-06-16 A West End theater in London is shaken up by the crimes of Jack the Ripper in this novel by the New York Times-bestselling author of *The Star of the Sea*. Henry Irving is Victorian London's most celebrated actor and theater impresario. He has introduced groundbreaking ideas to the theater, bringing to the stage performances that are spectacular, shocking, and always entertaining. When Irving decides to open his own London theater with the goal of making it the greatest playhouse on earth, he hires a young Dublin clerk harboring literary ambitions by the name of Bram Stoker to manage it. As Irving's theater grows in reputation and financial solvency, he lures to his company of mummies the century's most beloved actress, the dazzlingly talented leading lady Ellen Terry, who nightly casts a spell not only on her audiences but also on Stoker and Irving both. Bram Stoker's extraordinary experiences at the Lyceum Theatre, his early morning walks on the streets of a London terrorized by a serial killer, his long, tempestuous relationship with Irving, and the closeness he finds with Ellen Terry, inspire him to write *Dracula*, the most iconic and best-selling supernatural tale ever published. A magnificent portrait both of lamp-lit London and of lives and loves enacted on the

stage, Shadowplay's rich prose, incomparable storytelling, and vivid characters will linger in readers' hearts and minds for many years. "A vibrantly imaginative narrative of passion, intrigue and literary ambition set in the garish heyday of a theater. . . . Artfully splicing truth with fantasy, O'Connor has a glorious time turning a ramshackle and haunted London playhouse into a primary source for Stoker's Gothic imaginings." —Miranda Seymour, *The New York Times Book Review* "A gorgeously written historical novel about Stoker's inner life. . . . I wasn't prepared to be awed by his prose, which is so good you can taste it. . . . O'Connor dazzles." —Michael Dirda, *The Washington Post* "And Mr. O'Connor's main characters—Stoker, Irving and the beloved actress Ellen Terry—are so forcefully brought to life that when, close to tears, you reach this drama's final page, you will return to the beginning just to remain in their company." —Anna Mundow, *The Wall Street Journal* "This novel blows the dust off its Victorian trappings and brings them to scintillating life." —Publishers Weekly, PW Picks, Starred Review FINALIST 2019 COSTA BOOK OF THE YEAR FINALIST 2020 DALKEY LITERARY AWARD 2020 WALTER SCOTT PRIZE

half of yellow sun: A Little Life Hanya Yanagihara, 2016-01-26 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A stunning "portrait of the enduring grace of friendship" (NPR) about the families we are born into, and those that we make for ourselves. A masterful depiction of love in the twenty-first century. NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST • MAN BOOKER PRIZE FINALIST • WINNER OF THE KIRKUS PRIZE A Little Life follows four college classmates—broke, adrift, and buoyed only by their friendship and ambition—as they move to New York in search of fame and fortune. While their relationships, which are tinged by addiction, success, and pride, deepen over the decades, the men are held together by their devotion to the brilliant, enigmatic Jude, a man scarred by an unspeakable childhood trauma. A hymn to brotherly bonds and a masterful depiction of love in the twenty-first century, Hanya Yanagihara's stunning novel is about the families we are born into, and those that we make for ourselves. Look for Hanya Yanagihara's latest bestselling novel, *To Paradise*.

half of yellow sun: Jerningham Christina Sanders, 2020-06-09 Edward Jerningham Wakefield was the wild-child of the Wakefield family that set up the New Zealand Company to bring the first settlers to this country. His story is told through the eyes of bookkeeper Arthur Lugg, who is tasked by Colonel William Wakefield to keep tabs on his brilliant but unstable nephew. As trouble brews between settlers, government, missionaries and Māori over land and souls and rights, Jerningham is at the heart of it, blurring the line between friendship and exploitation and spinning the hapless Lugg in his wake. Alive with historical detail, Jerningham tells a vivid story of Wellington's colonial beginnings and of a charismatic young man's rise and inevitable fall--Back cover.

half of yellow sun: Madeleine Is Sleeping Sarah Shun-lien Bynum, 2020-10-27 A National Book Award Finalist, Sarah Shun-lien Bynum's enchanting and inventive first novel is a groundbreaking, contemporary classic When a girl falls into a mysterious, impenetrable sleep, the borders between her provincial French village and the peculiar, beguiling realm of her dreams begin to disappear: A fat woman sprouts delicate wings and takes flight; a failed photographer stumbles into the role of pornographer; a beautiful young wife grows to resemble her husband's viol. Madeleine, the dreamer, travels in their midst, trying to make sense of her own metamorphosis. She leaves home, joins a gypsy circus, and falls into an unexpected triangle of desire and love. Embracing the earthy and the ethereal, the comical and the poignant, *Madeleine Is Sleeping* is part fairy tale, part coming-of-age story, and above all, an adventure in the discovery of art, sexuality, community, and the self.

half of yellow sun: House of Earth and Blood Sarah J. Maas, 2020-03-03 A #1 New York Times bestseller! Sarah J. Maas's brand-new CRESCENT CITY series begins with *House of Earth and Blood*: the story of half-Fae and half-human Bryce Quinlan as she seeks revenge in a contemporary fantasy world of magic, danger, and searing romance. Bryce Quinlan had the perfect life—working hard all day and partying all night—until a demon murdered her closest friends, leaving her bereft, wounded, and alone. When the accused is behind bars but the crimes start up again, Bryce finds herself at the heart of the investigation. She'll do whatever it takes to avenge their deaths. Hunt

Athalar is a notorious Fallen angel, now enslaved to the Archangels he once attempted to overthrow. His brutal skills and incredible strength have been set to one purpose—to assassinate his boss's enemies, no questions asked. But with a demon wreaking havoc in the city, he's offered an irresistible deal: help Bryce find the murderer, and his freedom will be within reach. As Bryce and Hunt dig deep into Crescent City's underbelly, they discover a dark power that threatens everything and everyone they hold dear, and they find, in each other, a blazing passion—one that could set them both free, if they'd only let it. With unforgettable characters, sizzling romance, and page-turning suspense, this richly inventive new fantasy series by #1 New York Times bestselling author Sarah J. Maas delves into the heartache of loss, the price of freedom—and the power of love.

half of yellow sun: *Americanah* Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, 2023-05-11 SHORTLISTED FOR THE BAILEY'S WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR FICTION 'A delicious, important novel' The Times 'Alert, alive and gripping' Independent 'Some novels tell a great story and others make you change the way you look at the world. *Americanah* does both.' Guardian As teenagers in a Lagos secondary school, Ifemelu and Obinze fall in love. Their Nigeria is under military dictatorship, and people are fleeing the country if they can. Ifemelu—beautiful, self-assured—departs for America to study. She suffers defeats and triumphs, finds and loses relationships and friendships, all the while feeling the weight of something she never thought of back home: race. Obinze—the quiet, thoughtful son of a professor—had hoped to join her, but post-9/11 America will not let him in, and he plunges into a dangerous, undocumented life in London. Thirteen years later, Obinze is a wealthy man in a newly democratic Nigeria, while Ifemelu has achieved success as a writer of an eye-opening blog about race in America. But when Ifemelu returns to Nigeria, and she and Obinze reignite their shared passion—for their homeland and for each other—they will face the toughest decisions of their lives. Fearless, gripping, spanning three continents and numerous lives, *Americanah* is a richly told story of love and expectation set in today's globalized world.

half of yellow sun: 1,000 Books to Read Before You Die James Mustich, 2018-10-02 “The ultimate literary bucket list.” —THE WASHINGTON POST Celebrate the pleasure of reading and the thrill of discovering new titles in an extraordinary book that’s as compulsively readable, entertaining, surprising, and enlightening as the 1,000-plus titles it recommends. Covering fiction, poetry, science and science fiction, memoir, travel writing, biography, children’s books, history, and more, *1,000 Books to Read Before You Die* ranges across cultures and through time to offer an eclectic collection of works that each deserve to come with the recommendation, You have to read this. But it’s not a proscriptive list of the “great works”—rather, it’s a celebration of the glorious mosaic that is our literary heritage. Flip it open to any page and be transfixed by a fresh take on a very favorite book. Or come across a title you always meant to read and never got around to. Or, like browsing in the best kind of bookshop, stumble on a completely unknown author and work, and feel that tingle of discovery. There are classics, of course, and unexpected treasures, too. Lists to help pick and choose, like *Offbeat Escapes*, or *A Long Climb*, but *What a View*. And its alphabetical arrangement by author assures that surprises await on almost every turn of the page, with Cormac McCarthy and *The Road* next to Robert McCloskey and *Make Way for Ducklings*, Alice Walker next to Izaac Walton. There are nuts and bolts, too—best editions to read, other books by the author, “if you like this, you’ll like that” recommendations, and an interesting endnote of adaptations where appropriate. Add it all up, and in fact there are more than six thousand titles by nearly four thousand authors mentioned—a life-changing list for a lifetime of reading. “948 pages later, you still want more!” —THE WASHINGTON POST

half of yellow sun: *Empire of the Vampire* Jay Kristoff, 2021-09-14 THE INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES, USA TODAY, AND WALL STREET JOURNAL BESTSELLER From New York Times bestselling author Jay Kristoff comes *Empire of the Vampire*, the first illustrated volume of an astonishing new dark fantasy saga. From holy cup comes holy light; The faithful hand sets world aright. And in the Seven Martyrs’ sight, Mere man shall end this endless night. It has been twenty-seven long years since the last sunrise. For nearly three decades, vampires have waged war against humanity; building their eternal empire even as they tear down our own. Now, only a few

tiny sparks of light endure in a sea of darkness. Gabriel de León is a silversaint: a member of a holy brotherhood dedicated to defending realm and church from the creatures of the night. But even the Silver Order could not stem the tide once daylight failed us, and now, only Gabriel remains. Imprisoned by the very monsters he vowed to destroy, the last silversaint is forced to tell his story. A story of legendary battles and forbidden love, of faith lost and friendships won, of the Wars of the Blood and the Forever King and the quest for humanity's last remaining hope: The Holy Grail.

half of yellow sun: A Thousand Splendid Suns Khaled Hosseini, 2008-09-18 A riveting and powerful story of an unforgiving time, an unlikely friendship and an indestructible love

half of yellow sun: O Caledonia Elspeth Barker, 2022-09-20 Originally published in Great Britain in 1991 by Hamish Hamilton Ltd.--Title page verso.

half of yellow sun: And After Many Days Jowhor Ile, 2016 In the aftermath of a teen's disappearance from bustling Port Harcourt in 1995 Nigeria, a once-ordered family is irreparably shattered in ways that prompt its youngest member, Ajie, to embark on a quest for answers that reveals long-forgotten secrets and regional brutalities.

half of yellow sun: The Rime of the Ancient Mariner Samuel Taylor Coleridge, 1875

half of yellow sun: Flowers and Shadows Ben Okri, 1989 Set in the hustle of Lagos, a series of disturbing events strip the young Jeffia Okwe of his innocence and reveal the ruthlessness of his own father. The tragic climax of the tale leaves Jeffia cleansed of the sins of his father, ready for adult life and optimistic about the future.

half of yellow sun: Notes on Grief Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, 2021-05-11 From the internationally acclaimed, bestselling author of *We Should All Be Feminists* and *Americanah*, a profound reckoning with loss, written in the wake of her father's death. During the brutal summer of 2020, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's beloved father, a celebrated professor at the University of Nigeria and an irreplaceable figure in a close-knit family, succumbed unexpectedly to complications of kidney failure. *Notes on Grief* is Adichie's tribute to him, and a moving meditation on loss. Here Adichie offers a candid snapshot of the shock, loneliness, and disillusionment that followed the news of her father's death. Her family, unable to be together except for on video calls, struggles to go through the rites of mourning amid a global crisis of unimaginable scale. As Adichie wrestles with his passing, she recalls with vivid, poignant detail who her father was: a remarkable survivor of the Biafran war, a man of kindness and charm, and a fierce supporter of his youngest daughter. Here is a uniquely personal, profound work of remembrance and hope by one of today's luminaries—a book to bring us together in a time when we need it most.

half of yellow sun: *Ulysses* ,

half of yellow sun: Before the Coffee Gets Cold Toshikazu Kawaguchi, 2020-11-17 PREORDER YOUR COPY OF BEFORE WE FORGET KINDNESS, the fifth book in the best-selling and much loved series, NOW! *NOW AN LA TIMES BESTSELLER* *OVER ONE MILLION COPIES SOLD* *AN INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER* If you could go back in time, who would you want to meet? In a small back alley of Tokyo, there is a café that has been serving carefully brewed coffee for more than one hundred years. Local legend says that this shop offers something else besides coffee—the chance to travel back in time. Over the course of one summer, four customers visit the café in the hopes of making that journey. But time travel isn't so simple, and there are rules that must be followed. Most important, the trip can last only as long as it takes for the coffee to get cold. Heartwarming, wistful, mysterious and delightfully quirky, Toshikazu Kawaguchi's internationally bestselling novel explores the age-old question: What would you change if you could travel back in time? Meet more wonderful characters in the rest of the captivating *Before the Coffee Gets Cold* series: *Tales from the Cafe Before Your Memory Fades* *Before We Say Goodbye* And the upcoming *BEFORE WE FORGET KINDNESS*

half of yellow sun: *Shades of Scarlet* Anne Fine, 2021-03-04 When Mum gives her the notebook, Scarlet should be happy. It's beautiful, with its shiny scarlet cover and its blank pages full of promise. But Scarlet is absolutely NOT in the mood for a peace offering. Does Mum really think she can tear their family apart and expect Scarlet to be happy about it? Scarlet decides there's only

one thing she can write in the notebook. The truth, about everything . . .

half of yellow sun: Sensuous Knowledge Minna Salami, 2020-03-25 In *Sensuous Knowledge*, Minna Salami draws on Africa-centric, feminist-first and artistic traditions to help us rediscover inclusive and invigorating ways of experiencing the world afresh. Combining the playfulness of a storyteller with the insight of a social critic, the book pries apart the systems of power and privilege that have dominated ways of thinking for centuries – and which have led to so much division, prejudice and damage. And it puts forward a new, sensuous, approach to knowledge: one grounded in a host of global perspectives – from Black Feminism to personal narrative, pop culture to high art, Western philosophy to African mythology – together comprising a vision of hope for a fragmented world riven by crisis. Through the prism of this new knowledge, Salami offers fresh insights into the key cultural issues that affect women's lives. How are we to view Sisterhood, Motherhood or even Womanhood itself? What is Power and why do we conceive of Beauty? How does one achieve Liberation? She asks women to break free of the prison made by ingrained male-centric biases, and build a house themselves – a home that can nurture us all. *Sensuous Knowledge* confirms Minna Salami as one the most important spokespeople of today, and the arrival of a blistering new literary voice.

half of yellow sun: Exoticizing the Past in Contemporary Neo-Historical Fiction E. Rousselot, 2014-11-13 This collection of essays is dedicated to examining the recent literary phenomenon of the 'neo-historical' novel, a sub-genre of contemporary historical fiction which critically re-imagines specific periods of history.

half of yellow sun: Harvest of Thorns Shimmer Chinodya, 2018-02-01 The 1990 Commonwealth Writers Regional Prize voted *Harvest of Thorns* the winner in the Best Book category. *Harvest of Thorns* tells the story of Benjamin Tichafa who grows up in Rhodesia in the 1960s. From a conservative, religious family, but exposed to the heady ideas of the black nationalist movements, the young student is pulled in different directions. Isolated and troubled at boarding school, he is provoked into leaving, making his way to Mozambique, and joining the freedom fighters. There, in the crucible of a bitter civil war of liberation, the young man develops into manhood. Returning, hardened, at independence, he feels that little has changed, not least within his own family circumstances, and asks himself what it means to be free in the new Zimbabwe.

half of yellow sun: The Radio and Other Stories Gil Ndi-Shang, 2021-04-03 On moving into a new apartment abroad in his Bavarian hometown, the narrator realises that some of his possessions and elements of his new neighbourhood open a window into a flurry of memories, serving as allegorical threads to his childhood, self-consciousness and discovery of the world. What begins as a personal narrative quickly cedes to a social archaeology, inviting the reader/listener on a homegoing journey in the backdrop of Cameroon's tottering democratic trajectory. Modulated with poetry and music, *The Radio* tunes in to diaspora, home, nation, education, existence, religion as well as Mbum popular culture, showcasing creative re-appropriation and re-mixing of global trends and icons in specific communities.

half of yellow sun: The Secret Lives of Baba Segi's Wives Lola Shoneyin, 2010-12-06 Coming soon to Netflix When Baba Segi awoke with a bellyache for the sixth day in a row, he knew it was time to do something drastic about his fourth wife's childlessness. To the dismay of her ambitious mother, Bolanle marries into a polygamous family, where she is the fourth wife of a rich, rotund patriarch, Baba Segi. She is a graduate and therefore a great prize, but even graduates must produce children and her husband's persistent bellyache is a sign that things are not as they should be. She only wants to escape to a quiet life, but the others disapprove of the newest, youngest, cleverest addition to the family. Treated with respect by her husband, she is viewed with suspicion by her seniors - who fear she may unlock their well-guarded secret. Through the voices of Baba Segi and his four wives, Lola Shoneyin weaves a vibrant story of love, secrets and a family like every other - happy and unhappy, truthful and not, sometimes kind, sometimes competitive, always bound by blood, and the past.

half of yellow sun: The Great Plains Trilogy Willa Cather, Willa Cather was the 1922 winner of

the Pulitzer Prize. Her breakthrough in literature were the three novels featured here in this edition, the so-called "Great Plains Trilogy". All three novels stage in Nebraska and the surrounding Great Plains territory and deal with the life there, family challenges and romance. Included are: *O Pioneers!* *The Song of the Lark* *My Antonia*

half of yellow sun: *Radiance of Tomorrow* Ishmael Beah, 2014-01-07 When Ishmael Beah's *A Long Way Gone* was published in 2007, it soared to the top of bestseller lists, becoming an instant classic: a harrowing account of Sierra Leone's civil war and the fate of child soldiers that "everyone in the world should read" (The Washington Post). Now Beah, whom Dave Eggers has called "arguably the most read African writer in contemporary literature," has returned with his first novel, an affecting, tender parable about postwar life in Sierra Leone. At the centre of *Radiance of Tomorrow* are Benjamin and Bockarie, two longtime friends who return to their hometown, Imperi, after the civil war. The village is in ruins, the ground covered in bones. As more villagers begin to file back, Benjamin and Bockarie try to forge a new community by taking up their former posts as teachers, but they're beset by obstacles: a scarcity of food; a rash of murders, thievery, rape, and retaliation; and the depredations of a foreign mining company intent on sully the town's water supply and blocking its paths with electric wires. As Benjamin and Bockarie search for a way to restore order, they're forced to reckon with the pain of their past and the uncertainty of their future. With the gentle lyricism of a dream and the moral clarity of a fable, *Radiance of Tomorrow* is a powerful novel about preserving what means the most to us, even in uncertain times. It marks the start of an exciting new chapter for Ishmael Beah.

half of yellow sun: **Hal Higdon's Half Marathon Training** Higdon, Hal, 2016-03-01 Hal Higdon's *Half Marathon Training* offers prescriptive programming for all levels of runners. Not only will it help you learn how to get started with your training, but it will show you where to focus your attention, when to progress, and how to keep it simple.

half of yellow sun: ***There Was a Country*** Chinua Achebe, 2012-10-11 From the legendary author of *Things Fall Apart*—a long-awaited memoir of coming of age in a fragile new nation, and its destruction in a tragic civil war For more than forty years, Chinua Achebe maintained a considered silence on the events of the Nigerian civil war, also known as the Biafran War, of 1967–1970, addressing them only obliquely through his poetry. Decades in the making, *There Was a Country* is a towering account of one of modern Africa's most disastrous events, from a writer whose words and courage left an enduring stamp on world literature. A marriage of history and memoir, vivid firsthand observation and decades of research and reflection, *There Was a Country* is a work whose wisdom and compassion remind us of Chinua Achebe's place as one of the great literary and moral voices of our age.

half of yellow sun: *The Cremation of Sam McGee* Robert Service, 2013-03-01 In 1986 Kids Can Press published an edition of Robert Service's *The Cremation of Sam McGee* illustrated by painter Ted Harrison, who used his signature broad brushstrokes and unconventional choice of color to bring this gritty narrative poem to life. Evoking both the spare beauty and the mournful solitude of the Yukon landscape, Harrison's paintings proved the perfect match for Service's masterpiece about a doomed prospector adrift in a harsh land. Harrison's *Illustrator's Notes* on each page enhanced both poem and illustrations by adding valuable historical background. Upon its original publication, many recognized the book as an innovative approach to illustrating poetry for children. For years *The Cremation of Sam McGee* has stood out as a publishing landmark, losing none of its appeal both as a read-aloud and as a work of art. Kids Can Press proudly publishes this deluxe hardcover twentieth anniversary edition --- complete with a spot-varnished cover, new cover art and heavy coated stock --- of a book that remains as entrancing as a night sky alive with the vibrant glow of the Northern Lights.

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