Download free The visible world mark slouka (Read Only)

The Visible World

2013-04-04

my mother knew a man during the war theirs was a love story and like any good love story it left blood on the floor and wreckage in its wake as a boy growing up in new york the narrator s parents memories of their czech homeland seem to belong to another world as distant and unreal as the fairy tales his father tells him it is only as an adult when he makes his own journey to prague that he is finally able to piece together the truth of his parents past what they did whom his mother loved and why they were never able to forget

Lost Lake

2012-01-05

set on the shores of lost lake in upstate new york these twelve tales tell of three generations of the small czech community who have made their homes there beside the water s edge both land and lake feature large in their lives shaping events individuals relationships in the dead of night a woman unhitches a boat and rows across the darkness to meet her lover a young soldier sees hope for the future reflected in the water s rippled surface a boy recalls a catch of fish and learns to question the past as later presented characters emerge and re emerge time moves on yet through it all the lake remains central significant symbolic haunting poetic and elegiac slouka s stories are about people who inhabit the margins of space and place about home history and humanity about myth and memory

Brewster

2013-08-01

as an infant jon mosher tragically lost his older brother to a freak accident something that could have happened to any family there s nothing he could have done to prevent it but there it is anyway that loss echoing in every room and painted on the faces of his parents german jews who d escaped the war as if to say you weren t and aren t enough saddled with this absence jon s life has been defined by what s missing and what he lacks that is until in high school he befriends wisecracking ray a reckless boy with a volatile father against the backdrop of the summer of love and the encroaching vietnam war jon dreams of ultimately leaving his grey blue collar town but is set on an irrevocable course as the escalating violence of ray s home life threatens to shatter their bright eyed plans to escape torn between obligation and desire jon s faced with the impossible decision of whether to help or run in this magnificent haunting novel slouka brilliantly captures the polarising forces of a working class hardscrabble ethos and the hopeful vibrancy of the sixties and early seventies with concise wise prose slouka weaves together a tapestry of family fate friendship and the impossibility of ever really leaving home

God's Fool

2002

born attached at the chest chang and eng were considered a marvel an omen an act of god evidence of his glory or proof of his wrath uniquely cursed enslaved to one another for life they were a joke of nature variously feared and abhorred disturbing our most basic assumptions about the human condition mark slouka s dazzling achievement in god s fool is the ease and compassion with which he draws the story of one human being from this ghastly predicament looking beyond the twins physical connection he imagines one man s life of ordinary grace and suffering longing and resistance and the ties of love as well as of blood that bind and redeem us all by any standard theirs is a history of epic variety and drama their birth to an illiterate fishmonger sent midwives screaming from the room condemned to death they survived to be brought at the age of thirteen to the royal palace in bangkok for an audience with king rama iii at seventeen laboring as merchants on the meklong river they saw their world erased by a typhoon consigned for three hundred pounds to an opium trader by their mother who was desperate to ensure their survival they sailed for europe there they entertained kings and counselors in salons and drawing rooms from brussels to rome and in paris met the woman who would divide them as no surgeon ever could when the culture that had lifted them up inevitably cast them down they landed in the flophouses of london where penniless and starving they were discovered by phineas t barnum who packed them off to america along with an assortment of bearded ladies and two headed calves albino beauties and dog boys german midgets and twelve fingered flute players leaving barnum at the height of

their fame to take a last stab at normal life they settled in north carolina where despite the tensions growing between them they found for a time tranquillity as farmers and slave owners marrying a pair of sisters and fathering between them twenty children their peace however would prove to be short lived as the civil war drew closer and their world began to tilt they would first turn against each other and then faced with a trial unlike any they had ever known draw together once more no longer young they set off to find the war and to save what could be saved it would be there on that very real battlefield that chang would enact his final terrifying battle with fate sweeping and intimate vibrant and austere god s fool is a novel of soaring ambition and accomplishment from a fiercely gifted storyteller

Lost Lake

2017-10-24

relentlessly observant miraculously expressive these stories see through the mirrored surface into a hidden yet strangely intimate world new york times book review set in a tiny czech community on the shores of lost lake these stories chronicle three generations of men and women under the spell of a landscape with a powerful history mark slouka explores both the quiet glory of the natural world and the mysterious motions of the human spirit a new york times notable book a california book award silver medalist for fiction

Essays from the Nick of Time

2010-10-26

a new collection of prophetic essays from one of the sharpest practitioners of the form mark slouka writes from a particular vantage point one invoked by thoreau who wished to improve the nick of time to stand on the meeting of two eternities the past and future at this bewildering convergence slouka asks us to consider what it means to be human and what we must revive or reject in order to retain our humanity in the modern world collected over fifteen years these essays include fascinating explorations of the relationship between memory and history and the nature of tragedy in a media driven culture meditations on the transcendent wisdom of the natural world and the role of silence in an age of noise and arguments in defense of the political value of leisure time and the importance of the humanities in an age defined by the language of science and industry written in slouka's supple and unerring prose celebratory critical and passionate essays from the nick of time reawakens us to the moment and place in which we find ourselves caught between the fading presence of the past and the neon lure of the future

The Visible World

2007

a vibrantly told love story with tragic roots in wwii czechoslovakia the washington post an american born son of czech immigrants grows up in postwar new york part of a boisterous community of the displaced where he learns fragments of european history czech fairy tales and family secrets gleaned from overheard conversations central in his young imagination is the heroic account of the seven czech parachutists who in 1942 assassinated a high ranking nazi yet one essential story has always evaded him his mother s he suspects she had a great wartime love the loss of which bred a sadness that slowly engulfed her as an adult he travels to prague hoping to piece together her hidden past leading to the compelling story at the heart of the visible world an almost unbearably poignant work a penetrating beautifully composed novel from a writer with a tangible sense of place and period the acclaimed author of brewster and god s fool named a best book of the year by the san francisco chronicle booklist the sheer beauty of mark sloukas prose will draw comparisons to the english patient gary shteyngart new york times bestselling author of super sad true love story a book that will last colum mccann national book award winning author of let the great world spin

The Visible World

2008-03-18

there comes a time in your life when the past decides to run you down mark slouka writes in this heartbreaking and soul searching memoir about one man s attempt to reckon with the past born in czechoslovakia mark slouka s parents survived the nazis only to have to escape the communist purges after the war smuggled out of their own country the newlyweds joined a tide of refugees moving from innsbruck to sydney to new york dragging with them a history of blood and betrayal that their son would be born into from world war i to the present slouka pieces together a remarkable story of refugees and war displacement and denial admitting into evidence memories dreams stories the lies we inherit and the lies we tell in an attempt to reach his mother the enigmatic figure at the center of the labyrinth her story the revelation of her life long burden and the forty year love affair that might have saved her shows the way out of the maze

Nobody's Son

2016-10-25

warning a technological revolution is unfolding that promises in the words of its creators to redefine what it means to be human face to face communication f2f to those in the know is quickly becoming obsolete already we turn to computers for information entertainment companionship even love science fiction hardly this is the brave new vision of the digital avant garde computer crusaders leading a high tech assault on what was once known as reality sophisticated well funded unabashedly messianic they have the power the technological know how and the marketplace savvy to make good on many of their wildest prophecies with war of the worlds mark slouka gives us a funny but eerily disturbing humanist s look at the culture of cyberspace

War Of The Worlds

1996-06-28

the anthropology of britain is hotly debated what does it mean to live in britain and to be british and is an anthropology of britain even a legitimate undertaking british subjects presents a forthright voice in this debate key anthropological concerns such as community rationality aesthetics the body power work and leisure nationalism and transnationalism are found reflected in the lives of a wide range of british subjects from farmers to dancers children to retired miners new agers to entrepreneurs in disputing traditional claims that anthropology at home and of one s own is misconceived unnecessary or unperceptive this book clearly establishes that an anthropology of britain can set excellent standards of subtle ethnography and complex analysis providing a nuanced appreciation of the intricacies of british society this book shows how the anthropological study of britain can offer an enlightening paradigm for the study of individual lives

British Subjects

2020-05-25

the dramatic advances in computer and telecommunications technologies such as the internet virtual reality smart cards or multimedia applications are increasingly regarded as ushering in a new form of society the information society politicians policy makers and business gurus are all encouraging us to join the information superhighway at the nearest junction or risk being excluded from the social and economic benefits of the information revolution cyberspace divide critically considers the complex relationship between technological change its effect upon social divisions its consequences for social action and the emerging strategies for social inclusion in the information age cyberspace divide will be invaluable reading for those studying social policy sociology computing and communication studies

Cyberspace Divide

2004-01-14

a critical analysis of the newly emerging information society contributors consider the complex relationship between technological change social divisions social actions and strategies for social inclusion in the information age

Cyberspace Divide

1998

three linked novellas explore the private worlds of three men a farmer struggling after his father s suicide a single dad trying to control his overweight daughter and a mentally disabled man in love with a married woman intent on using him

The New Valley

2009

have modern believers grown too comfortable with god in response to the unbiblical mystical spirituality of our day michael horton calls for a return to the teaching of the apostle paul and the early church the result is a compelling picture of true spiritual intimacy with god

In the Face of God

1996-09-23

a thoughtful meditation on the role of meaning and purpose in the development of technology

Meaning in Technology

2001

since its inception around 1970 the study of new religious movements nrms has evolved into an established multidisciplinary field at the same time both the movements and the scholars who study them have been the subjects of intense controversy in this volume a group of senior nrm scholars who have been instrumental in the development of the field will offer pivotal essays that present the basics of nrm scholarship along with guidance for teachers on classroom use the book is organized topically around subjects that are both central to the study of nrms and likely to be useful to non specialists part i contains examinations of the definitional boundaries of the area of study varying disciplinary perspectives on nrms unique methodological ethical problems encountered in the study of nrms and the controversies that have confronted scholars studying nrms and the movements themselves part ii examines a series of topics central to teaching about nrms the larger sociocultural significance of the movements their distinctive symbolic and organizational features the interrelated processes of joining and leaving nrms the organization of gender roles in nrms media and popular culture portrayals of the movements the occurrence of corruption and abuse within movements and violence

by and against nrms part iii provides informational resources for teaching about nrms which are particularly important in a field where knowing the biases of sources is crucial with its interdisciplinary approach the volume provides comprehensive accessible information and perspectives on nrms it is an invaluable guide for instructors navigating this scholarly minefield

Teaching New Religious Movements

2007-05-25

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2003-07-30

this text provides a comprehensive treatment of virtual world design from one of its pioneers it covers everything from muds to moos to mmorpgs from text based to graphical vws

Designing Virtual Worlds

2004

a sweeping history of a twentieth century prague torn between fascism communism and democracy with lessons for a world again threatened by dictatorship postcards from absurdistan is a cultural and political history of prague from 1938 when the nazis destroyed czechoslovakia s artistically vibrant liberal democracy to 1989 when the country s socialist regime collapsed after more than four decades of communist dictatorship derek sayer shows that prague s twentieth century far from being a story of inexorable progress toward some end of history whether fascist communist or democratic was a tragicomedy of recurring nightmares played out in a land czech dissidents dubbed absurdistan situated in the eye of the storms that shaped the modern world prague holds up an unsettling mirror to the absurdities and dangers of our own times in a brilliant narrative sayer weaves a vivid montage of the lives of individual praguers poets and politicians architects and athletes journalists and filmmakers artists musicians and comedians caught up in the crosscurrents of the turbulent half century following the nazi invasion this is the territory of the ideologist the collaborator the informer the apparatchik the dissident the outsider the torturer and the refugee not to mention the innocent bystander who is always looking the other way and václav havel s greengrocer whose knowing complicity allows the show to go on over and over prague exposes modernity s dreamworlds of progress as confections of kitsch in a time when democracy is once again under global assault postcards from absurdistan is an unforgettable portrait of a city that illuminates the predicaments of the modern world

Postcards from Absurdistan

2022-11-01

this study reviews the images and meanings which play a vital role in our mass mediated world the author demonstrates that there is often a large gap between reality and the reconstruction of realities as communicated by the mass media

The Believer

2007

a brilliant and poetic exploration of the way that we experience time in our everyday lives why does time seem so short how does women s time differ from men s why does time seem to move slowly in the countryside and quickly in cities how do different cultures around the world see time in a sideways look at time jay griffiths takes readers on an extraordinary tour of time as we have never seen it before with this dazzling and defiant work griffiths introduces us to dimensions of time that are largely forgotten in our modern lives she presents an infectious argument for other more magical times the diverse cycles of nature of folktale or carnival when time is unlimited and on our side this is a book for those who suspect that there s more to time than clocks irresistible and provocative a sideways look at time could change the way we view time forever

Communicating Unreality

2000

an interdisciplinary collection of essays on telepistemology the study of knowledge acquired at a distance the robot in the garden initiates a critical theory of telerobotics and introduces telepistemology the study of knowledge acquired at a distance many of our most influential technologies the telescope telephone and television were developed to provide knowledge at a distance telerobots remotely controlled robots facilitate action at a distance specialists use telerobots to explore actively environments such as mars the titanic and chernobyl military personnel increasingly employ reconnaissance drones and telerobotic missiles at home we have remote controls for the garage door car alarm and television the latter a remote for the remote the internet dramatically extends our scope and reach thousands of cameras and robots are now accessible online although the role of technical mediation has been of interest to philosophers since the seventeenth century the internet forces a reconsideration as the public gains access to telerobotic instruments previously restricted to scientists and soldiers questions of mediation knowledge and trust take on new significance for everyday life telerobotics is a mode of representation but representations can misrepresent if orson welles s war of the worlds was the defining moment for radio what will be the defining moment for the internet as artists have always been concerned with how representations provide us with knowledge the book also looks at telerobotics potential as an artistic medium the seventeen essays by leading figures in philosophy art history and engineering are organized into three sections philosophy art history and critical theory and engineering interface and system design contributors albert borgmann tom campanella john canny judith donath hubert dreyfus ken goldberg alvin goldman oliver grau marina gržinić blake hannaford michael idinopulos martin jay eduardo kac machiko kusahara jeff malpas lev manovich maurice merleau ponty eric paulos catherine wilson

A Sideways Look at Time

2004-03-08

cyberspace dunia yang riuh dengan berjuta imajinasi dan beribu fantasi inilah semesta tanpa batas tempat berbagai mesin hasrat bekerja dengan segala kegilaan neurotik dan

narsismenya

The Robot in the Garden

2001-08-24

born attached at the chest chang and eng were considered a marvel an omen an act of god evidence of his glory or proof of his wrath uniquely cursed enslaved to one another for life they were a joke of nature variously feared and abhorred disturbing our most basic assumptions about the human condition mark slouka s dazzling achievement in god s fool is the ease and compassion with which he draws the story of one human being from this ghastly predicament looking beyond the twins physical connection he imagines one man s life of ordinary grace and suffering longing and resistance and the ties of love as well as of blood that bind and redeem us all by any standard theirs is a history of epic variety and drama their birth to an illiterate fishmonger sent midwives screaming from the room condemned to death they survived to be brought at the age of thirteen to the royal palace in bangkok for an audience with king rama iii at seventeen laboring as merchants on the meklong river they saw their world erased by a typhoon consigned for three hundred pounds to an opium trader by their mother who was desperate to ensure their survival they sailed for europe there they entertained kings and counselors in salons and drawing rooms from brussels to rome and in paris met the woman who would divide them as no surgeon ever could when the culture that had lifted them up inevitably cast them down they landed in the flophouses of london where penniless and starving they were discovered by phineas t barnum who packed them off to america along with an assortment of bearded ladies and two headed calves albino beauties and dog boys german midgets and twelve fingered flute players leaving barnum at the height of their fame to take a last stab at normal life they settled in north carolina where despite the tensions growing between them they found for a time tranquillity as farmers and slave owners marrying a pair of sisters and fathering between them twenty children their peace however would prove to be short lived as the civil war drew closer and their world began to tilt they would first turn against each other and then faced with a trial unlike any they had ever known draw together once more no longer young they set off to find the war and to save what could be saved it would be there on that very real battlefield that chang would enact his final terrifying battle with fate sweeping and intimate vibrant and austere god s fool is a novel of soaring ambition

and accomplishment from a fiercely gifted storyteller

Matinya Dunia Cyberspace

2004-01-01

in the soul of popular culture leading writers and critics many of them influenced by the thought of c g jung draw upon the insights of depth psychology to delve into the meanings of tv programs like star trek and fawlty towers movies such as the piano and the silence of the lambs and other contemporary media as well as the public preoccupation with such issues as abortion aids the o j simpson trial and our enduring fascination with elvis

Swiss News

if you can read god s fool without being astonished and touched then you d better check to see if your heart is made of stone simply brilliant a book of the year dallas morning news born attached at the chest chang and eng were considered a marvel an act of god by any standard theirs is a history of epic variety and drama mark slouka recounts their tumultuous story from the docks of vietnam to american fame with intimacy and compassion a washington post san francisco chronicle and dallas morning news best book of the year

God's Fool

2011-04-13

The Soul of Popular Culture

1998

books in the life of a child explores the value of books and reading in the stimulation of children s imagination and their fundamental importance in the development of language and true literacy it examines not only the vast range of children s books available but also how to introduce young people to the joys of reading in the home the school and in the community the book has been written as a resource for all adults especially teachers student teachers librarians and parents and those who care about the value of literature for children it is a comprehensive and critical guide with chapters on the history of children s literature and an analysis of its many forms and genres from poetry fairytale myth legend and fantasy through realistic and historical fiction to humour pulp fiction and information books

God's Fool: A Novel

2017-10-24

bodies of tomorrow argues for the importance of challenging visions of humanity in the future that overlook our responsibility as embodied beings connected to a material world



1997

presents an outrageous imagining of what a dictionary might look like thirty years after the 2004 presidential election and contains examples of words from over two hundred writers musicians and artists along with a twenty two track cd

Books in the Life of a Child

1997-10-15

asserting that hip hop culture has become another locus of postmodernity osumare explores the intricacies of this phenomenon from the beginning of the twenty first

century tracing the aesthetic and socio political path of the currency of hip hop across the globe

Bodies of Tomorrow

2007-01-01

twenty of the best american short stories of 2011 chosen by the new york times bestselling author of the secret chord the twenty tightly crafted stories collected here by pulitzer prize winning author geraldine brooks are full of deftly drawn characters universal truths and often surprising humor richard powers s to the measures fall is a comic meditation on the uses of literature in the course of a life in the satirical the sleep caitlin horrocks puts her fictional prairie town to bed the inhabitants hibernate through the long winter as a form of escape while in steve millhauser s imagined town the citizens are visited by ghostlike apparitions in phantoms allegra goodman s spare but beautiful la vita nuova finds a jilted fiancée letting her art class paint all over her wedding dress as a poignant act of release chimamanda ngozi adichie wryly captures the social change in the air in lagos nigeria in ceiling her story of a wealthy young man who is not entirely at ease with what his life has become as brooks perused these richly imagined and varied landscapes she found that it was like walking into the best kind of party where you can hole up in a corner with old friends for a while then launch out among interesting strangers the best american short stories 2011 also includes contributions from megan mayhew bergman tom bissell jennifer egan nathan englander ehud havazelet bret anthony johnston claire keegan sam lipsyte rebecca makkai elizabeth mccracken ricardo nuila joyce carol oates jess row george saunders mark slouka

The Future Dictionary of America

2004

what comes after postmodernism a buzzword which began as an energising radical critique became by the 20th century s end a byword for fracture eclecticism political apathy and intellectual exhaustion the last few years have seen a growing interest in critical realism as a possible alternative way of moving forward the virtues of critical realism lie in its successful provision of a philosophical grounding for the social

sciences and humanities and of a methodology applicable to many different fields of analysis after postmodernism brings together some of the best known names in the field to present the first truly interdisciplinary introduction to critical realism the book presents the reader with a compendium of accessible essays illustrating the connection between meta theory theory and substantive research across sociology philosophy literary studies politics media studies psychology and science studies the flexibility of critical realism is illustrated in the range of topics discussed ranging from quantum mechanics to cyberspace to literary theory nature smoking the future fo marx the unconscious and of course postmodernsim and the future of theory itself contributors allison assiter ted benton francis barker roy bhaskar jean bricmont sue clegg andrew collier justin cruickshank robert fine david ford tim forsyth rom harre pam higham philip hodgkiss jose lopez christopher norris bertell ollman jenneth parker frank pearce douglas v porpora garry potter john scott philip tew charles r varela anthony woodiwiss

The Africanist Aesthetic in Global Hip-Hop

2016-09-23

thirteen previously published essays notes and interviews by olu oguibe with revisions with an additional list of where the contributions were originally published and a cumulative index for this anthology as a whole

The Best American Short Stories 2011

2011-10-04

simple solutions for survival in this family unfriendly culture eye opening heart wrenching and uplifting san francisco chronicle even more resonant today than at its original publication in 1996 the shelter of each other traces the effects of our society s anti family way of life where parents are overtaxed children are undersupervised and technology is rapidly dictating how we interact as she did in her number one bestseller reviving ophelia mary pipher illuminates how our families are suffering at the hands of shifting cultural norms and she snaps our gaze into crisp focus drawing on the fascinating stories of families rich and poor angry and despairing religious and skeptical and probing deep into her own family memories and experiences pipher clears a path to the strength and energy at the core of family life compassionate and heart wrenching the shelter of each other is an impassioned call for us to gather our families in our arms and hold on to them for dear life

After Postmodernism

2005-03-01

in the new age of communications author john green outlines how computers and the world wide are revolutionizing our lives in the new global community originally published in 1997 green covers the history of computers to how wired the world has become to the nature of the internet and the potential power of artificial intelligence a scientific american focus book

The Culture Game

2004

while most christians are content with a superficial and pragmatic assessment of the new information technologies douglas groothuis probes more deeply he wisely recognizes the symbolic power of technology machines don t just do things they shape us by equipping our imaginations and language with powerful new images metaphors and assumptions groothuis has done a great service in alerting us to the temptations that will challenge the twenty first century church and in providing the tools to discern what is real what is true and what is to be treasured ken myers

The Shelter of Each Other

2008-11-25

The New Age of Communications

2014-09-16

The Soul in Cyberspace

1999-03-08

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