

Midnight in the garden of good and evil



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The book *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* was written by John Berendt and was

388 pages long. This was a non-fiction story of the beautiful town of Savannah, Georgia. John

Berendt was a reporter who lived in New York and one night while dining out he realized that

one plate of food cost him the same amount of money that it would to fly to Savannah. So he did

and he found himself in love with the city and stayed. It is a spellbinding story peopled by a

gallery of remarkable characters: a fading belle who packs a pistol in her décolletage; a

charming, piano-playing con man who moves like a hermit crab from one empty showplace

house to the next, accompanied by his high-living entourage and pursued closely by his

creditors; a moneyed dowager who conducts business from a cruising Mercedes limousine; a

sour alcoholic inventor who claims to own a vial of poison so powerful that it could kill off the

entire city; a voodoo priestess in purple shades; and a foul-mouthed black drag queen who

passes so convincingly for a woman that she is able to extort abortion money from the parents of

her white boyfriend. With these and other people from Savannah, Berendt

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reviles his alliances

and enemies in the town where everybody knows everybody else.

The exciting colorful town of Savannah is said to be the main character in this Novel, but

the main character was actually John Berendt, he was the narrator and main character . He was a

reporter from New York who made savannah and the people in Savannah his interest, his home,

and his life. He learned all about this secluded city through observation, meetings, and gossip.

He was an intelligent man who always knew where to be at the right time.

There was this one

scene in the book where he was having an interview with Jim Williams when Danny Hansford

walked in, in a tirade, with a shirt on that said F-U on it. Well earlier that day his other friend

Joe Oldem had been talking about this strange man who woke up in his bed with that same thing

printed on his shirt. John was in the right place at the right time to put two and two together. Jim

Williams was the other major character in this book, he was an antique dealer who owned one of

the nicest homes in Savannah. He was a major player in the restoring of the

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city. He would buy the homes, restore them, then sell them. He didn't get much credit for his work but it didn't let it bother him. He was very rich and let everyone know it by living like it. He hosted the grande party of the year. It was the social event that everyone prayed to get invited to. Jim was a smart man who didn't care what people thought of him and spoke his mind through his actions. There was a scene where he was telling about a time that a movie was being shot right in front of his home and the camera crew were being very rude. so he asked them to leave and when they didn't he took a Nazi flag out side and hung it over the side of his house to ruin their shot, it was a part in the book I found extremely funny.

Another character in this novel was Joe Oldem, he was a piano playing con-artist who moved in and out of vacant homes that were for sale. He had a charm about him that always had people trusting him. He was broke but didn't let anyone know it by all of the checks he wrote.

The checks of course always bounced and he would have to appear in court

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to keep from

going to jail, his charm of course always got him out of things. His girlfriend

Mandy was also

another interesting character in this book, she was a strange but funny

women who you couldn't

help but like. She was the winner or the Big Beautiful Women of America

Pageant and was

kinda crazy when it came to driving. She would do her makeup, hair, nails,

and watch tv all

while she was driving. How did she do it, she drove with her knees, yes her

knees. I liked