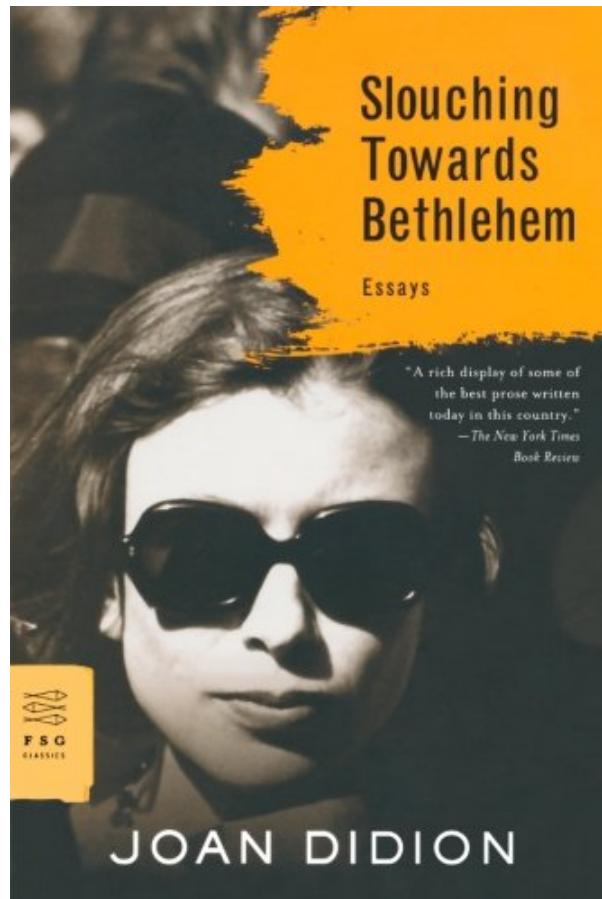
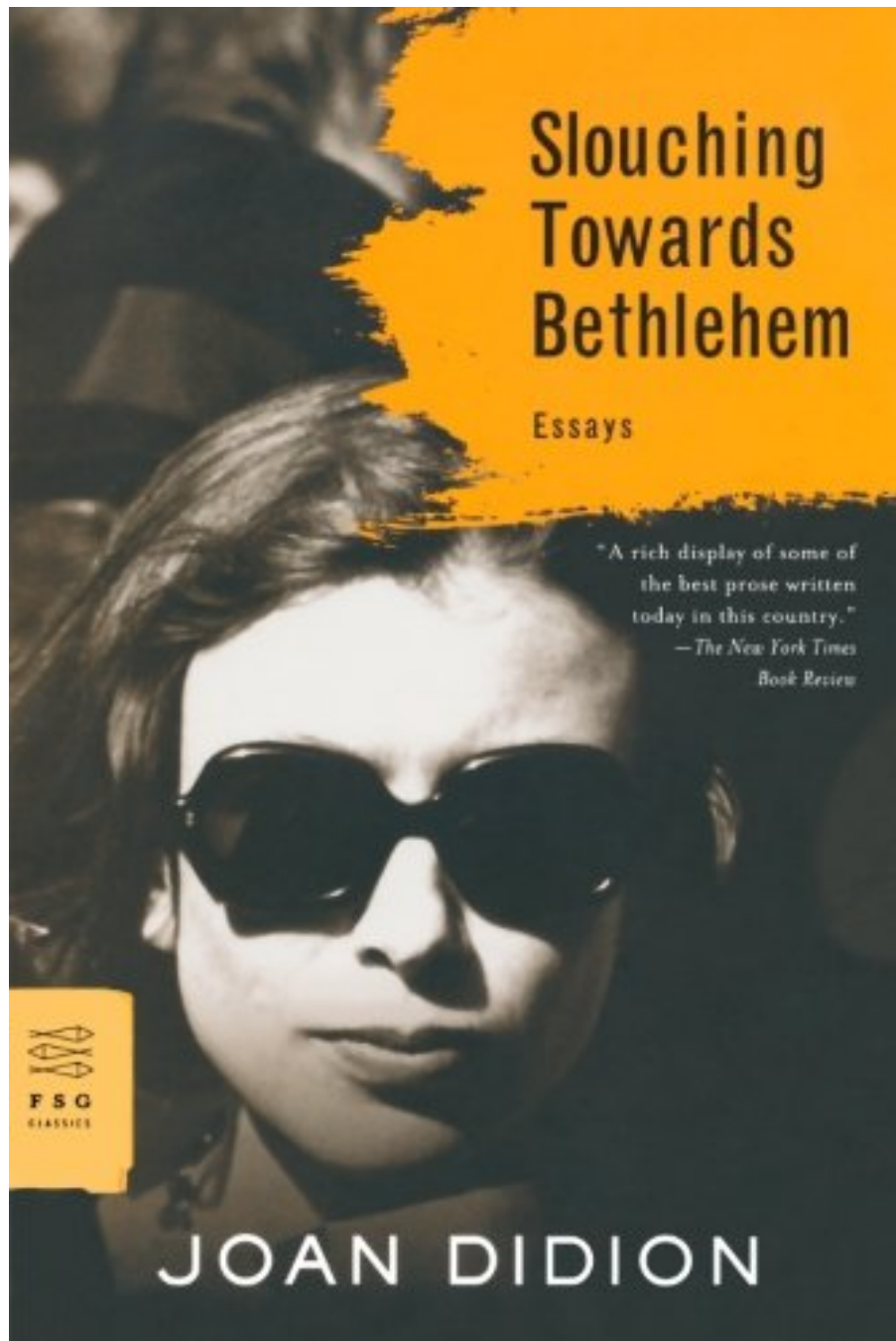


# **SLOUCHING TOWARDS BETHLEHEM: ESSAYS (FSG CLASSICS) BY JOAN DIDION**



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## Review

"In her portraits of people, Didion is not out to expose but to understand, and she shows us actors and millionaires, doomed brides and naive acid-trippers, left wing ideologues and snobs of the Hawaiian aristocracy in a way that makes them neither villainous nor glamorous, but alive and botched and often mournfully beautiful . . . A rich display of some of the best prose written today in this country." ?Dan Wakefield, The New York Times Book Review

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Upon its publication in 1968, Slouching Towards Bethlehem confirmed Joan Didion as one of the most prominent writers on the literary scene. Her unblinking vision and deadpan tone have influenced subsequent generations of reporters and essayists, changing our expectations of style, voice, and the artistic possibilities of nonfiction.

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- Sales Rank: #7294 in Books
- Brand: Didion, Joan
- Published on: 2008-10-28
- Released on: 2008-10-28
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.22" h x .66" w x 5.50" l, .54 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 256 pages

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--Alfred Kazin

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excellent example of the essay form

By J. Jacobs

Didion's collection of essays was recommended to me by writing instructors as an example of excellent essay writing. I found it to be just that. In the first third, she writes a series of remarkable essays about California in the late 1960s. The middle third contains personal essays. And the book finishes with a collection of essays about different places she's been - New York, Hartford, Hawaii, Sacramento.

What makes her writing most impressive is her masterful presentation of portraits, inserting herself just occasionally to remind the reader of who the photographer was, to inject humanity. She does an excellent job combining place and character and shows that long sentences can work. This book is useful both as an example to those who aspire to writing better essays and as a memorable voice from the 1960s.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Masterful, magical, genius

By A. C. Wilson

There aren't really words to describe Didion's work - she writes and her words leave the page, enter the air...and then enter the soul. A master truth teller.

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Exquisite craft, but dated out of its context

By explainer guy

The quality of writing on display cannot be argued with, but much of the material is well outside of its time, with little modern relevancy.

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