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# Online Library How It Is Samuel Beckett

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## **KEY=BECKETT - MAURICE GATES**

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### **HOW IT IS**

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Grove Press **This work relates the adventures of an unnamed narrator crawling through the mud while dragging a sack of canned food. It is written as a sequence of unpunctuated paragraphs divided into three sections.**

### **HOW IT IS**

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Grove/Atlantic, Inc. **"It is one thing to be informed by Shakespeare that life "is a tale told by an idiot signifying nothing"; it is something else to encounter the idea literally presented in a novel by Samuel Beckett. But I am reasonably certain that a sensitive reader who journeys through How It Is will leave the book convinced that Beckett says more that is relevant to experience in our time than Shakespeare does in Macbeth. It should come as no surprise if a decade or so hence How It Is is appraised as a masterpiece of modern literature. This poetic novel is Beckett at his height." — Webster Schott "A wonderful book, written in the sparest prose. . . . Beckett is one of the rare creative minds in our times." — Alan Pryce-Jones "What is novel is the absolute sureness of design. . . built phrase by phrase into a beautifully and tightly wrought structure — a few dozen expressions permuted with deliberate redundancy accumulate meaning even as they are emptied of it, and offer themselves as points of radiation in a strange web of utter illusion." — Hugh Kenner**

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## HOW IT IS

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Faber & Faber **Published in French in 1961, and in English in 1964, How It Is is a novel in three parts, written in short paragraphs, which tell (abruptly, cajolingly, bleakly) of a narrator lying in the dark, in the mud, repeating his life as he hears it uttered - or remembered - by another voice. Told from within, from the dark, the story is tirelessly and intimately explicit about the feelings that pervade his world, but fragmentary and vague about all else therein or beyond. Together with Molloy, How It Is counts for many readers as Beckett's greatest accomplishment in the novel form. It is also his most challenging narrative, both stylistically and for the pessimism of its vision, which continues the themes of reduced circumstance, of another life before the present, and the self-appraising search for an essential self, which were inaugurated in the great prose narratives of his earlier trilogy. she sits aloof ten yards fifteen yards she looks up looks at me says at last to herself all is well he is working my head where is my head it rests on the table my hand trembles on the table she sees I am not sleeping the wind blows tempestuous the little clouds drive before it the table glides from light to darkness darkness to light Edited by Edouard Magessa O'Reilly**

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## SAMUEL BECKETT'S HOW IT IS

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## PHILOSOPHY IN TRANSLATION

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Edinburgh University Press **A critical guide to the philosophy of Giorgio Agamben, organised around the philosophers and thinkers he draws on and critiques.**

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## SAMUEL BECKETT

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## A BIOGRAPHY

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Simon and Schuster **Samuel Beckett has become the standard work on the enigmatic, controversial, and Nobel Prize-winning creator of such contributions to 20th-century theater as Waiting for Godot and Endgame. 16 pages of black-and-white photographs.**

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## SAMUEL BECKETT

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Routledge **Bringing together seminal writings on Beckett from the 1950s and 1960s with critical readings from the**

1980s and 1990s, this collection is inspired by a wide variety of literary-theoretical approaches and covers the whole range of Beckett's creative work. Following an up-to-date review and analysis of Beckett criticism, fifteen extracts of Beckett criticism are introduced and set in context by editors' headnotes. The book aims to make easily accessible to students and scholars stimulating and innovative writing on the work of Samuel Beckett, representing the wide range of new perspectives opened up by contemporary critical theory: philosophical, political and psychoanalytic criticism, feminist and gender studies, semiotics, and reception theory.

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## WATT

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Grove/Atlantic, Inc. In prose possessed of the radically stripped-down beauty and ferocious wit that characterize his work, this early novel by Nobel Prize winner Samuel Beckett recounts the grotesque and improbable adventures of a fantastically logical Irish servant and his master. Watt is a beautifully executed black comedy that, at its core, is rooted in the powerful and terrifying vision that made Beckett one of the most influential writers of the twentieth century.

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## SAMUEL BECKETT

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Reaktion Books Writer Samuel Beckett (1906-89) is known for depicting a world of abject misery, failure, and absurdity in his many plays, novels, short stories, and poetry. Yet the despair in his work is never absolute, instead it is intertwined with black humor and an indomitable will to endure--characteristics best embodied by his most famous characters, Vladimir and Estragon, in the play *Waiting for Godot*. Beckett himself was a supremely modern, minimalist writer who deeply distrusted biographies and resisted letting himself be pigeonholed by easy interpretation or single definition. Andrew Gibson's accessible critical biography overcomes Beckett's reticence and carefully considers the writer's work in relation to the historical circumstances of his life. In *Samuel Beckett*, Gibson tracks Beckett from Ireland after independence to Paris in the late 1920s, from London in the '30s to Nazi Germany and Vichy France, and finally through the cold war to the fall of communism in the late '80s. Gibson narrates the progression of Beckett's life as a writer—from a student in Ireland to the 1969 Nobel Prize winner for literature—through chapters that examine individual historical events and the works that grew out of those experiences. A notoriously private figure, Beckett sought refuge from life in his work, where he expressed his disdain for the suffering and unnecessary absurdity of much that he witnessed. This concise and engaging biography provides an essential understanding of Beckett's work in

response to many of the most significant events of the past century.

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## **MURPHY**

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*Grove/Atlantic, Inc.* **Murphy, Samuel Beckett's first published novel, is set in London and Dublin, during the first decades of the Irish Republic. The title character loves Celia in a "striking case of love requited" but must first establish himself in London before his intended bride will make the journey from Ireland to join him. Beckett comically describes the various schemes that Murphy employs to stretch his meager resources and the pastimes that he uses to fill the hours of his days. Eventually Murphy lands a job as a nurse at Magdalen Mental Mercyseat hospital, where he is drawn into the mad world of the patients which ends in a fateful game of chess. While grounded in the comedy and absurdity of much of daily life, Beckett's work is also an early exploration of themes that recur throughout his entire body of work including sanity and insanity and the very meaning of life.**

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## **PHILOSOPHY OF SAMUEL BECKETT**

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*Alma Books* **creasingly Samuel Beckett's writing is seen as the culmination of the great literature of the twentieth century - succeeding the work of Proust, Joyce and Kafka. Beckett is a writer whose relevance to his time and use of poetic imagery can be compared to Shakespeare's in the late Renaissance. John Calder has examined the work of Beckett principally for what it has to say about our time in terms of philosophy, theology and ethics, and he points to aspects of his subject's thinking that others have ignored or preferred not to see. Samuel Beckett's acute mind pulled**

apart with courage and much humour the basic assumptions and beliefs by which most people live. His satire can be biting and his wit devastating. He found no escape from human tragedy in the comforts we build to shield ourselves from reality - even in art, which for most intellectuals has replaced religion. However, he did develop a moral message - one which is in direct contradiction to the values of ambition, success, acquisition and security which is normally held up for admiration, and he looks at the greed, God-worship, and cruelty to others which we increasingly take for granted, in a way that is both unconventional and revolutionary. If this study shocks many readers it is because the honesty, the integrity and the depth of Beckett's thinking - expressed through his novels, plays and poetry, but also through his other writings and correspondence - is itself shocking, to conventional thinking. Yet what he has to say is also comforting. He offers a different ethic and prescription for living - a message based on stoic courage, compassion and an ability to understand and forgive.

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### THE COLLECTED SHORTER PLAYS

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Grove Press "[Beckett] never set out to be a revolutionary but rather to investigate the particular advantages of theater for his characteristic meditations on being, dubious presence, seriocomic desolation, and the artistic imperative to 'fail again, fail better.' In the process, though, he ended up turning the theater world---famously liberal politically yet notoriously conservative regarding received forms---on its head."---Jonathan Kalb, The New York Times A winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, Samuel Beckett is recognized as one of the pivotal geniuses of modern literature. He was a minimalist master and produced some of his most highly regarded work for the stage in the form of the short play. This complete and definitive collection of twenty-five plays and "playlets" includes Beckett's celebrated Krapp's Last Tape, Embers, Cascando, Play, Eh Joe, Not I, and Footfalls, as well as his mimes, all his radio and television plays, his screenplay for Film, his adaptation of Robert Pinget's The Old Tune, and shorter dramatic works written later in his life, Catastrophe, What Where, Quad, and Nacht und Traume (Night and Dreams). "I think there are perhaps four playwrights of the twentieth century that we could not have done without: Chekhov, Pirandello, Brecht, and Beckett. I think if you've got those four, you've got the century covered." ---Edward Albee "After Godot, plots could be minimal, exposition expendable, characters contradictory, settings unlocalized, and dialogue unpredictable. Blatant farce could jostle tragedy."---Ruby Cohn

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## MOLLOY

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### A NOVEL

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Grove Press **Molloy**, the first of the three masterpieces which constitute Samuel Beckett's famous trilogy, appeared in French in 1951, followed seven months later by **Malone Dies** (*Malone meurt*) and two years later by **The Unnamable** (*L'Innommable*). Few works of contemporary literature have been so universally acclaimed as central to their time and to our understanding of the human experience.

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### COMMENT C'EST

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Psychology Press This book contains the English and French texts and a complete record of the genesis of each. Besides **Comment C'est How It Is**, O'Reilly has included *L'Image* and an excerpt from *Comment C'est* that was published later in another volume.

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### THREE NOVELS

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#### MOLLOY, MALONE DIES, THE UNNAMABLE

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Grove/Atlantic, Inc. Few works of contemporary literature are so universally acclaimed as central to our understanding of the human experience as Nobel Prize winner Samuel Beckett's famous trilogy. **Molloy**, the first of these masterpieces, appeared in French in 1951. It was followed seven months later by **Malone Dies** and two years later by **The Unnamable**. All three have been rendered into English by the author.

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#### THE COMPLETE SHORT PROSE, 1929-1989

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Grove Press Gathers the Nobel Prize winning poet and dramatist's short prose into one volume that affords the reader a view of Beckett's development as an artist

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#### SAMUEL BECKETT'S LIBRARY

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Cambridge University Press The first study examining the importance of the marginalia, inscriptions and manuscript notes in the 750 volumes of Beckett's library.

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## **DAMNED TO FAME: THE LIFE OF SAMUEL BECKETT**

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Bloomsbury Publishing Samuel Beckett's long-standing friend, James Knowlson, recreates Beckett's youth in Ireland, his studies at Trinity College, Dublin in the early 1920s and from there to the Continent, where he plunged into the multicultural literary society of late-1920s Paris. The biography throws new light on Beckett's stormy relationship with his mother, the psychotherapy he received after the death of his father and his crucial relationship with James Joyce. There is also material on Beckett's six-month visit to Germany as the Nazi's tightened their grip.;The book includes unpublished material on Beckett's personal life after he chose to live in France, including his own account of his work for a Resistance cell during the war, his escape from the Gestapo and his retreat into hiding.;Obsessively private, Beckett was wholly committed to the work which eventually brought his public fame, beginning with the controversial success of "Waiting for Godot" in 1953, and culminating in the award of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1969.;James Knowlson is the general editor of "The Theatrical Notebooks of Samuel Beckett".

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## **SAMUEL BECKETT**

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### **THE CRITICAL HERITAGE**

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Psychology Press The Collected Critical Heritage II comprises 40 volumes covering 19th and 20th century European and American authors. These volumes will be available as a complete set, mini boxes sets (by theme) or as individual volumes. This second set compliments the first 68 volume set of Critical Heritage published by Routledge in October 1995. The Critical Heritage series gathers together a large body of critical figures in literature. These selected sources include contemporary reviews from both popular and literary media.

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### **THREE NOVELS**

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#### **MOLLOY, MALONE DIES, THE UNNAMABLE**

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## UNDERSTANDING SAMUEL BECKETT

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Univ of South Carolina Press **Presents an overview of the work of Samuel Beckett. Discussing his famous as well as lesser known texts, the book shows how his characters incorporate silence in their speech to narrate their deaths. Finally it examines *Stirring Still*, his last text, which evokes his own imminent death.**

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## I CAN'T GO ON, I'LL GO ON

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## A SELECTION FROM SAMUEL BECKETT'S WORK

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Grove Press **Winner of the Nobel Prize for literature and acknowledged as one of the greatest writers of our time, Samuel Beckett has had a profound impact upon the literary landscape of the twentieth century. In this one-volume collection of his fiction, drama, poetry, and critical writings, we get an unsurpassed look at his work. Included, among others, are: - The complete plays *Waiting for Godot*, *Krapp's Last Tape*, *Cascando*, *Eh Joe*, *Not I*, and *That Time* - Selections from his novels *Murphy*, *Watt*, *Mercier and Camier*, *Molloy*, and *The Unnamable* - The shorter works "Dante and the Lobster," "The Expelled," *Imagination Dead Imagine*, and *Lessness* - A selection of Beckett's poetry and critical writings With an indispensable introduction by editor and Beckett intimate Richard Seaver, and featuring a useful select bibliography, *I Can't Go On, I'll Go On* is indeed an invaluable introduction to a writer who has changed the face of modern literature.**

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## COMPANY

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Riverrun Press **B+Una voz llega a alguien en la oscuridad.B; Este alguien yace boca arriba en la oscuridad, escuchando la voz que se dirige a él, a veces debilmente desde lejos, otras un murmullo al oído, la voz es B+compañíaB; la mente nunca cesa de hablar, recordar, sugerir, preguntar o simplemente, repetir alguna frase lúdica como una aguja atascada en el surco de un disco... Compañía es el texto más importante y más extenso - pese a su brevedad - que Beckett escribió en sus últimos años.Como escribió Aldo Tagliaferri: B+La especial densidad que lo caracteriza procede de su naturaleza paradigmática, puesto que en él reencontramos temas y tonos propios de obras anteriores. Su estructura, formada por varios segmentos de variable longitud y separados por una pausa, permite calculadas traslaciones de la anécdota parabiográfica a la reflexión, del tono lírico al argumentativo, del estilema que nos recuerda los primeros pasajes narrativos beckettianos al que recuerda los últimos.B; Compañía es un paso adelante en la exploración de lo**

finalmente inexplorable, en la odisea del autor descendiendo a los abismos de la imaginación creadora. Aunque, como siempre, Beckett ilumina sus propias tinieblas con austera hilaridad. B+Una nueva novela de Beckett es una obra de arte para saborear. Es un deleite para paladear. Es suntuoso. Es estimulante. Es intensamente sensual... Un inigualable maestro del idioma inglés, el más refinado artista verbal del siglo veinte B; (Peter Tinniswood, The Times).

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## **SAMUEL BECKETT**

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### **A CASEBOOK**

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Routledge First published in 1998. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

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### **THE COMPLETE DRAMATIC WORKS**

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The present volume gathers all of Beckett's texts for theatre, from 1955 to 1984. It includes both the major dramatic works and the short and more compressed texts for the stage and for radio. 'He believes in the cadence, the comma, the bite of word on reality, whatever else he believes; and his devotion to them, he makes clear, is a sufficient focus for the reader's attention. In the modern history of literature he is a unique moral figure, not a dreamer of rose-gardens but a cultivator of what will grow in the waste land, who can make us see the exhilarating design that thorns and yucca share with whatever will grow anywhere.' - Hugh Kenner Contents: Waiting for Godot, Endgame, Happy Days, All That Fall, Acts Without Words, Krapp's Last Tape, Roughs for the Theatre, Embers, Roughs for the Radio, Words and Music, Cascando, Play, Film, The Old Tune, Come and Go, Eh Joe, Breath, Not I, That Time, Footfalls, Ghost Trio,...but the clouds..., A Piece of Monologue, Rockaby, Ohio Impromptu, Quad, Catastrophe, Nacht und Traume, What Where.

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design that thorns and yucca share with whatever will grow anywhere.' - Hugh Kenner Contents: Waiting for Godot, Endgame, Happy Days, All That Fall, Acts Without Words, Krapp's Last Tape, Roughs for the Theatre, Embers, Roughs for the Radio, Words and Music, Cascando, Play, Film, The Old Tune, Come and Go, Eh Joe, Breath, Not I, That Time, Footfalls, Ghost Trio,...but the clouds..., A Piece of Monologue, Rockaby, Ohio Impromptu, Quad, Catastrophe, Nacht und Traume, What Where.

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## THE LETTERS OF SAMUEL BECKETT

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1941-1956

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## SAMUEL BECKETT

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## ANATOMY OF A LITERARY REVOLUTION

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Verso Books In this fascinating new exploration of Samuel Beckett's work, Pascale Casanova argues that Beckett's reputation rests on a pervasive misreading of his oeuvre, which neglects entirely the literary revolution he instigated. Reintroducing the historical into the heart of this body of work, Casanova provides an arresting portrait of Beckett as radically subversive—doing for writing what Kandinsky did for art—and in the process presents the key to some of the most profound enigmas of Beckett's writing.

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## THE NEW SAMUEL BECKETT STUDIES

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Cambridge University Press Discusses the most recent advances in the Beckett field and the new methods used to approach it.

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## COLLECTED POEMS IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH

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Grove/Atlantic, Inc. This collection gathers together the Nobel Prize-winning writer Samuel Beckett's English poems (including Whoroscope, his first published verse), English translations of poems by Eluard, Rimbaud, Apollinaire, and Chamfort, and poems in French, several of which are presented in translation.

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## THE THEOLOGY OF SAMUEL BECKETT

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Calder Publications John Calder analyzes the dualism of Beckett's theological writing, his debt to the Gnostics, Manichaeism and Geulincx in particular, the presence of ghosts in his work, and why his late writing has received so little attention. Like all the greatest writers, Samuel Beckett was primarily interested in discovering the meaning and purpose of life and of the world into which we are born. Knowledgeable about the religion his family and education instilled in him, which as an adult he could neither accept nor reject, he used it extensively in his novels, plays, and poetry. Beckett's works also explored philosophy and the imaginative world of Dante and Milton, as well as the theories of Darwin and scientific speculation, in order to create a literature that investigates human destiny more deeply and originally than any other writer had done before. This study will open up the much underestimated Beckett to deeper understanding and provide enjoyment to the many who have become convinced that this once derided author is one of the major literary figures of his time.

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## HAPPY DAYS

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### A PLAY IN TWO ACTS

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Grove/Atlantic, Inc. In *Happy Days*, Samuel Beckett pursues his relentless search for the meaning of existence, probing the tenuous relationships that bind one person to another, and each to the universe, top time past and time present. Once again, stripping theater to its barest essentials, *Happy Days* offers only two characters: Winnie, a woman of about fifty, and Willie, a man of about sixty. In the first act Winnie is buried up to her waist in a mound of earth, but still has the use of her arms and few earthly possessions—toothbrush, tube of toothpaste, small mirror, revolver, handkerchief, spectacles; in the second act she is embedded up to her neck and can move only her eyes. Willie lives and moves—on all fours—behind the mound, appearing intermittently and replying only occasionally into Winnie's long monologue, but the knowledge of his presence is a source of comfort and inspiration to her, and doubtless the prerequisite for all her "happy days."

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## SAMUEL BECKETT'S THEATRE

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## **LIFE JOURNEYS**

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Oxford University Press **The critical discussion highlights the unique fusion on Beckett's stage of cosmic scenery and humorous individualism.**"--Jacket.

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## **THE COLLECTED POEMS OF SAMUEL BECKETT**

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### **A CRITICAL EDITION**

It was as a poet that Samuel Beckett launched himself in the little reviews of 1930s Paris, and as a poet that he ended his career. The Collected Poems is the most complete edition of Beckett's poetry and verse translations ever to be published, as well as the first critical edition. It establishes a significant new canon, and the commentary draws on a wide range of published sources, manuscripts and Beckett's extensive correspondence. The notes place each poem in context, detailing the history and circumstances of its composition; they indicate significant variants and help explain obscure turns of phrase and allusions (frequently sourced to Beckett's notebooks); they also identify resonances between poems and across Beckett's work as a whole. The commentary is written in a lively and engaging style and is intended equally for the general reader, the student of modernism and the Beckett specialist.

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## **THE COLLECTED SHORTER PLAYS OF SAMUEL BECKETT**

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### **ALL THAT FALL, ACT WITHOUT WORDS, KRAPP'S LAST TAPE, CASCANDO, EH JOE, FOOTFALL, ROCKABY AND OTHERS**

Grove/Atlantic, Inc. **Samuel Beckett, the great minimalist master and winner of the 1969 Nobel Prize for Literature, has produced some of his most widely praised work for the stage in the form of the shorter play. This complete and definitive collection of twenty-five plays and "playlets" includes Beckett's celebrated Krapp's Last Tape, Embers, Cascando, Play, Eh Joe, Not I, and Footfalls, as well as his mimes, all his radio and television plays, his screenplay for Film, his adaptation of Robert Pignet's The Old Tune, and more recent Catastrophe, What Where, Quad, and Night and Dreams. Includes: All That Fall Act Without Words I Act Without Words II Krapp's Last Tape Rough for Theatre I Rough for Theatre II Embers Rough for Radio I Rough for Radio II Words and Music Cascando Play Film The Old Tune Come and Go Eh Joe Breath Not I That Time Footfalls Ghost Trio ...but the clouds... A Piece of Monologue Rockaby Ohio Impromptu**

Quad Catastrophe Nacht und Träume What Where

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## **THE GROVE COMPANION TO SAMUEL BECKETT**

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### **A READER'S GUIDE TO HIS WORKS, LIFE, AND THOUGHT**

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Grove Press From A to Z, this is an indispensable guide to the works, life, and thought of one of the most important writers of our time. The Nobel Prize-winning author Samuel Beckett was a literary treasure, and this work represents the only comprehensive reference to the concepts, characters, and biographical details mentioned by, or related to, Beckett. Painstakingly and lovingly compiled by acclaimed Beckett scholars C. J. Ackerley and S. E. Gontarski, it is alphabetical, cross-referenced, and laid out in a very user-friendly format. The Grove Companion to Samuel Beckett provides an organized trove of information for students and scholars alike, and is a must for any serious reader of Beckett.

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## **MYTH AND RITUAL IN THE PLAYS OF SAMUEL BECKETT**

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Fairleigh Dickinson Univ Press All of the essays in this collection reflect a sense that Beckett's power as a playwright derives largely from a mythic vision that informs his drama. Their approaches to the definition and use of myth and ritual in his plays vary considerably, however, ranging from the Jungian to the Marxian to the Lacanian, and drawing on the theories of Campbell, Freud, Eliade, Frye, Turner, Girard, Baudrillard, and others.

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## **THE WORLD OF SAMUEL BECKETT**

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Johns Hopkins University Press Following his earlier account of The Anglo-Japanese Alliance from 1894 to 1907, Dr Nish's book studies the renewal of the alliance in 1911 and the working relationship between the two countries until the alliance ended in 1923. First published in 1972, this title is part of the Bloomsbury Academic Collections series.

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## **ALL THAT FALL**

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## **A PLAY FOR RADIO**

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Published to celebrate the centenary of Beckett's birth

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## TRANSLATING SAMUEL BECKETT AROUND THE WORLD

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Springer Nature **The global reception of Samuel Beckett raises numerous questions: in which areas of the world was Beckett first translated? Why were Beckett texts sometimes slow to penetrate certain cultures? How were national literatures impacted by Beckett's oeuvre? Translating Samuel Beckett around the World brings together leading researchers in Beckett studies to discuss these questions and explore the fate of Beckett in their own societies and national languages. The current text provides ample coverage of the presence of Beckett in geographical contexts normally ignored by literary criticism, and reveals unknown aspects of the 1969 Nobel Prize winner interacting with translators of his work in a number of different countries.**