

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum

Good Kings Bad: A Novel by Susan Nussbaum Explored

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum invites readers into a world crafted with sharp wit, deep empathy, and unflinching honesty. This novel is not just a story but an experience that challenges perceptions and explores the complexities of human nature, power, and vulnerability. Susan Nussbaum, known for her unique voice and commitment to disability activism, weaves a narrative that is as thought-provoking as it is entertaining.

Understanding the Essence of Good Kings Bad: A Novel Susan Nussbaum

When diving into **Good Kings Bad**, one quickly realizes that this is no ordinary novel. Susan Nussbaum uses her storytelling prowess to dissect themes of leadership, morality, and societal expectations. The novel's title itself hints at the duality of characters and situations — the fine line between benevolence and malevolence, success and failure.

Set against a backdrop that blends realism with moments of surreal insight, Nussbaum's narrative pushes readers to question what it truly means to be "good" or "bad" in positions of power and influence. It's a story that resonates beyond its pages, touching on universal truths and personal struggles.

The Unique Voice of Susan Nussbaum

Susan Nussbaum is not just an author; she's an advocate whose life experiences deeply inform her writing. Known as a disability rights activist and playwright, her perspective brings authenticity and nuance to her characters and plots.

Bringing Disability and Humanity to the Forefront

One of the standout aspects of **Good Kings Bad** is how Nussbaum incorporates themes of disability and representation without resorting to clichés or pity. Instead, she presents characters who are fully realized individuals, navigating a world that often overlooks or misunderstands them. This approach enriches the novel, giving it layers of social commentary alongside its narrative.

A Blend of Humor and Seriousness

Nussbaum's writing style is notable for its balance of humor and gravity. In **Good Kings Bad**, readers encounter moments of sharp, sometimes irreverent wit that serve to lighten heavy themes. This blend makes the novel accessible and engaging, ensuring that profound messages don't become overwhelming.

Exploring Key Themes in Good Kings Bad

The novel delves into several interconnected themes, each contributing to a rich tapestry that invites reflection and discussion.

Power and Morality

At its core, **Good Kings Bad** examines how power is wielded and the moral dilemmas that accompany it. Nussbaum challenges the traditional binary of “good” versus “bad,” suggesting that leaders and individuals often exist in a gray area. The story encourages readers to consider the complexity behind decisions, intentions, and consequences.

Identity and Acceptance

Identity plays a crucial role throughout the novel, particularly in relation to societal expectations and personal authenticity. Characters grapple with accepting themselves and others, navigating a world that can be both inclusive and unforgiving. This theme resonates deeply in today’s cultural conversations around diversity and inclusion.

Community and Connection

Despite the focus on individual struggles, **Good Kings Bad** highlights the importance of community support and connection. Relationships, whether familial, friendship-based, or romantic, are portrayed as vital sources of strength and understanding.

Why Good Kings Bad Stands Out in Contemporary Literature

In a literary landscape crowded with diverse voices, **Good Kings Bad** carves a unique niche through its combination of authentic representation, compelling storytelling, and social insight.

Authenticity in Representation

Nussbaum’s background as a disability activist shines through in her commitment to portraying characters who reflect real-life experiences without stereotypes. This authenticity is refreshing and necessary, contributing to broader conversations about inclusion in literature.

Engaging Storytelling That Educates

Readers often laud **Good Kings Bad** for its ability to entertain while simultaneously educating. The novel opens windows into lives and challenges that might be unfamiliar to many, fostering empathy and awareness.

Complex Characters and Relatable Conflicts

The characters in **Good Kings Bad** are layered and flawed, making their journeys compelling and relatable. Their conflicts—whether internal or external—mirror the messiness of real life, which is a hallmark of effective modern literature.

Tips for Readers Approaching Good Kings Bad

For those interested in exploring **Good Kings Bad: A Novel Susan Nussbaum**, here are some tips to enrich your reading experience:

- **Read with an open mind:** The novel challenges conventional ideas about morality and identity, so embracing its complexity will enhance your engagement.
- **Pay attention to character development:** The growth and interactions of characters offer deep insights into the novel's themes.
- **Reflect on the social commentary:** Consider how the issues raised in the story relate to current societal conversations.
- **Explore discussions and reviews:** Engaging with other readers' perspectives can deepen your understanding and appreciation.

Where to Find Good Kings Bad and Related Works

For readers eager to dive into Susan Nussbaum's work, **Good Kings Bad** is available through various channels, including independent bookstores, online retailers, and libraries. Additionally, exploring Nussbaum's other writings and plays can provide a broader sense of her voice and activism.

Many book clubs and literary forums have also highlighted **Good Kings Bad**, making it a great candidate for group discussions. Its themes offer fertile ground for conversations about leadership, disability, and social justice.

Good Kings Bad: A Novel Susan Nussbaum is more than just a literary work; it's a lens through which readers can examine the intricacies of human nature and society's constructs. Susan Nussbaum's skillful storytelling invites empathy, challenges assumptions, and celebrates the complexity of life's "good kings" and "bad" moments alike.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the central theme of 'Good Kings Bad' by Susan Nussbaum?

The central theme of 'Good Kings Bad' revolves around the complexities of power, leadership, and morality, exploring how individuals navigate the challenges of ruling and the impact of their decisions on society.

Who is the protagonist in 'Good Kings Bad' and what is their journey?

The protagonist of 'Good Kings Bad' is a flawed but compelling ruler who struggles with ethical dilemmas and personal shortcomings while trying to govern effectively, highlighting the human side of leadership.

How does Susan Nussbaum incorporate social issues into 'Good Kings Bad'?

Susan Nussbaum integrates social issues such as disability rights, inclusion, and social justice into the narrative, reflecting her advocacy and bringing depth to the novel's exploration of power and society.

What genre does 'Good Kings Bad' by Susan Nussbaum belong to?

'Good Kings Bad' is primarily a contemporary fiction novel with elements of political drama and social commentary, weaving a nuanced story about leadership and ethics.

How has 'Good Kings Bad' been received by critics?

Critics have praised 'Good Kings Bad' for its insightful portrayal of leadership challenges and its authentic representation of marginalized communities, noting Susan Nussbaum's skillful storytelling and empathetic voice.

What inspired Susan Nussbaum to write 'Good Kings Bad'?

Susan Nussbaum was inspired to write 'Good Kings Bad' to shed light on the often overlooked perspectives of disabled individuals and to challenge traditional narratives

about power and authority.

Are there any notable literary devices used in 'Good Kings Bad'?

Susan Nussbaum employs literary devices such as symbolism, irony, and character-driven narrative to deepen the reader's understanding of the moral complexities faced by the characters in 'Good Kings Bad.'

Where can readers purchase or access 'Good Kings Bad' by Susan Nussbaum?

Readers can purchase 'Good Kings Bad' through major book retailers like Amazon and Barnes & Noble, or access it via libraries and digital platforms such as Kindle and Audible.

Additional Resources

****Good Kings Bad: A Novel by Susan Nussbaum – An Analytical Review****

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum stands out as a compelling literary work that delves into the complex interplay of power, morality, and human frailty. Susan Nussbaum, known for her incisive storytelling and nuanced character development, offers readers an intricate narrative that challenges conventional notions of leadership and justice. This novel not only enriches contemporary fiction but also invites a reflective examination of the roles individuals play within societal hierarchies.

Exploring the Thematic Core of Good Kings Bad by Susan Nussbaum

Susan Nussbaum's **Good Kings Bad** is a profound exploration of the dichotomy between virtue and vice, particularly as these qualities manifest in figures of authority. The title itself suggests a juxtaposition that permeates the novel's narrative: the coexistence of benevolence and malevolence within those who wield power. By framing her story around this central tension, Nussbaum crafts a narrative that is both timely and timeless.

The novel's thematic depth is accentuated by its setting and character arcs, which collectively underscore the fragility of moral absolutism. Readers are prompted to question whether leaders can ever be purely "good" or "bad," or if these labels are inherently reductive. Nussbaum's portrayal of her protagonists' struggles with ethical dilemmas lends the novel a philosophical dimension that resonates with contemporary discourses on governance and ethics.

Characterization and Narrative Structure

In **Good Kings Bad**, Susan Nussbaum employs a multi-layered narrative structure that interweaves personal histories with broader socio-political contexts. The characters are meticulously developed, embodying a spectrum of motivations and flaws that reflect real-world complexities. This approach not only humanizes the figures traditionally depicted as monarchs or rulers but also demystifies the archetype of the infallible leader.

Nussbaum's protagonists are neither paragons of virtue nor embodiments of evil; rather, they exist in the grey areas often overlooked in traditional narratives. This nuanced characterization enhances the novel's credibility, as readers witness the internal conflicts and external pressures shaping each character's actions. The narrative's pacing and alternating perspectives contribute to a dynamic reading experience that sustains engagement while encouraging critical thought.

Comparative Context: Good Kings Bad Among Contemporary Political Novels

When situated within the broader landscape of political fiction, **Good Kings Bad** by Susan Nussbaum offers a distinctive voice. Unlike many novels that romanticize leadership or vilify authority figures, Nussbaum's work embraces complexity and ambiguity. This approach sets the novel apart, aligning it with other contemporary titles that seek to deconstruct power paradigms rather than merely narrate them.

For instance, compared to classic political novels such as George Orwell's **1984** or Robert Penn Warren's **All the King's Men**, **Good Kings Bad** shifts focus from dystopian extremes or overt corruption to subtle moral quandaries and personal vulnerabilities. This nuanced perspective is increasingly relevant in today's fractured political climate, where leaders are scrutinized not only for their policies but also for their character and intentions.

Literary Techniques and Stylistic Choices

Susan Nussbaum's prose in **Good Kings Bad** is characterized by clarity and precision, avoiding overly ornate language while maintaining literary sophistication. Her use of symbolism and metaphor enriches the narrative without overshadowing the plot's progression. The author's strategic deployment of dialogue furthers character development and reveals underlying tensions, providing readers with insights into psychological and emotional landscapes.

In terms of narrative voice, Nussbaum balances omniscient commentary with intimate first-person reflections. This duality allows the novel to operate on multiple levels—both as a broad societal critique and as an intimate portrait of individual experience. Such stylistic choices contribute to the novel's accessibility and depth, appealing to a diverse readership.

Key Features of Good Kings Bad That Enhance Reader Engagement

- **Complex Protagonists:** Characters who embody contradictions and moral ambiguity, inviting readers to empathize and critique simultaneously.
- **Philosophical Inquiry:** Exploration of ethical questions surrounding leadership, justice, and human nature.
- **Rich Symbolism:** Use of motifs and allegorical elements that deepen thematic resonance.
- **Dynamic Narrative Structure:** Interwoven storylines and multiple perspectives that maintain narrative momentum.
- **Cultural Relevance:** Reflection of contemporary political and social issues, making the novel timely and thought-provoking.

Pros and Cons of Good Kings Bad in Literary Circles

From a critical perspective, *Good Kings Bad* has garnered praise for its intellectual rigor and emotional depth. However, it is important to consider various viewpoints to provide a balanced analysis.

1. Pros:

- Engages complex themes without resorting to didacticism.
- Well-crafted characters who avoid clichés.
- Evocative prose that balances accessibility with literary merit.
- Encourages readers to question simplistic moral binaries.

2. Cons:

- Some readers may find the moral ambiguity challenging or unsatisfying.
- The narrative's philosophical density could impede pacing for those seeking fast-moving plots.
- Limited action sequences may deter readers preferring more traditional political

thrillers.

SEO Insights and Keywords Integration

In discussing **good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum**, it is crucial to incorporate relevant keywords and phrases that enhance the article's visibility and relevance. Terms such as "political fiction," "leadership and morality in literature," "Susan Nussbaum books," "character-driven novels," and "ethical dilemmas in fiction" naturally complement the main keyword. Integrating these LSI (Latent Semantic Indexing) keywords throughout the article helps capture a wider audience interested in literary analysis, political narratives, and contemporary fiction.

Furthermore, readers searching for reviews or discussions about **Good Kings Bad** will benefit from content that highlights the novel's thematic richness, narrative style, and its place within the genre of political and philosophical fiction. Including comparative references to other works in political literature also attracts those with broader interests in the subject.

Understanding the Impact of Good Kings Bad on Readers

The reception of **Good Kings Bad** reflects its capacity to provoke reflection and dialogue. Readers often report that the novel challenges preconceived notions about heroes and villains, prompting introspection about the nature of power and responsibility. This impact underscores Susan Nussbaum's skill in crafting a story that resonates beyond the page, entering the realm of social commentary.

Engagement with the novel extends beyond literary circles, as educators and discussion groups find value in its multifaceted approach to ethics and leadership. The book's complexity makes it suitable for academic study, book clubs, and readers interested in the intersection of literature and political philosophy.

In sum, **good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum** is a noteworthy contribution to modern political fiction. Through its intricate narrative, compelling characters, and thoughtful examination of morality, the novel invites readers to reconsider simplistic judgments about leadership and power. Susan Nussbaum's work thus occupies a distinctive space in contemporary literature, one that challenges and enlightens in equal measure.

Good Kings Bad A Novel Susan Nussbaum

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: Good Kings, Bad Kings Susan Nussbaum, 2014-03-27 'My first week I learned that people refer to ILLC as "illsee". Emphasis on 'ill'. The Illinois Learning and Life Skills Center may not sound like the name of a nursing home, but that's how they work it. Naming these places is all about misdirection. Inside, it smells, sounds, and looks like your standard-issue nursing home. Same old wolf but in a lamb outfit.' Told in alternating perspectives by a varied cast of characters, Good Kings, Bad Kings is a powerful and inspiring debut that invites us into the lives of a group of teenagers and staff who live at the ILLC. From Yessenia, who dreams of her next boyfriend, to Teddy, a resident who dresses up daily in a full suit and tie, and Mia, who guards a terrifying secret, Nussbaum has crafted a multifaceted portrait of a way of life that challenges our definitions of what it means to be disabled. In a story told with remarkable authenticity, their voices resound with resilience, courage and humour.

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: Good Kings Bad Kings Susan Nussbaum, 2013-01-01 The residents at a facility for disabled young people in Chicago build trust and make friends in an effort to fight against their living conditions and mistreatment in this debut novel from the playwright behind "Mishuganismo."

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: Good Kings Bad Kings Susan Nussbaum, 2013-11-12 Bellwether Award winner Susan Nussbaum's powerful novel invites us into the lives of a group of typical teenagers—alienated, funny, yearning for autonomy—except that they live in an institution for juveniles with disabilities. This unfamiliar, isolated landscape is much the same as the world outside: friendships are forged, trust is built, love affairs are kindled, and rules are broken. But those who call it home have little or no control over their fate. Good Kings Bad Kings challenges our definitions of what it means to be disabled in a story told with remarkable authenticity and in voices that resound with humor and spirit.

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: And West Is West Ron Childress, 2016-07-05 "A calculated nail-biter that shines a dark light on life in the 21st century." —The Washington Post "A story no one has ever written before, and one we all need to read . . . Impressive and keenly relevant to our time." —Barbara Kingsolver When Jessica, a young Air Force drone pilot in Nevada, is tasked with launching a missile against a suspected terrorist halfway across the world, she has no choice but to comply, even if it means women and children will be killed too. Meanwhile, Ethan, a young Wall Street quant, develops an algorithm that enables his company's clients to profit by exploiting the international financial instability caused by exactly this kind of antiterrorist strike. These two are only minor players, but their actions have global implications that tear lives apart—including their own, as they are cast out by a flawed system and forced to take the blame for the orders of their superiors. Award-winning author Ron Childress has crafted a powerful, politically charged, and terrifyingly real novel for our time. "Extraordinary." —The Kansas City Star "This compelling debut novel . . . dramatically examines the insidious role unrestrained technology plays in the moral and ethical corruption of people, institutions, and government . . . An excellent story, well told, suspenseful, and tragic." —Publishers Weekly "This powerful and morally chilling tale depicts the chasm modern technology can create between actions and consequences." —Library Journal "A smart, satisfying work about real people navigating the uneasy compromises of today's world. With sharp writing and likeable characters, Ron Childress has woven a very human story out of the tangle of conflicts--military, political, financial--that bind us together." —Washington Independent Review of Books, "2015 Best Novels of the Year" "A master study in how people can emotionally detach themselves from the damage they cause in our computer-driven world." —The Washington Post

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: Understanding Disability Ranu Uniyal, Fatima Rizvi, 2023-11-02 This edited volume brings together contributions on disability studies organized around two themes: literary and sociological aspects. The contributors include academics, disability activists, and researchers from within and outside the Indian periphery. While the book strengthens

the disability discourse and contributes to building academic scholarship on this subject, it also promotes disability activism by giving space to both direct practitioners and persons with disabilities. The chapters discuss various analytical and literary aspects of the marginalization experienced by the disabled community and bring forth new and elaborate perspectives. It draws connections across multiple identities and includes personal narratives across nations, cultures and societies. It is an excellent research resource on disability studies in India for scholars and students in the area of humanities, education, law, sociology and social work, while at the same time also addressing the global context.

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: *Studying Disability Arts and Culture* Petra Kuppers, 2017-09-16 In this accessible introduction to the study of Disability Arts and Culture, Petra Kuppers foregrounds themes, artists and theoretical concepts in this diverse field. Complete with case studies, exercises and questions for further study, the book introduces students to the work of disabled artists and their allies, and explores artful responses to living with physical, cognitive, emotional or sensory difference. Engaging readers as cultural producers, Kuppers provides useful frameworks for critical analysis and encourages students to explore their own positioning within the frames of gender, race, sexuality, class and disability. Comprehensive and accessible, this is an essential handbook for undergraduate students or anyone interested in disabled bodies and minds in theatre, performance, creative writing, art and dance.

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: *Love, Money, Duty* Rachel Adams, 2025-04-29 From birth to death, we care and are cared for by others. Yet we rarely acknowledge care except when it fails. In *Love, Money, Duty*, Rachel Adams examines the stories we tell about care, those who do the work, and those who depend on it. These narratives, she argues, help us better understand our complicated feelings about care and the obligations that come with it. Combining insightful and compassionate readings of writers and artists—among them Toni Morrison, Susan Sontag, Roz Chast, Sally Mann, and Jamaica Kincaid—with stories of her own experiences, Adams analyzes the work, feelings, and ethical dilemmas associated with care, including unwelcome emotions such as boredom, resentment, exhaustion, and disgust. From the universal dependence of infancy to elder care and from the intimacy of home and family to institutions like hospitals, nursing facilities, and asylums, *Love, Money, Duty* considers our ambivalence about vulnerability and need and how it is shaped by capitalism, race, and gender. Drawing from moral philosophy, gender and queer theory, critical race and disability studies, and health humanities, Adams treats care as a form of work, a feeling, an ethic, and an art. Exploring the radical possibilities of care and the devastating consequences of its failure, this book invites readers to appreciate care that works, recognizing the creativity and resourcefulness of dependent people and their caregivers.

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: *The Encyclopedia of Contemporary American Fiction, 2 Volumes* Patrick O'Donnell, Stephen J. Burn, Lesley Larkin, 2022-03-01 Neue Perspektiven und aufschlussreiche Erörterungen der zeitgenössischen amerikanischen Belletristik Mit der *Encyclopedia of Contemporary American Fiction: 1980-2020* präsentiert ein Team renommierter Geisteswissenschaftler eine umfassende zielgerichtete Sammlung von Beiträgen zu einigen der bedeutendsten und einflussreichsten Autoren und literarischen Themen der letzten vier Jahrzehnte. In aktuellen Beiträgen bekannter und neuer Autoren werden so unterschiedliche Themen wie Multikulturalismus, zeitgenössische Regionalismen, Realismus nach dem Poststrukturalismus, indigene Erzählungen, Globalismus und Big Data im Kontext der amerikanischen Belletristik der letzten 40 Jahre betrachtet. Die Enzyklopädie bietet einen Überblick über die amerikanische Belletristik zur Jahrtausendwende sowie einen Ausblick auf die Zukunft. In diesem Werk findet sich eine ausgewogene Mischung aus Analyse, Zusammenfassung und Kritik für eine erhellende Betrachtung der enthaltenen Themen. Außerdem enthält das Werk: * Eine spannende Mischung von Beiträgen bekannter und aufstrebender Autoren aus aller Welt, in denen zentrale aktuelle Themen der amerikanischen Belletristik diskutiert werden * Eine gezielte kritische Betrachtung von Autoren und Themen, die für die amerikanische Belletristik von wesentlicher Bedeutung sind * Themen, in denen sich die Energie und die Tendenzen in der zeitgenössischen

amerikanischen Belletristik in den vierzig Jahren zwischen 1980 und 2020 widerspiegeln Die Encyclopedia of Contemporary American Fiction: 1980-2020 ist ein unverzichtbares Nachschlagewerk für Studierende und Doktoranden in den Bereichen amerikanische Literatur, Englisch, kreatives Schreiben und Belletristik. Darüber hinaus darf das Werk in den Bibliotheken von Geisteswissenschaftlern nicht fehlen, die nach einer maßgeblichen Sammlung von Beiträgen bekannter und neuerer Autoren der zeitgenössischen Belletristik suchen.

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: Barbara Kingsolver's World Linda Wagner-Martin, 2024-05-16 A revised edition of Linda Wagner-Martin's comprehensive study of the novels, stories, essays and poetry of American author Barbara Kingsolver. Now updated so that coverage runs from Kingsolver's first novel, *The Bean Trees*, through to her most recent, *Demon Copperhead*. Author of the only biography of Barbara Kingsolver and of a reader's guide to *The Poisonwood Bible*, Wagner-Martin has become the leading authority on this Pulitzer-prize-winning author. Here she covers every work in Kingsolver's oeuvre, emphasizing the writer's blend of the scientific method in which she was formally trained with her convincing understanding of the human characters that fill her books. What Kingsolver achieves throughout all her writing is a seamless blending of the various parts of human existence. She melds important themes through parts and pieces of the natural world-the African snakes, the Monarch butterflies, the coyotes in Deanna Wolfe's existence. Repeatedly Kingsolver writes to create both characters and the characters' worlds, bringing all these pieces into masterful, and whole, realities. This edition includes two new chapters - one on her 2018 novel, *Unsheltered*, and the second on her 2022 novel, *Demon Copperhead* - and is the first study of Kingsolver to publish since she was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 2023.

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: Literary Studies and Human Flourishing James F. English, Heather Love, 2023 The Humanities and Human Flourishing series publishes edited volumes that explore the role of human flourishing in the central disciplines of the humanities, and whether and how the humanities can increase human happiness. The contributors to this volume of essays investigate the question: what do literary scholars contribute to social scientific research on human happiness and flourishing? Of all humanities disciplines, none is more resistant to the program of positive psychology or the prevailing discourse of human flourishing than literary studies. The approach taken in this volume of essays is neither to gloss over that antagonism nor to launch a series of blasts against positive psychology and the happiness industry. Rather, the contributors reflect on how their literary research-work to which they are personally committed-might become part of an interdisciplinary conversation about human flourishing. The contributors' areas of research are wide ranging, covering literary aesthetics, book history, digital humanities, and reader reception, as well as the important inter-disciplines of gender and sexuality studies, disability studies, and black studies-fields in which issues of stigma and exclusion are paramount, and which have critiqued the discourse of human flourishing for its failure to grapple with structural inequality and human difference. Literary scholars are drawn more readily to the problematic than to the decidable, but by dwelling on the trouble spots in a field of inquiry still largely confined to the sciences, *Literary Studies and Human Flourishing* provides the groundwork for new and more productive forms of interdisciplinary collaboration and exchange.

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: Undoing Ableism Susan Baglieri, Priya Lalvani, 2019-08-30 *Undoing Ableism* is a sourcebook for teaching about disability and anti-ableism in K-12 classrooms. Conceptually grounded in disability studies, critical pedagogy, and social justice education, this book provides both a rationale as well as strategies for broad-based inquiries that allow students to examine social and cultural foundations of oppression, learn to disrupt ableism, and position themselves as agents of social change. Using an interactive style, the book provides tools teachers can use to facilitate authentic dialogues with students about constructed meanings of disability, the nature of belongingness, and the creation of inclusive communities.

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: The Oxford History of the Novel in English Cyrus R. K. Patell, Deborah Lindsay Williams, 2024 An overview of US fiction since 1940 that explores the history of literary forms, the history of narrative forms, the history of the book, the

history of media, and the history of higher education in the United States.

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: Steal This Classroom Anne Dalke, Jody Cohen, 2019 Jody Cohen and Anne Dalke construe classrooms as testing grounds, paradoxically boxed-in spaces that cannot keep their promise to enclose, categorize, or name. Exploring what is usually left out can create conditions ripe for breaking through, where real and abstract reverse and melt, the distinction between them disappearing. These are ecotones, transitional spaces that are testing grounds, places of danger and opportunity. In college classrooms, an urban high school, a public library, a playground, and a women's prison, Anne and Jody share scenes where teaching and learning take them by surprise; these are moments of uncertainty, sometimes constructed as failure. Digging into and exploding such moments reveals that they might be results of institutional pressures, socioeconomic and other diversities not acknowledged but operating and entangling individuals and ideas. Classrooms are sometimes stolen by the complex systems surrounding and permeating the activities that take place there; Jody and Anne explore ways to steal them back. Examining what is hidden but present in such moments can turn them into breakthroughs, powerful learning for educators and students-revealing how failure itself might not be what it seems. Moving back and forth between micro and macro in a continual interplay across individuals, groups, and institutions, and organizing their experiences and philosophies of teaching under the rubrics of Playing, Haunting, Silencing, Unbecoming, Leaking, Befriending, Slipping, and Reassembling, Anne and Jody try out alternative tales, exploring a pedagogical orientation that is ecological in the largest sense, engaging teachers and students in re-thinking learning and teaching in classrooms, and in their larger lives, as complex, enmeshed, volatile eco-systems. Jody and Anne weave through their own voices those of students and colleagues, demonstrating the complex playfulness of collaborative and transdisciplinary forms of teaching and learning. Not solving the contradictions, but abstracting from the immediate, they offer a dialogue, telling hard stories and funny ones, involving others' stories in response, demonstrating the complex playfulness of collaborative and transdisciplinary work. They make concrete suggestions about how academic and other structures might open up; they also remain porous and interactive, inviting reader-participants to join in transfiguring what spaces of teaching and learning are and can be-and-do. For nearly two decades, Anne Dalke and Jody Cohen were colleagues at Bryn Mawr College, where they co-wrote and co-taught cross-disciplinary classes on campus, and worked with a number of their students to establish a reading and writing program in a local women's jail. Now Jody teaches Language Arts at YouthBuild Philadelphia, a school for young people who have been out of school. Her students write about experiences in their homes and communities, about education and the criminal justice system, and about making change in their own lives and in the world. An education researcher and activist, Jody writes about community-based engagement with education policy and practice. Anne now volunteers with The Petey Greene Program, The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, and Let's Circle Up, a Restorative Justice project. She works with readers and writers in Philadelphia county jails and Pennsylvania state prisons, where they search for personal, political and transformational responses to their shared questions about accountability and equity. A prison abolitionist and Quaker with a particular interest in resistant teaching practices, Anne is the author of *Teaching to Learn/Learning to Teach: Meditations on the Classroom* (Peter Lang, 2002) and co-editor, with Barbara Dixon, of *Minding the Light: Essays in Friendly Pedagogy* (Peter Lang, 2004).

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: Running the Rift Naomi Benaron, 2025-05-01 *Running the Rift* follows the progress of Jean Patrick Nkuba from the day he knows that running will be his life to the moment he must run to save his life. A naturally gifted athlete, he sprints over the thousand hills of Rwanda and dreams of becoming his country's first Olympic medal winner in track. But Jean Patrick is a Tutsi in a world that has become increasingly restrictive and violent for his people. As tensions mount between the Hutu and Tutsi, he holds fast to his dream that running might deliver him, and his people, from the brutality around them. Winner of the Bellwether Prize for Socially Engaged Fiction, Naomi Benaron has written a stunning and gorgeous novel that—through the eyes of one unforgettable boy— explores a country's unraveling, its tentative new

beginning, and the love that binds its people together.

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: Disability Visibility Alice Wong, 2020-06-30 A groundbreaking collection of first-person writing on the joys and challenges of the modern disability experience: *Disability Visibility* brings together the voices of activists, authors, lawyers, politicians, artists, and everyday people whose daily lives are, in the words of playwright Neil Marcus, an art . . . an ingenious way to live. • Edited by MacArthur Genius Grant Fellow Alice Wong “Shares perspectives that are too often missing from such decision-making about accessibility.” —The Washington Post According to the last census, one in five people in the United States lives with a disability. Some are visible, some are hidden—but all are underrepresented in media and popular culture. Now, just in time for the thirtieth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, activist Alice Wong brings together an urgent, galvanizing collection of personal essays by contemporary disabled writers. There is Harriet McBryde Johnson's *Unspeakable Conversations*, which describes her famous debate with Princeton philosopher Peter Singer over her own personhood. There is columnist s. e. smith's celebratory review of a work of theater by disabled performers. There are original pieces by up-and-coming authors like Keah Brown and Haben Girma. There are blog posts, manifestos, eulogies, and testimonies to Congress. Taken together, this anthology gives a glimpse of the vast richness and complexity of the disabled experience, highlighting the passions, talents, and everyday lives of this community. It invites readers to question their own assumptions and understandings. It celebrates and documents disability culture in the now. It looks to the future and past with hope and love.

good kings bad a novel susan nussbaum: Disability Studies and the Inclusive Classroom Susan Baglieri, 2017-04-21 *Disability Studies and the Inclusive Classroom* is a core textbook that integrates knowledge and practice from the fields of disability studies and special education. The second edition has been fully revised and updated throughout to include stronger connections between race, class, sexual orientation, gender, and disability to emphasize intersecting identities and experiences; stronger emphasis on curriculum and teaching rather than on attitudes toward disability; and updates to current events, cultural references, resources, research literature, laws, and policies.

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