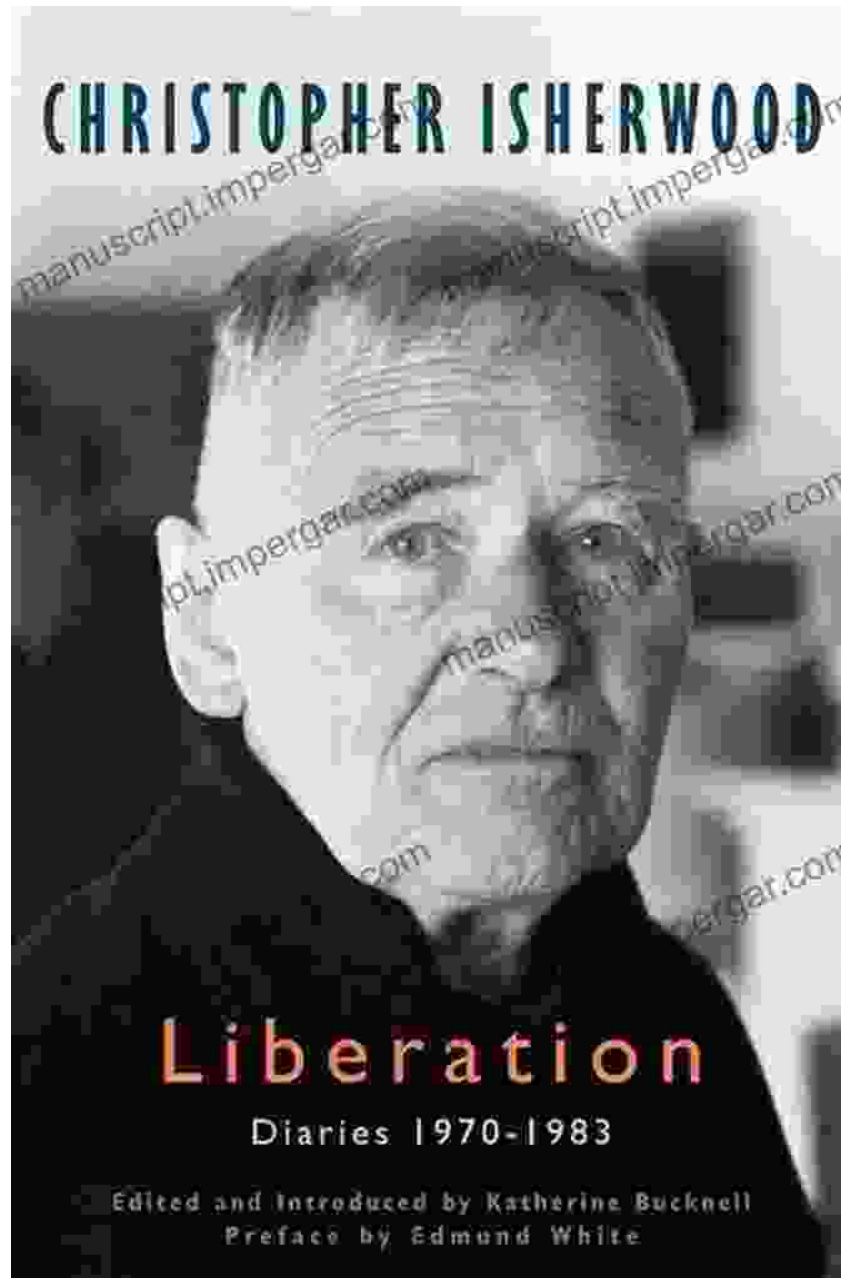


Christopher Isherwood's *Liberation Diaries*: A Journey of Self-Discovery and Social Change



Christopher Isherwood's *Liberation Diaries 1970-1983* is a fascinating and revealing memoir that chronicles the author's personal and political journey during a pivotal period in American history. Written with Isherwood's

characteristic wit and honesty, the diaries offer a unique glimpse into the life of a gay man who was at the forefront of the sexual liberation movement.

Self-Discovery

Isherwood's diaries begin in 1970, when he was in his late sixties. He had already achieved fame as a novelist and screenwriter, but he was still struggling to come to terms with his homosexuality. The diaries provide a candid account of his struggles with self-acceptance and his eventual embrace of his true identity.



Liberation: Diaries: 1970-1983 by Christopher Isherwood

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 3382 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 931 pages



"I am a homosexual," Isherwood wrote in 1972. "I have always been a homosexual. And I am not ashamed of it."

Isherwood's decision to come out was a courageous one, especially at a time when homosexuality was still widely condemned. His honesty and openness helped to pave the way for other gay people to come out and live their lives authentically.

Social Change

In addition to his personal struggles, Isherwood's diaries also document the profound social and political changes that were taking place in America during the 1970s and 1980s. He witnessed the rise of the gay rights movement, the women's movement, and the anti-war movement. He also saw the election of Ronald Reagan, which he believed represented a setback for progress.

"The election of Reagan is a disaster," Isherwood wrote in 1980. "He is a dangerous man who will roll back all the gains we have made in the past decade."

Despite his concerns about Reagan, Isherwood remained optimistic about the future. He believed that the forces of progress would eventually prevail.

"I believe in the power of love," Isherwood wrote. "I believe in the power of change. And I believe in the power of hope."

Christopher and Don Bachardy

One of the most important relationships in Isherwood's life was his relationship with Don Bachardy. Bachardy, a younger artist, became Isherwood's lover and muse in 1953. The two men remained together until Isherwood's death in 1986.

Bachardy's presence in Isherwood's life had a profound impact on him. Bachardy helped Isherwood to accept himself and to embrace his sexuality. He also provided Isherwood with a sense of stability and security.

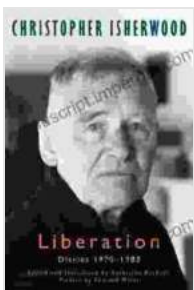
"Don is the most important person in my life," Isherwood wrote in 1978. "He is my lover, my friend, and my soulmate."

The relationship between Isherwood and Bachardy is a beautiful and inspiring story of love and acceptance. It is a testament to the power of love to overcome adversity and to create a lasting and meaningful bond.

Legacy

Christopher Isherwood's *Liberation Diaries 1970-1983* is a valuable and important document. It is a personal and political memoir that offers a unique glimpse into the life of a gay man who was at the forefront of the sexual liberation movement. The diaries are also a testament to the power of love and the importance of social change.

Isherwood's legacy is one of courage, honesty, and compassion. He was a pioneer for gay rights and a voice for the voiceless. His work continues to inspire and challenge us today.



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