

By the author of
'The Heart is a Lonely Hunter'



EFLECTIONS
IN A GOLDEN EYE

CARSON McCULLERS

".. one of the most compelling, one of the most
uncanny stories ever written in America."

A Lonely Hunter

Carson McCullers never rewrote the front pages to brand them novels. Although she was concerned about the barbarism of racism in her native South, her short stories and novels were allegorical, yet crystalline. She dignified the individual, especially life's losers.

The titles of her works—"The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter," "The Ballad of the Sad Cafe," "Clock Without Hands," "The Member of the Wedding"—say much about her preoccupations. They do not reveal that for half her life she wrote in physical pain as a result of illness and personal misfortune. Like Faulkner, her stories transcended their regional Southern frame because loneliness and frustration, love and grace are without boundaries.

It is amazing that in this era of package deals in publishing, when books are made, not born, Mrs. McCullers's works are attaining universal recognition in films and plays. Her characters are not larger than life and hardly heroic, yet they manage to speak across generations in human and mystical tones. It is as if the pathos of her own too-brief life could triumph, in the end, over the countinghouses that dominate so much of the human scene. Mrs. McCullers reflected the lonely heart with a golden hand.

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Of Carson McCullers's "The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter," Fadiman said in his notice book that a girl of author makes and regulates as if she had and people find in first novels have been but rarely. He is writing about country.

In her second novel, "Reflections," she speaks with power. The army post, the erotic captain, the affair with the major's wife, the Filipino soldier so fascinated by her visits to her, to watch the moonlight.

"Reflections" for today and will not let it be Louis Untermeyer's, although who will see something of the thing of Do

For Louise

With my appreciation & love.

May we always be good friends

Carson

(Carson writing very soon)
(Love to Joseph)

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BY CARSON McCULLERS

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY • THE RIVERSIDE PRESS CAMBRIDGE • 1941

Books by
CARSON McCULLERS

THE HEART IS A LONELY HUNTER
REFLECTIONS IN A GOLDEN EYE

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CAMBRIDGE • MASSACHUSETTS
PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

FOR
ANNEMARIE CLARAC-SCHWARZENBACH



"The story proceeds from some inner compulsion which is as unplanned and as inevitable as life itself. It is a story which flows in every paragraph, flows with strange and sinister twists and sudden humorous flashes, but flows always to its certain and incalculable end ... I find it utterly unlike anything produced in our time ... It is one of the most compelling, one of the most uncanny stories ever written in America."

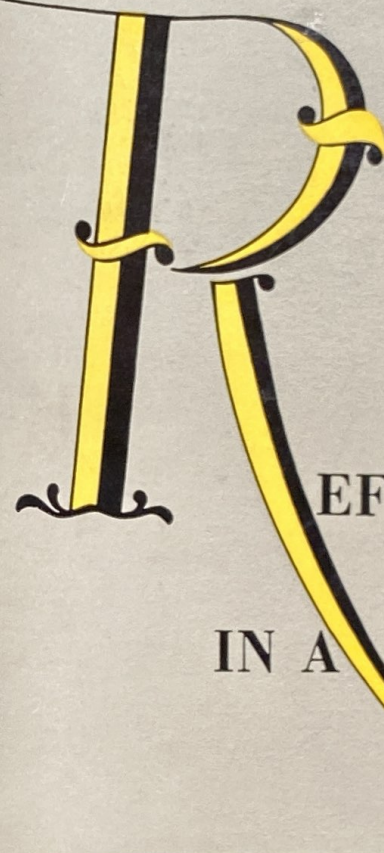
—Louis Untermeyer

CARSON
McCULLERS

REFLECTIONS
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HOUGHTON
MIFFLIN CO.

By the author of
'The Heart is a Lonely Hunter'



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\$2.00

REFLECTIONS IN A GOLDEN EYE

By Carson McCullers

Of Carson McCullers' first novel, "The Heart is a Lonely Hunter," Clifton Fadiman said: 'This is a sit-up-and-take-notice book for anyone to write, but that a girl of twenty-two should be the author makes hay of all literary rules and regulations. Miss McCullers writes as if she had been finding out things and people for herself. A unique accent in first novels is the one thing reviewers have been praying for, and hearing but rarely. Here is a new voice speaking about new American spiritual country.'

In her second novel, this new voice speaks with even greater eloquence and power. The scene is laid in a Southern army post; the characters are a neurotic captain, his wife who is having an affair with the major next door, the major's wife who is an invalid, her Filipino servant, and a private who is so fascinated by the captain's wife that he visits her room at night, unknown to her, to watch her as she sleeps with the moonlight across her face.

"Reflections in a Golden Eye" is a book for today and tomorrow; a book that will not let itself be forgotten. It has, as Louis Untermeyer says: 'No literary ancestors, although there will be those who will see in the powerful situations something of D. H. Lawrence and something of Dostoevsky.'

Courtesy of Louise Dahl-Wolfe and
Harper's Bazaar



'CARSON McCULLERS

is the latest wunderkind in American writing, but somehow that sounds far too trivial, too condescending, to describe this twenty-three-year-old girl. With her first novel, "The Heart is a Lonely Hunter," she took a secure place among that small group that we call writers' writers—Hemingway, Katherine Anne Porter are others. Her miraculous appearance on the literary scene heartens us; we accept it as an augury that the decade ahead of us, however shadowed, will have its artists. "The Heart is a Lonely Hunter" and now this great story "Reflections in a Golden Eye" announce an era as powerfully, as darkly, as those first fateful chords of Beethoven's Fifth.

'CARSON McCULLERS was born Smith in Columbus, Georgia, February 19, 1917. All through her childhood she studied music, which she loves passionately, hoping to become a concert pianist. At seventeen she arrived in New York, where she says she was fired from every job she was ever hired for. She had started writing at sixteen, with a play that began in a graveyard and ended on a catafalque; when she was nineteen *Story* magazine accepted two of her stories. We believe that Dahl-Wolfe's portrait of her is the first that gives any notion of her haunting, intense personality.'—From *Harper's Bazaar*

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