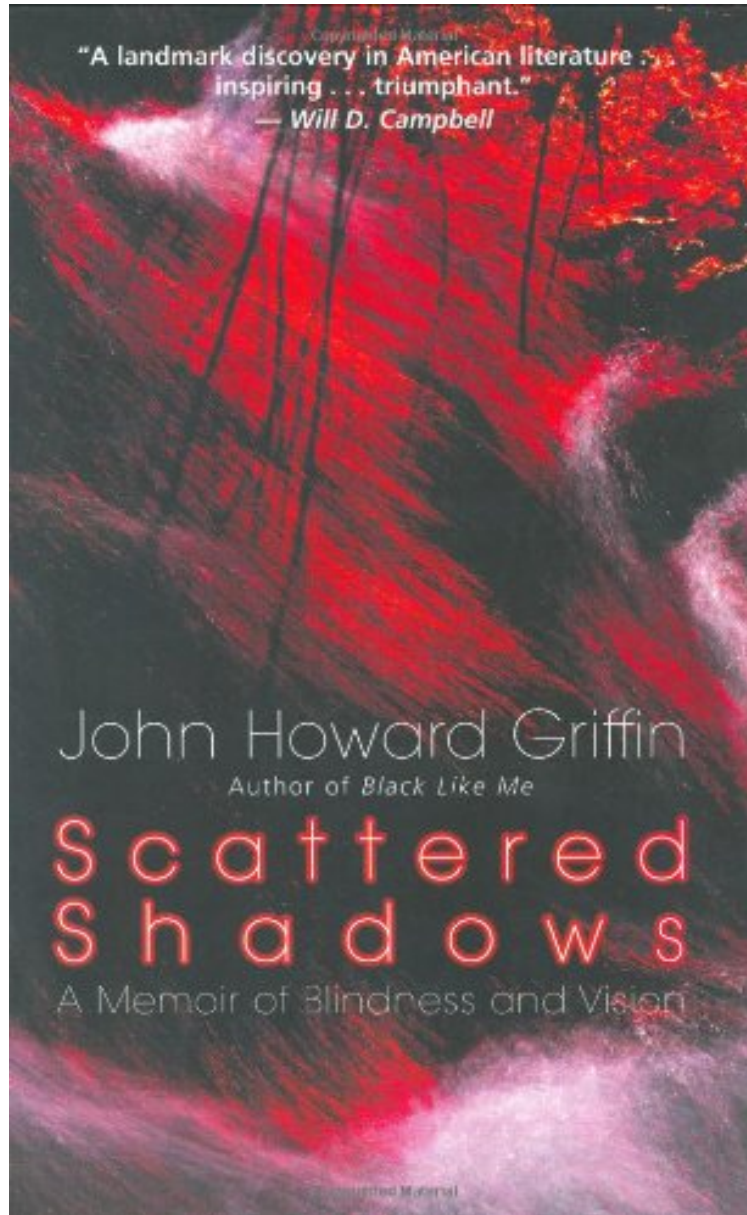


[E-BOOK] Scattered Shadows: A Memoir of Blindness and Vision

Scattered Shadows: A Memoir of Blindness and Vision

John Howard Griffin

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John Howard Griffin : Scattered Shadows: A Memoir of Blindness and Vision before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Scattered Shadows: A Memoir of Blindness and Vision:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. BeautifulBy CustomerJohn Griffin faced things we could only

dream of in our nightmares. War, bombs, blindness, paralysis. How could a person possibly face them with courage and even grace, finding a career, getting married and raising a family? He does it - without bitterness or self-pity. It's the most amazing story and there is something for any of us to learn as we face our unfolding lives. If we can learn just a little of his courage, our lives are happier. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. OK but Not His Best Book By Geraldine As another reviewer has mentioned here, this book is "all over the place". Scattered IS a word that comes to mind, when thinking about how this book was written. It appears that this book was actually compiled and published after Mr. Griffin had passed on. It is a series of passages taken from his journals, during the time he was blind up until regaining his sight. I enjoyed some parts of this book but it's not nearly as interesting as *Black Like Me*. Certainly a completely different topic obviously, but that book flowed nicely and was interesting from beginning to end. When it came to *Scattered Shadows*, that was not the case. Historically, a worthwhile read, if you wanted to know more about the man behind "*Black Like Me*" as I did. But could have been much better. 20 of 21 people found the following review helpful. Get this book! By A Customer This is a book for that special bookshelf of about a dozen classics that burn with relevance and can be read again and again. John H. Griffin was not only a skilled author, but he lived one of the most amazing lives of the 20th century, aptly described by Robert Bonazzi in the book's introduction. Of course, Griffin is well known for dying his skin, posing as a negro, and reporting on his experiences in the book *Black Like Me*. Amazingly enough, *Black Like Me* is only one episode in an improbable life. *Scattered Shadows* covers Griffin's developing blindness, and eventual recovery. Griffin reflects upon music, literature, and religion as his sight departs as a result of a World War II injury. The author has been underappreciated since his death. Hopefully *Scattered Shadows* will rekindle interest in Griffin, a person worth knowing

This extraordinary chronicle from the author of "*Black Like Me* about his loss of sight is a powerful testament to the human spirit.

From Publishers Weekly These posthumous memoirs, arranged by Robert Bonazzi, focus on the years between 1945, when Griffin (1920-1980) began to lose his sight due to an injury he received during WWII, and 1957, when he recovered it—a decade during which he virtually lived several lives. At the book's center is Griffin's journey from a wanderer who "could no more fix my attention lovingly on God than I could on the wallpaper of the room" to a Catholic convert for whom faith "replaced logic, erasing the need for further proof." Around that center, Griffin traverses the emotional and physical distance between the implications of being legally blind and the reality of blindness, which "presented a thousand roadblocks." Readers learn how Griffin managed to raise livestock, fall in love and marry, and write the controversial 1952 novel *The Devil Rides Outside*. The author's previous lives had encompassed a scholarly devotion to medieval music and an activist involvement in the French Resistance. *Black Like Me*, his 1961 bestselling account of his trip through the South posing as a black man, was yet to come. Drawing on Griffin's journals, manuscripts and previously published work, Bonazzi's collection pays an almost too-reverent homage to a remarkable individual. As journal excerpts come to dominate, dulling minutiae invade. Yet Griffin's spiritual journey remains moving, and his way with words renders the austerity of an abbey as vividly as the cacophony of a battleground, an evening with a nameless blind man as fascinating as one with a renowned poet. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.