

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow

Mark Helprin in Sunlight and in Shadow: Exploring the Magic of His Literary World

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow invites readers into a richly imagined literary landscape where reality and fantasy intertwine seamlessly. Helprin's novel **In Sunlight and in Shadow** stands as a testament to his extraordinary storytelling prowess, blending lyrical prose with profound themes that resonate deeply with audiences. As a celebrated author known for his evocative narratives, Mark Helprin crafts a world where the nuances of light and darkness metaphorically mirror the complexities of human experience.

Diving into **In Sunlight and in Shadow** offers not just a story, but an immersive experience that highlights Helprin's mastery in weaving romance, history, and philosophical reflection into a single narrative tapestry. This article will explore the essence of Mark Helprin's work, the themes that make **In Sunlight and in Shadow** so compelling, and why it continues to capture the imagination of readers around the world.

The Essence of Mark Helprin's Writing Style

Mark Helprin's literary style is distinctive for its poetic richness and intricate detail. His narrative technique often incorporates vivid imagery that paints scenes as if they were moving paintings, filled with emotion and symbolism. In **In Sunlight and in Shadow**, this style is at its most luminous, creating a world that feels both tangible and dreamlike.

Poetic Prose and Symbolism

Helprin's prose reads like poetry, where every sentence vibrates with rhythm and meaning. The use of sunlight and shadow in the novel serves not only as a literal backdrop but also as a metaphor for hope, despair, love, and loss. This interplay of light and darkness reflects the dualities present in human nature and the world around us.

Historical and Fantastical Fusion

One of the standout features in **In Sunlight and in Shadow** is the seamless blend of historical settings with elements of magical realism. Set in post-World War II New York City, the novel captures the city's raw energy and transformation. Helprin infuses this realism with a touch of fantasy, enabling the narrative to transcend ordinary storytelling and evoke a timeless quality.

Exploring the Themes in In Sunlight and in

Shadow

Mark Helprin in **In Sunlight and in Shadow** delves into universal themes that speak to the human condition. These themes contribute to the novel's depth and its enduring appeal.

Love and Redemption

At the heart of the novel lies a poignant love story that explores the redemptive power of affection and forgiveness. Helprin portrays love as a force capable of healing wounds inflicted by war, loss, and personal tragedy. This theme resonates with readers because it reflects the resilience of the human spirit.

Time, Memory, and Mortality

Time is a persistent motif throughout Helprin's work, and in **In Sunlight and in Shadow**, it is explored through the lens of memory and mortality. The characters grapple with the fleeting nature of life and the desire to hold onto moments of beauty and meaning. Helprin's treatment of time encourages readers to reflect on their own experiences and the transient nature of existence.

The City as a Living Entity

New York City is more than just a setting in the novel; it becomes a character in its own right. Helprin's depiction of the city captures its contradictions—its brutality and beauty, its chaos and order. Through the city's streets and landscapes, readers witness a microcosm of human struggle and aspiration.

Why Mark Helprin in *In Sunlight and in Shadow* Resonates with Readers

The enduring popularity of **In Sunlight and in Shadow** can be attributed to several factors that distinguish Helprin's work from other contemporary novels.

Emotional Depth and Philosophical Insight

Helprin's narrative offers more than just entertainment; it provides a profound meditation on life's complexities. His ability to intertwine emotional storytelling with philosophical musings draws readers into a deeper engagement with the text.

Timeless Appeal Across Generations

The novel's themes are timeless, allowing it to resonate across different generations and cultures. Whether a reader is seeking romance, historical context, or existential reflection, **In Sunlight and in Shadow** offers something meaningful.

Rich Characterization and Relatable Struggles

The characters in Helprin's novel are vividly drawn and multidimensional. Their struggles with love, loss, identity, and renewal mirror real-life challenges, making the story both relatable and inspiring. Helprin's nuanced character development enriches the narrative and keeps readers invested.

Tips for Readers Approaching *In Sunlight and in Shadow*

For those new to Mark Helprin's work or specifically **In Sunlight and in Shadow**, approaching the novel with an open mind and patience can enhance the reading experience.

- **Embrace the lyrical style:** Helprin's poetic prose invites slow, thoughtful reading. Take time to savor the language and imagery.
- **Reflect on the symbolism:** Pay attention to recurring motifs of light and shadow and consider their broader metaphorical meanings.
- **Contextualize historically:** Familiarity with the post-World War II era can deepen understanding of the setting and character motivations.
- **Engage with the themes:** Allow yourself to ponder the philosophical ideas about love, time, and mortality presented in the narrative.

The Legacy of Mark Helprin and *In Sunlight and in Shadow*

Mark Helprin's contribution to contemporary literature through **In Sunlight and in Shadow** is significant. The novel exemplifies how storytelling can transcend genres, blending historical fiction, romance, and magical realism into a cohesive and compelling narrative.

Helprin's work encourages readers to see the world through a lens that appreciates both its harsh realities and its moments of transcendent beauty. The balance of sunlight and shadow in his writing mirrors the balance we seek in life—a harmony between hope and despair, joy and sorrow.

For those looking to explore the power of language and storytelling, Mark Helprin in **In Sunlight and in Shadow** offers a profound and unforgettable journey. It's a novel that not only entertains but also enriches the soul, inviting readers to find light even in the darkest shadows.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the central theme of Mark Helprin's 'In Sunlight and in Shadow'?

The central theme of 'In Sunlight and in Shadow' is a profound exploration of love, loss, and the enduring spirit of New York City, blending romance with a deep sense of place and history.

How does Mark Helprin portray New York City in 'In Sunlight and in Shadow'?

Helprin portrays New York City as a majestic, almost mythical place filled with beauty and mystery, capturing its essence through vivid descriptions that highlight both its grandeur and its intimate human stories.

Who are the main characters in 'In Sunlight and in Shadow' and what drives their story?

The main characters are Harry Copeland, a World War II veteran and aspiring writer, and Catherine Thomas Hale, a young woman from a wealthy family. Their intense and passionate love story drives the narrative, set against the backdrop of post-war New York.

What literary style is Mark Helprin known for, as seen in 'In Sunlight and in Shadow'?

Mark Helprin is known for his lyrical and poetic prose style, rich in metaphor and vivid imagery, which is evident in 'In Sunlight and in Shadow' through his elaborate descriptions and deep emotional resonance.

How does 'In Sunlight and in Shadow' reflect the historical context of post-World War II America?

The novel reflects post-World War II America by exploring themes of renewal, hope, and the struggle for personal and societal identity during a time of great change, particularly

through the experiences of veterans and the evolving urban landscape.

What makes 'In Sunlight and in Shadow' a unique contribution to contemporary American literature?

Its blend of romance, magical realism, and a profound homage to New York City, combined with Helprin's masterful storytelling and poetic language, makes 'In Sunlight and in Shadow' a unique and celebrated work in contemporary American literature.

Additional Resources

****Mark Helprin in Sunlight and in Shadow: A Literary Exploration****

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow evokes an image both literal and metaphorical, capturing the essence of one of contemporary literature's most evocative voices. Helprin's work, notably in his acclaimed novel **In Sunlight and in Shadow**, offers a rich tapestry of narrative depth, thematic complexity, and stylistic elegance that invites readers into a world where light and darkness intertwine. This article delves into the nuances of Helprin's writing, the significance of **In Sunlight and in Shadow**, and the broader implications of his literary craftsmanship.

An Overview of Mark Helprin's Literary Identity

Mark Helprin is a distinguished American novelist and short story writer, renowned for his poetic prose and philosophical underpinnings. His works often blend elements of magical realism, historical fiction, and lyrical storytelling. Helprin's reputation for meticulous attention to language and his exploration of timeless themes such as love, honor, and mortality positions him as a unique figure in modern American literature.

In Sunlight and in Shadow, published in 2012, stands out in Helprin's oeuvre as a deeply personal and immersive narrative. Set against the backdrop of post-World War II New York City, the novel captures a city—and a nation—caught between renewal and decay, hope and despair. The title itself suggests a duality that permeates the story: the contrast between illumination and obscurity, joy and sorrow, clarity and ambiguity.

Exploring **In Sunlight and in Shadow: Themes and Context**

At its core, **In Sunlight and in Shadow** is a love story, but it is much more than that. Helprin crafts a narrative that intertwines romance with philosophical reflections on fate, resilience, and the human spirit's capacity to endure hardship.

The Post-War Setting and Its Symbolism

The post-war New York setting is not merely a backdrop but functions almost as a character in its own right. The city, described in vivid, painterly detail, reflects the novel's oscillation between light and shadow. Helprin's portrayal of the urban landscape—its streets, parks, and skyline—imbues the narrative with an atmospheric quality that is both nostalgic and immediate.

This setting underscores the transitional period of American history when optimism about the future was tempered by the scars of conflict. The juxtaposition of bright, hopeful sunlight with the looming shadows of loss and uncertainty mirrors the characters' internal struggles.

Characterization and Moral Complexity

Helprin's protagonists are not archetypal heroes; they are deeply flawed, grappling with personal demons and societal expectations. The central characters' journeys are marked by moments of grace and despair, embodying the duality suggested by the title.

The moral landscape of the novel is intricate. Helprin resists simplistic binaries of good versus evil, instead presenting a world where characters navigate ethical ambiguities. This complexity invites readers to engage critically with the narrative, pondering questions about justice, loyalty, and redemption.

Stylistic Features and Narrative Techniques

One of the hallmarks of *In Sunlight and in Shadow* is Helprin's distinctive prose style. His writing is often described as lyrical, rich with metaphor and lush descriptions that evoke sensory experience.

Poetic Language and Imagery

Helprin's use of language elevates the novel beyond conventional storytelling. His sentences can be expansive and ornate, weaving together vivid imagery that appeals to the reader's imagination. This poetic approach creates a dreamlike quality, blurring the lines between reality and fantasy.

The interplay of light and shadow is a recurring motif, skillfully employed to enhance the emotional resonance of scenes and character interactions. Through this imagery, Helprin explores the tension between hope and despair, presence and absence.

Structure and Pacing

The novel's structure balances sweeping narrative arcs with intimate moments of reflection. Helprin's pacing allows for both tension and tranquility, enabling readers to immerse themselves fully in the story's world. The shifts between external events and internal monologues provide depth and texture to the reading experience.

Comparisons and Critical Reception

When examining *In Sunlight and in Shadow* alongside Helprin's other works such as *Winter's Tale* and *A Soldier of the Great War*, one notes consistent themes of transcendent love and the passage of time. However, *In Sunlight and in Shadow* is often praised for its more grounded historical setting and its direct engagement with the moral complexities of the mid-20th century.

Critics have lauded Helprin's mastery of language, though some have noted that the novel's luxuriant prose may challenge readers accustomed to more straightforward narratives. The balance between poetic expression and plot-driven storytelling is a defining feature that distinguishes Helprin's style.

Strengths and Limitations

- **Strengths:** Rich, evocative descriptions; complex characters; profound thematic exploration; atmospheric setting.
- **Limitations:** Dense prose that may not appeal to all readers; slower pacing in sections; occasional ambiguity in plot resolution.

The Enduring Appeal of Mark Helprin's Vision

Mark Helprin in *In Sunlight and in Shadow* offers readers an invitation to engage with literature that challenges, inspires, and transports. His ability to merge historical context with philosophical inquiry results in narratives that remain relevant across generations. The novel's meditation on love's persistence amid adversity resonates universally, while its stylistic elegance ensures a distinctive reading experience.

This interplay between illumination and obscurity, both literal and figurative, is at the heart of Helprin's artistry. *In Sunlight and in Shadow* is not merely a story; it is a reflection on the human condition, rendered with a rare combination of lyricism and insight that continues to captivate scholars, critics, and readers alike.

Mark Helprin In Sunlight And In Shadow

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: *In Sunlight and in Shadow* Mark Helprin, 2012 Returning home after serving World War II to run his family business in New York, a paratrooper falls in love with a young heiress and actress he meets on the State Island ferry.

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: Recollecting Dante's Divine Comedy in the Novels of Mark Helprin Sara MacDonald, Barry Craig, 2014-11-12 This book studies several of Mark Helprin's novels in terms of their relation to Dante's Divine Comedy. The authors demonstrate that *A Soldier of the Great War*, *In Sunlight and in Shadow*, and *Winter's Tale* substantially correspond to, respectively, Dante's *Inferno*, *Purgatorio*, and *Paradiso*. The author himself has acknowledged his debt to Dante and references to the Comedy appear throughout his works. It is not that Helprin's novels track their Dantean antecedents slavishly, or even follow the structure of the Canticles explicitly. Rather, the central arguments of Dante's three works are taken up by Helprin in his novels. In adopting Dante's essentially Platonic doctrine of mediation, Helprin's characters are fully instantiated human beings who also mediate and reveal the divine. In his engagement with Dante, Helprin affirms the core philosophical, theological and psychological arguments of the Comedy, and then modifies those arguments in a distinctly modern way. Specifically, Helprin focuses on human freedom as the necessary precondition for justice to exist, both for individuals and for societies. In the final chapter of the book, the authors turn to Helprin's *Freddy and Fredericka*. In this novel, Helprin both assumes Dante's argument, and then radically alters it, by pointing to the possibility of a just regime on earth, rather than one that exists merely in heaven. While accepting much of Dante's metaphysical argument, Helprin shows the virtues of liberal democracy as that form of political regime that is most able to unite human eros with eternal principles. In the end, Helprin's novels are remarkable for the way in which they advocate for ancient virtues, while insisting upon the distinctly modern liberal account of human freedom as the necessary foundation for human flourishing.

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: A Soldier of the Great War Mark Helprin, 2005-06-01 An Italian septuagenarian recounts his life before and after World War I in this novel from the author of *Paris in the Present Tense*. For Alessandro Giullani, the young son of a prosperous Roman lawyer, golden trees shimmer in the sun beneath a sky of perfect blue. At night, the moon is amber and the city of Rome seethes with light. He races horses across the country to the sea, and in the Alps, he practices the precise and sublime art of mountain climbing. At the ancient university in Bologna he is a student of painting and the science of beauty. And he falls in love. His is a world of adventure and dreams, of music, storm, and the spirit. Then the Great War intervenes. Half a century later, in August of 1964, Alessandro, a white-haired professor, still tall and proud, finds himself unexpectedly on the road with an illiterate young factory worker. As they walk toward Monte Prato, a village seventy kilometers distant, the old man tells the story of his life. How he became a soldier. A hero. A prisoner. A deserter. A wanderer in the hell that claimed Europe. And how he tragically lost one family and gained another. The boy is dazzled by the action and envious of the richness and color of the story, and realizes that the old man's magnificent tale of love and war is more than a tale: it is the recapitulation of his life, his reckoning with mortality, and above all, a love song for his family. "[A] testimony to the indomitable human spirit. Highly recommended."—Library Journal

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: Block by Block: The Historical and Theoretical Foundations of Thermodynamics Robert T. Hanlon, 2020-03-16 At the heart of many fields - physics, chemistry, engineering - lies thermodynamics. While this science plays a critical role in determining the boundary between what is and is not possible in the natural world, it occurs to many as an indecipherable black box, thus making the subject a challenge to learn. Two obstacles contribute to this situation, the first being the disconnect between the fundamental theories and the underlying physics and the second being the confusing concepts and terminologies involved with the

theories. While one needn't confront either of these two obstacles to successfully use thermodynamics to solve real problems, overcoming both provides access to a greater intuitive sense of the problems and more confidence, more strength, and more creativity in solving them. This book offers an original perspective on thermodynamic science and history based on the three approaches of a practicing engineer, academician, and historian. The book synthesises and gathers into one accessible volume a strategic range of foundational topics involving the atomic theory, energy, entropy, and the laws of thermodynamics.

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: Buzz Books 2012 Publishers Lunch, 2012 anthology of excerpts of forthcoming fiction and non-fiction books

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: American Guy Saul Levmore, Martha Craven Nussbaum, 2014 This text examines American norms of masculinity and their role in the law, with essays from legal academics, literary scholars, and judges. Together, these papers reinvigorate the law-and-literature movement by bringing a range of methodological and disciplinary perspectives to bear on the complex interactions of masculinity with both law and literature - ultimately shedding light on all three.

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: *Off the Beaten Page* Terri Peterson Smith, 2013-05-01 Blending literature and travel, this book offers a look at 15 U.S. destinations featured in the works of famous writers. Designed as a guide to help avid bibliophiles experience, in person, the places they've only read about, award-winning journalist Terri Peterson Smith takes readers on lively tours that include a Mark Twain inspired steamboat cruise on the Mississippi, a Devil in the White City view of Chicago in the Gilded Age, a voyage through the footsteps of the immigrants and iconoclasts of San Francisco, and a look at low country Charleston's rich literary tradition. With advice on planning stress-free group travel and lit trip tips for novices, this resource also features "beyond the book" experiences, such as Broadway shows, Segway tours, and kayaking, making it a one-of-a-kind reference for anyone who wants to extend the experience of a great read.

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: *Waving Goodbye* Warren Kozak, 2024-04-09 For anyone struggling with the loss of a spouse—anyone whose world has been turned upside down in a way they've never encountered before—here is something that could help. *Waving Goodbye* is a candid, honest, and approachable guide to dealing with the death of a spouse written by a very ordinary guy who has lived through the ordeal. Warren Kozak doesn't just tell you that time heals all wounds; he explains how the passage of time actually helped. Despite the shattering heartbreak and insurmountable grief, Kozak shares what worked, what didn't, and the insights he learned along the way to help anyone who has suffered this kind of loss.

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: Escape from North Korea Melanie Kirkpatrick, 2014-05-13 From the world's most repressive state comes rare good news: the escape to freedom of a small number of its people. It is a crime to leave North Korea. Yet increasing numbers of North Koreans dare to flee. They go first to neighboring China, which rejects them as criminals, then on to Southeast Asia or Mongolia, and finally to South Korea, the United States, and other free countries. They travel along a secret route known as the new underground railroad. With a journalist's grasp of events and a novelist's ear for narrative, Melanie Kirkpatrick tells the story of the North Koreans' quest for liberty. Travelers on the new underground railroad include women bound to Chinese men who purchased them as brides, defectors carrying state secrets, and POWs from the Korean War held captive in the North for more than half a century. Their conductors are brokers who are in it for the money as well as Christians who are in it to serve God. The Christians see their mission as the liberation of North Korea one person at a time. Just as escaped slaves from the American South educated Americans about the evils of slavery, the North Korean fugitives are informing the world about the secretive country they fled. *Escape from North Korea* describes how they also are sowing the seeds for change within North Korea itself. Once they reach sanctuary, the escapees channel news back to those they left behind. In doing so, they are helping to open their information-starved homeland, exposing their countrymen to liberal ideas, and laying the intellectual groundwork for the transformation of the totalitarian regime that keeps their fellow citizens in chains.

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: *What Fool Would Challenge Shakespeare?* T.J. King, 2014-03-04 By Knowledge Unsullied The way you gut a catfish, trim a sail, Or how a host concocts the perfect martini, What the blazes is a farthingale, The names of all the operas by Puccini, All this escapes me along with winning at poker, Tiling a bathroom, cheating bees of their honey, Dancing beyond a score of mediocre, Talking sports, or making a pile of money. Equating learning with earning, most are aghast. You worthless dimwit, they say, you must feel dejected. Au contraire! My cluelessness unsurpassed, Such matchless ignorance has got to be respected. A gorge gigantic, gaping, without flaw: Not even the Grand Canyon commands such awe.

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: *Olivo* ESQ, 2019-11-11 *Olivo: A Miscellany of Things from My Commonplace Journal* By: ESQ I've kept journals for more than ten years. As a Union College trustee, I did a great deal of research and writing in my commonplace journal. My dedication as a bibliophile increased after retiring from the practice of law for more than 55 years. Academics I knew urged me to expand *Olivo* to share my readings and writings for them to learn (even after education).

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: *Encyclopedia of American Literature* Manly, Inc., 2013-06 Susan Clair Imbarrato, Carol Berkin, Brett Barney, Lisa Paddock, Matthew J. Bruccoli, George Parker Anderson, Judith S.

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: *Vanity Fair* , 2012

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: *Paris in the Present Tense* Mark Helprin, 2017-10-03 Mark Helprin's powerful, rapturous new novel is set in a present-day Paris caught between violent unrest and its well-known, inescapable glories. Seventy-four-year-old Jules Lacour—a maître at Paris-Sorbonne, cellist, widower, veteran of the war in Algeria, and child of the Holocaust—must find a balance between his strong obligations to the past and the attractions and beauties of life and love in the present. In the midst of what should be an effulgent time of life—days bright with music, family, rowing on the Seine—Jules is confronted headlong and all at once by a series of challenges to his principles, livelihood, and home, forcing him to grapple with his complex past and find a way forward. He risks fraud to save his terminally ill infant grandson, matches wits with a renegade insurance investigator, is drawn into an act of savage violence, and falls deeply, excitingly in love with a young cellist a third his age. Against the backdrop of an exquisite and knowing vision of Paris and the way it can uniquely shape a life, he forges a denouement that is staggering in its humanity, elegance, and truth. In the intoxicating beauty of its prose and emotional amplitude of its storytelling, Mark Helprin's *Paris in the Present Tense* is a soaring achievement, a deep, dizzying look at a life through the purifying lenses of art and memory.

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: *The Oceans and the Stars* Mark Helprin, 2023-10-03 Mark Helprin, the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Winter's Tale* and *A Soldier of the Great War*, presents a fast-paced, beautifully written novel about the majesty of the sea; a life dedicated to duty, honor, and country; and the gift of falling in love. A Navy captain near the end of a decorated career, Stephen Rensselaer is disciplined, intelligent, and determined to always do what's right. In defending the development of a new variant of warship, he makes an enemy of the president of the United States, who assigns him to command the doomed line's only prototype--*Athena*, Patrol Coastal 15--with the intent to humiliate a man who should have been an admiral. Rather than resign, Rensselaer takes the new assignment in stride, and while supervising *Athena's* fitting out in New Orleans, encounters a brilliant lawyer, Katy Farrar, with whom he falls in last-chance love. Soon thereafter, he is deployed on a mission that subjects his integrity, morality, and skill to the ultimate test, and ensures that *Athena* will live forever in the annals of the Navy. As in the *Odyssey*, Katy is the force that keeps him alive and the beacon that lights the way home through seven battles, mutiny, and court martial. In classic literary form, an enthralling new novel that extolls the virtues of living by the laws of conscience, decency, and sacrifice, *The Oceans and the Stars* is nothing short of a masterpiece.

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: *Encyclopedia of the American Novel* Abby H. P. Werlock, 2015-04-22 Praise for the print edition: ... no other reference work on American fiction

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mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: Talking Book Topics , 2013

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: Digital Talking Books Plus , 2013

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: Nella luce e nell'ombra Mark Helprin, 2014-11-05T00:00:00+01:00 Un venerdì mattina del 1946, in completo beige, camicia bianca e cravatta azzurra, Harry Copeland esce di casa sua, al 333 di Central Park West a New York. È una splendida giornata, e trovarsi a New York in una giornata simile dista un niente dalla sensazione di essere innamorati. Gli alberi fioriscono come nubi luminose nei parchi, e pennacchi di fumo e vapore si levano verso l'azzurro o si arricciano al vento. Harry è appena tornato dalla guerra senza sapere che cosa avrebbe trovato in patria. Dopo aver combattuto per mare, per terra e in cielo, dovrebbe sistemarsi, mettere su famiglia, ma non è ancora accaduto niente e tutto sembra uguale a prima: metropolitane, ristoranti, telefonate, conti da pagare. A Staten Island trascorre un paio d'ore seduto al sole nel giardino a picco sul mare di sua zia Elaine, vedova dell'unico fratello di suo padre, poi al ritorno, sul traghetto che lo riporta a South Ferry, si imbatte di nuovo nella giovane donna dalla struggente bellezza intravista da lontano all'andata, mentre incedeva sul ponte con la schiena dritta e la testa alta. Nella penombra dei pilastri e delle palizzate di legno, Harry si accorge di come ogni suo particolare lo colpisca irrimediabilmente al cuore: la grazia con cui si muove o rimane ferma; le mani e il modo in cui le tiene; le forme in cui le sue dita si compongono; la camicetta che indossa con un ricamo perlaceo elaborato ma sobrio; persino le pieghe della gonna; e la voce che, nitida, si sofferma su ogni sillaba. La giovane donna si chiama Catherine Thomas Hale, ma ha scelto un altro nome, Catherine Sedley, per togliere di torno la sua famiglia e calcare la scena di scalcinati musical con orchestre formate dagli scarti della New York Philharmonic e registi che agognano improbabili trionfi a Broadway. New York, però, non è più la città calma e onesta di un tempo, e tra le sue strade fumose prosperano gli affari loschi della malavita. Quando, perciò, un vecchio promesso sposo di Catherine si presenta al suo cospetto e un gruppo di gangster minaccia di far saltare in aria la pelletteria di famiglia, Harry capisce che, se davvero vuole conquistare Catherine, deve nuovamente combattere. E vincere. Costi quel che costi. Meraviglioso inno all'amore, ai mille volti di New York e all'America, New York Times Bestseller tradotto in numerosi paesi, Nella luce e nell'ombra ha riscosso, al suo apparire negli Stati Uniti, uno straordinario successo di pubblico e di critica. «Per la grande costruzione narrativa, i principi morali, la magnificenza della scrittura e lo splendore di New York, questo romanzo è la continuazione ideale di Storia d'inverno». The Wall Street Journal «La cifra di Helprin è la capacità di evocare la potenza vitale di ciò che ci circonda». Lara Crinò, il Venerdì - la Repubblica

mark helprin in sunlight and in shadow: Winter's Tale Mark Helprin, 1984 A breathtaking novel by the author of A Soldier of the Great War, this is a book about the beauty and complexity of the human soul, about God, love, and justice. Copyright © Libri GmbH. All rights reserved.

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