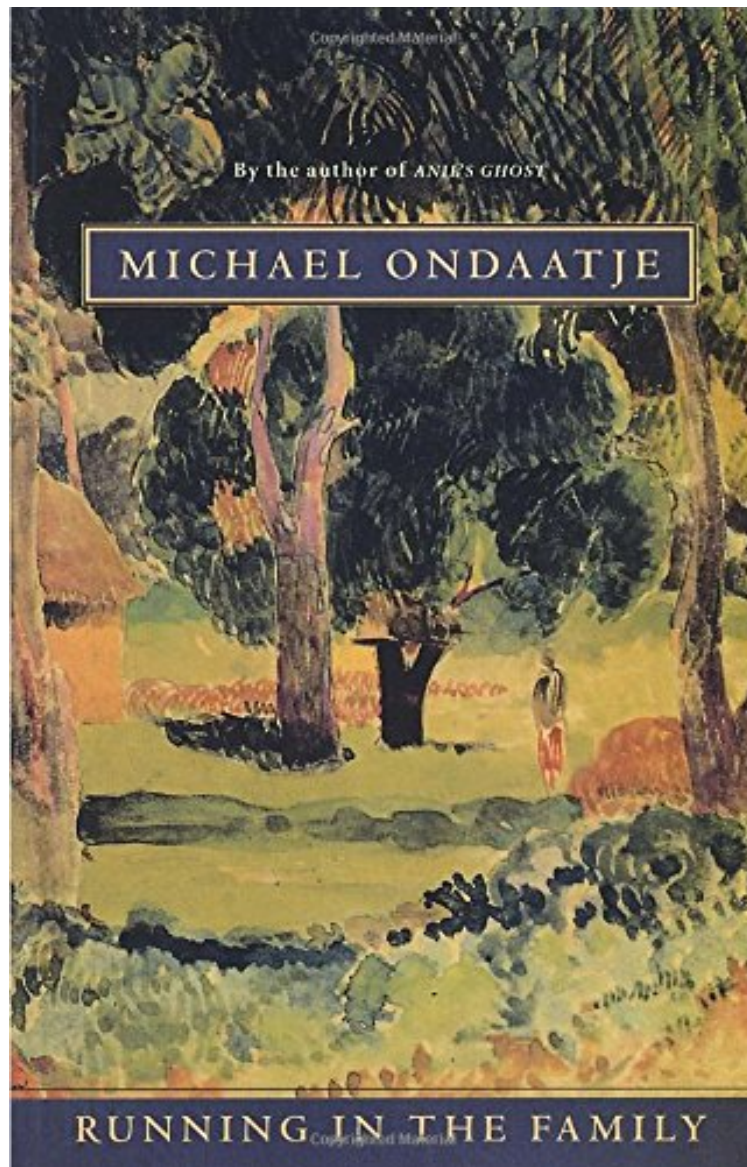


(Download ebook) Running in the Family

Running in the Family

Michael Ondaatje

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#42846 in Books Michael Ondaatje 1993-11-30 1993-11-30 Format: International Edition Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .53 x 5.131, .48 # File Name: 0679746692208 pages Running In The Family | File size: 46.Mb

Michael Ondaatje : Running in the Family before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Running in the Family:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful writing that takes you to another world. By smeleThe writing is beautiful. Ondaatje skillfully uses vivid language that makes the memoir engaging and poetic (not purely for

the language, but also for actual poems Ondaatje chooses to include). He manages to engage all of the reader's senses and create world that often feel too appetizing to leave. For instance, Ondaatje brings us in to his replaying of sounds from a recorded Sri Lankan night: "In this silent room (with its own unheard hum of fridge, fluorescent light) there are these frogs loud as river, gruntings the whistle of other birds brash and sleepy, but in that night so modest behind peacocks they were unfocussed by the brain--nothing more than darkness, all those sweet loud younger brothers of night." He is constantly using such lovely details to bring the reader into this foreign world, and it was his skill with language that kept me reading to the end. And furthermore, there is such an intimacy in Ondaatje's writing about family members. The minutest details, such as the way he noticed the changes in his mother's handwriting, display to a reader how well he does know these people, and how much he cares about them. For all the stories he tells, there is never a sense of bitterness or wanting to shame anyone. He tells very good things and he tells very bad things. He brings the people alive in his retelling of family history. In one instance, Ondaatje writes with humor the story of his father's multiple casual engagements and, later, his father's alcoholism. But he never laments that he's been psychologically ruined. There isn't bitterness. Instead, the only lament seems to be that he never knew his father as well as he'd wished he had. Near the end of the memoir he includes an anecdote of being with his father two days prior to death. Ondaatje writes, "You know it is a most relaxed thing when you sit with a best friend and you know there is nothing you have to tell him, to empty your mind." It's when he writes statements like these that one feels the genuine nature behind the memoir. Ondaatje brings the reader into both a foreign country and foreign family, yet makes us feel affection for them just as well as he does. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. One of my favorite books. By dawn
sue Michael Ondaatje make place come alive like no other writer I have read. This books makes me see colors, it's that good. Funny, honest, grave, exaggerated tall tales of family truth that sometimes read like poems, sometimes like confessions, sometimes like a kaleidoscope. Beautiful, strange memoir...my favorite kind. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars
By Good_ManGautamiPutra Satakarni

In the late 1970s Ondaatje returned to his native island of Sri Lanka. As he records his journey through the drug-like heat and intoxicating fragrances of that "pendant off the ear of India," Ondaatje simultaneously retraces the baroque mythology of his Dutch-Ceylonese family. An inspired travel narrative and family memoir by an exceptional writer.

From Library Journal Best known for his novel *The English Patient*, Ondaatje wrote this 1982 memoir after returning to his native Ceylon. His experiences led to a "you can go home again" reflection on his family and country. "For the outsider, this memoir offers a poignant vision exotic in cultural particulars, familiar in intimate human feelings" (LJ 11/15/82). Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. Brightly coloured, sweet and painful, bloody-minded and otherworldly, [this book] achieves the status of legend. Margaret Atwood Eloquent, oblique, witty, full of light and feeling. Ondaatje's knowledge of the fragility and luck of life is very clear. So, too, is the grace and originality of his prose. The New Yorker Ondaatje has produced a remarkable book. Shimmering through the haze of heat and memory is an impressionistic, sometimes surreal portrait of an exotic time and place now gone, a colonial paradise that had its own rhythms and imperatives. Globe and Mail A beautiful, luscious book. Michael Ondaatje has depicted his extraordinary family, who delighted in masks and costumes and love affairs that rainbowed over marriages in the kind of language that makes glory of their lives. He has gone on a poet's journey to Sri Lanka (Ceylon), and the reader who travels with him enters a truly magical world. Maxine Hong Kingston It sparkles with the intensity and vividness of its multifaceted tales of romance and intrigue. Fort Worth Star-Telegram A brilliant, charming, poetic, hyperbolic holiday of a book. Ondaatje walks the line between fact and fiction with a delicately rendered delight. Vancouver Province the brilliant and moving book he has written is original in every way that matters. W. S. Merwin A beautiful, luscious book of discovery and remembrance. Hamilton Spectator With a prose style equal to the voluptuousness of [Ondaatje's] subject and a sense of humor never too far away, *Running in the Family* is sheer reading pleasure. Washington Post It dazzles with its range of imagination, richness of language and the consistently involving changes of mood and tempo. Toronto Star This is an intriguing, funny, dream-like book, impossible to put down. Winnipeg Free Press brief, vivid scenes, moments revived out of remote memories, pictures of the intensities lived by his passionate parents amid the lush flora, the predatory fauna, and the old-fashioned life of the British colonies. This is great story-telling. "Leon Edel From the Hardcover edition. From the Inside Flap In the late 1970s Ondaatje returned to his native island of Sri Lanka. As he records his journey through the drug-like heat and intoxicating fragrances of that "pendant off the ear of India," Ondaatje simultaneously retraces the baroque mythology of his Dutch-Ceylonese family. An inspired travel narrative and family memoir by an exceptional writer.