

Also by Simon Gray

Non-fiction

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HOUSE OF US, THE LATE MIDDLE CLASS, AND

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MURDER, THE HOUSE, THE HOUSE, THE HOUSE
BEGINNING, LATE, SUNDAY, THE HOUSE, THE HOUSE

Film

HOUSE, A MONTH IN THE HOUSE

THE SMOKING DIARIES

Simon Gray

To Chris

Simon Gray

June 22nd 2008

Granta Books
London

Smoking Diaries

Simon Gray



Smoking Diaries:

The Last Cigarette Simon Gray, 2008 The final volume of the trilogy that began with **The Smoking Diaries** **The Smoking Diaries** Simon Gray, 2004 A highly compelling memoir reflecting on a playwright's life his thoughts successes and weaknesses The Complete Smoking Diaries Simon Gray, 2013-09-05 When he turned sixty five playwright Simon Gray began to keep a diary in which he reflected on a life filled with cigarettes continuing alcohol stopped several triumphs and many more disasters shame adultery friendship and love Bringing together the four parts of The Smoking Diaries The Smoking Diaries The Year of the Jouncer The Last Cigarette and Coda this beautiful volume is filled with comedy and serious reflection sharp observation and painful self disclosure A brilliant and moving account of life's unsteady progress it takes the reader to the heart of one man's brilliant struggle towards some kind of personal truth Smoking Diaries Vol 1-3 Boxed Set Simon Gray, 2008-11 When he turned sixty five the acclaimed playwright Simon Gray began to keep this diary not a careful honing of the day's events with a view to posterity but an account of his thoughts as he had them honestly turbulently digressively expressed The Smoking Diaries is the result in which one of Britain's most amusing and original writers reflects on a life filled with cigarettes continuing alcohol stopped several triumphs and many more disasters shame adultery friendship and love Few diarists have been as frank about themselves and even fewer as entertaining So here I am two hours into my sixty sixth year The truth is that I'm nastier than I used to be back when back when I was sixty four for instance when I was nastier than when I was at sixty two and so forth back and back always the less nasty the further back until I get to the age when I was pre nasty at least consciously when the only shame I knew was the shame of being found out which was when I was well about eight I suppose **The Smoking Diaries Volume 1** Simon Gray, 2013-01-23 When he turned sixty five the playwright Simon Gray began to keep a diary not a careful honing of the day's events with a view to posterity but an account of his thoughts as he had them honestly turbulently digressively expressed The Smoking Diaries was the result in which one of Britain's most beloved and original writers reflected on a life filled with cigarettes continuing alcohol stopped several triumphs and many more disasters shame adultery friendship and love Few diarists have been as frank about themselves and even fewer as entertaining **The Smoking Diaries Volume 4** Simon Gray, 2013-01-23 Coda is Simon Gray's powerful account of the year in which he struggled to come to terms with terminal lung cancer Darkly comic depictions of the medical team are set against joyful accounts of sunlit days with his beloved wife Victoria Written with exceptional candour and a poignant reluctance to leave this world behind Simon Gray's Coda is as life affirming as it is heart rending Sadly Coda was published posthumously Gray died in August 2008 The Smoking Diaries Volume 3 Simon Gray, 2013-01-23 The final volume of the trilogy that began with The Smoking Diaries finds Simon Gray determined to give up smoking Really At last Can he kick the habit of sixty years Will he sometime soon be able to leave his house without nervously feeling for his two packets of twenty and his two lighters As this wonderful wayward record of Gray's life progresses these

questions are overtaken by much larger ones What was sex like before 1963 Will his name be in lights on Broadway Why leave the bedside of his dying mother With their combination of comedy and serious reflection of sharp observation and painful self disclosure Simon Gray s diaries reinvented the memoir form and are destined to become classics of autobiography

The Smoking Diaries Volume 2 Simon Gray, 2013-01-23 As a baby Simon Gray discovered that he could move his pram while still nestling inside it It was a complete mystery to the adult intelligences how had he done it if it was he who had done it but if not he who then and why So the next afternoon they Mummy and Nanny planted the pram in the usual spot and stood over it watching the baby lay there smiling or snivelling up at them until it struck them that they should try observing the baby when unobserved by the baby and they withdrew behind bushes and trees etc and thus witnessed the swaying of the pram then the juddering of the pram then its slow unsteady progress along the path the movement accompanied by a low humming and keening sound from within that reminded them more of a dog than a human jouncing was the word they used for it I was a jouncer therefore In the second book of his chronicles of triumph and disaster which started with *The Smoking Diaries* Gray intertwined scenes from his adult and his childish self to produce a brilliant and moving counterpoint of life s unsteady progress

The Last Cigarette Simon Gray, Hugh Whitemore, 2009 Notable for his uncompromising honesty and a wit both fierce and fearless Simon Gray s voice was uniquely his own intelligent probing and often outrageously funny He faced life and death with unflinching courage and defiant humanity even when writing about his own mortality he lost none of his prodigious talent to entertain Warm candid and with a double dose of dark humour this dramatisation of Gray s *The Smoking Diaries* and other memoirs was completed just before his death last summer *The Last Cigarette* premiered at the Minerva Theatre Chichester in March 2009

The Fry Chronicles Stephen Fry, 2012-01-19 The British actor writer and comedy legend tells his story Funny poignant His prose feels like an ideal form of conversation *The Washington Post* A 1 *Sunday Times* Bestseller When Stephen Fry arrived at Cambridge he was a convicted thief an addict and a failed suicide convinced that he would be expelled Instead university life offered him love and the chance to entertain He befriended bright young things like Hugh Laurie and Emma Thompson and delighted audiences with *Blackadder* and *A Bit of Fry and Laurie* Covering most of his twenties this is the riotous and utterly compelling story of how the Stephen the world knows or thinks it knows took his first steps in theater radio television and film Tales of scandal and champagne jostle with insights into hard earned stardom *The Fry Chronicles* is not afraid to confront the chasm that separates public image from private feeling and it is marvelously rich in trademark wit and verbal brilliance Charming *The Wall Street Journal* Genuinely touching and often hilarious *Publishers Weekly*

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