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Literature Annotations



[Amis, Martin](#) **Time's Arrow**

Genre	Novel
Keywords	Caregivers , Empathy , History of Medicine , Individuality , Literary Theo Narrative as Method , Ordinary Life , Physician Experience , Professional Surgery , Time , War and Medicine ,
Summary	Tod Friendly awakens from death, rejuvenates, and becomes a surgeon. York he becomes John Young. He travels to Lisbon and a privileged ex Hamilton de Souza. He leaves Lisbon for Salerno, then Rome. As Odilo Unverdorben he travels north to Auschwitz Central where he resumes his career and conducts research. Through this time he has a series of affair joins his wife. Their daughter dies, they marry, then court. Odilo works then attends medical school. He joins a youth organization and lives with Mother. Finally, he enters Mother.
Commentary	A series of literal and figurative awakenings, renamings, and reinventing Time's Arrow is an extended international Bildungsroman in reverse. A brilliant accomplishment of Nabokov's challenge, "Nobody can imagine terms the act of reversing the order of time. Time is not reversible," its the story of the development of one's self (traditionally told up to young to the full course of a lifetime, and its emphasis on that development as to changing events in one's life and in the broader socio-historical context dramatizes identity as created, as created through narrative, as constant and as ipse (similarity to one's self over time) not idem (identicalness with outside time).
	In Time's Arrow time, voice, and perspective are constructed individual combination such that the novel can be read analogously to a thorough self-conscious, unruly reflection of the disorderly and opaque narrative medicine. Moreover, the difficulty of reading "backwards," as opposed of watching a film in reverse, engraves the experience in the reader's mind the very literariness of Time's Arrow becomes its greatest value to literature medicine.
Publisher	Penguin (New York)
Edition	1991
Annotated by	Marta, Jan
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