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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Writers Notes Magazine Features Exclusive William Styron Interview

Writers Notes Magazine obtains an exclusive interview with legendary American writer William Styron, speaking on his life and art in the upcoming fall issue.

Writers Notes Magazine, the international literary publication of stories, essays, interviews, and visual arts, has scored another top interview, this time with prizewinning author William Styron. The interview is set to appear in issue #4 slated for October 2005.

Styron, who in 2005 celebrated his 80th birthday, is most known as the author of *Sophie's Choice* and the Pulitzer prizewinning *Confessions of Nat Turner*. Speaking in his New England home in 2001 with *WNM* contributing writer Kathye Fetsko Petrie, Styron discussed his life, work, and health, among other topics.

During the interview, Styron reveals how a serious illness plunged him into a deep depression in 2000. This dark corner of Sytron's life was explored in his 1993 book, *Darkness Visible*, but unlike his previous battle, his recent depression resulted in electroconvulsive therapy (ECT), commonly called shock treatments.

"I don't think it helped me, but I don't think it hurt me either," Styron says. "I just don't know what it did. It may have caused the strange amnesia, which took over later."

Styron claims that writing is a "painful thing" as well, but by the age of eighteen, he felt that a life in letters was "a calling like a priest in the sense that no other form of activity would make my life satisfying or worthwhile."

Interviewer Petrie, author of the children's book *Flying Jack* and editor/publisher of **Local Lit**, is a recent addition to the growing *Writers Notes* staff.

"She was specifically brought onboard to handle author interviews," says Senior Editor Christopher Klim, who is the author of just-released satirical novel, *The Winners Circle*. "She's a valuable asset, given her skill, experience, and connections with members of the literary community."

The William Styron interview will appear in issue #4, alongside contributions from cult author Robert Gover, selected writers, and the 2005 Writing Award Winners for fiction.

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