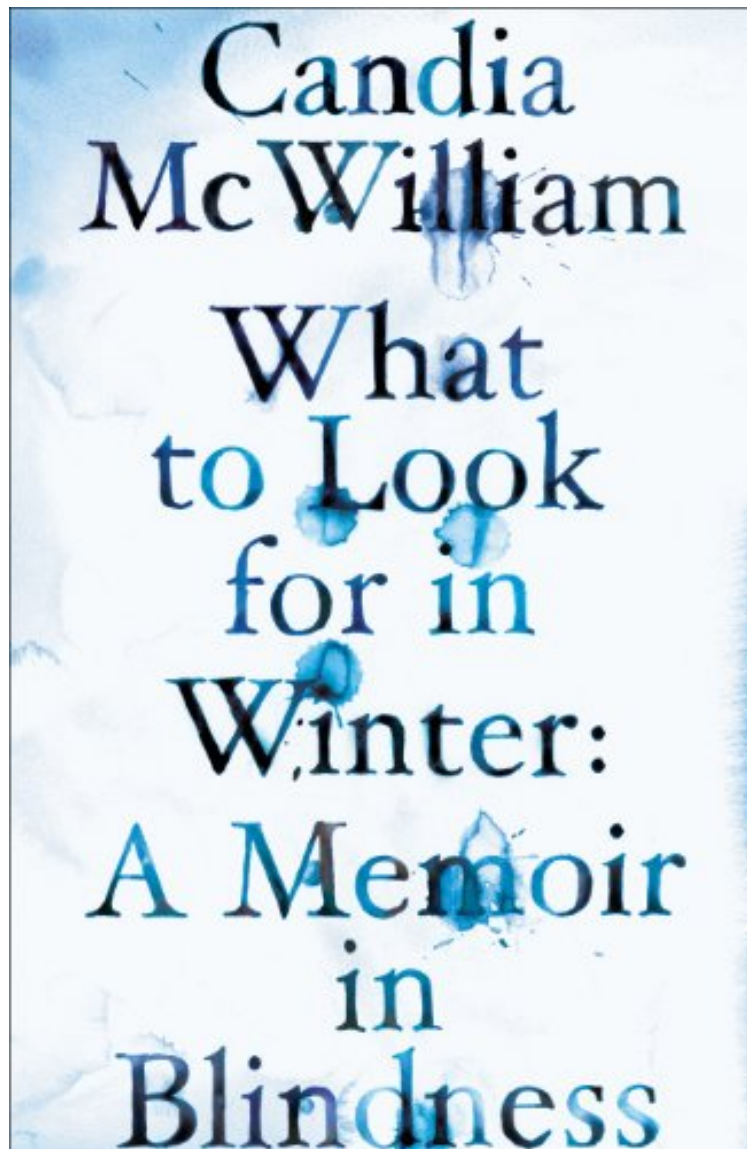


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What to Look for in Winter

Von Candia McWilliam

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Von Candia McWilliam : What to Look for in Winter before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised What to Look for in Winter:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not what I hoped forVon GJFreeI chose this book because it had a terrific review in one of the journals. The review led me to think it would be about how the author adjusted to her sudden blindness (blepharospasm). Unfortunately it wasn't mostly about her blindness -but rather an awful lot about her childhood. Which was necessary to build the background,

but spending over 150 pages on it was a bit much. Very irritating at first were her very convoluted sentences - just one example: I was keen on the self-betterment side of suicide, so convinced of angelic afterlife was I, on account of knowing for sure that I had a guardian angel, partly because on my nursery wall was a reproduction of Ghirlandaio's painting of Tobias, slung with the fish, gall from whose liver was to cure his father's blindness, and his Angel, and partly on account of my guardian angel having told me firmly not to turn on my bedroom light switch which went on to give my mother a great shock later that day. (page 49) This is truly how it appears, and it just ONE sentence! Every page has such constructions. Does make one pay attention though! Another conceit of hers is the naming of everybody she has ever met in her life. And the parents, grandparents and other notable family members of these same people are also mentioned. A bit too much, especially since many of named, although well-known in their fields of endeavour, are not necessarily known to the reader (me!). Despite these irritations I found myself being drawn in around page 150 (after nearly giving up several times). The rhythm of her prose grew on me, and I was just tooo curious to see how she mastered her handicap. She was/is not one to make the best of bad situation. I've seen people handle dreadful setbacks - physical or emotional, much better than Mc Williams. She is however honest, and one has to admire that.

Kurzbeschreibung Candia McWilliam had just joined the judging panel of the Man Booker Prize for fiction in 2006 when she started to lose her sight. The gradual onset of blindness seemed especially cruel to someone whose life depended on reading and writing. As McWilliam's sight disappeared she looked inwards and began to remember her Edinburgh childhood, her mother's suicide, her teenage escape into another identity, her marriages, her children and, stalking all these memories, her increasing alcoholism. *What To Look For In Winter* is a magical, uplifting and truly wise book about families and friendship, love and loss and that most elusive of things - a sense of self. Pressestimmen "The most brutally honest and beautifully written account I have read of somebody's own failings and suffering" (Anthony Beever Daily Mail, My Six Best Books...) Werbetext A beautifully written, moving and extraordinary work of autobiography from one of the leading figures of the British literary world.