

The Suicide Run

# WILLIAM STYRON

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize



## THE SUICIDE RUN

FIVE TALES OF THE MARINE CORPS

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Before writing his memoir of madness, *Darkness Visible*, William Styron was best known for his ambitious works of fiction—including *The Confessions of Nat Turner* and *Sophie’s Choice*. Styron also created personal but no less powerful tales based on his real-life experiences as a U.S. Marine. *The Suicide Run* collects five of these meticulously rendered narratives. One of them—“Elobey, Annobón, and Corisco”—is published here for the first time.

In “Blankenship,” written in 1953, Styron draws on his stint as a guard at a stateside military prison at the end of World War II. “Marriott, the Marine” and “The Suicide Run”—which Styron composed in the early 1970s as part of an intended novel that he set aside to write *Sophie’s Choice*—depict the surreal experience of being conscripted a second time, after World War II, to serve in the Korean War. “My Father’s House” captures the isolation and frustration of a soldier trying to become a civilian again. In “Elobey, Annobón, and Corisco,” written late in Styron’s life, a soldier attempts to exorcise the dread of an approaching battle by daydreaming about far-off islands, visited vicariously through his childhood stamp collection.

Perhaps the last volume from one of literature’s greatest voices, *The Suicide Run* brings to life the drama, inhumanity, absurdity, and heroism that forever changed the men who served in the Marine Corps.

From the Hardcover edition.

作者介绍:

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