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# Is Sex Necessary?: Or Why You Feel the Way You Do

By James Thurber, E. B. White



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The first book of prose published by either James Thurber or E. B. White, *Is Sex Necessary*? combines the humor and genius of both authors to examine those great mysteries of life -- romance, love, and marriage. A masterpiece of drollery, this 75th Anniversary Edition stands the test of time with its sidesplitting spoof of men, women, and psychologists; more than fifty funny illustrations by Thurber; and a new foreword by John Updike.

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### From the Publisher

The classic send-up of sex manuals and how-to books--and one of the funniest books ever written. "One of the silliest books in years, and perfectly lovely."--*Saturday Review* 

#### About the Author

James Thurber was born in Columbus, Ohio, in 1894. Famous for his humorous writings and illustrations, he was a staff member of *The New Yorker* for more than thirty years. He died in 1961.

E. B. White, the author of such beloved classics as *Charlotte's Web*, *Stuart Little*, and *The Trumpet of the Swan*, was born in Mount Vernon, New York. He graduated from Cornell University in 1921 and, five or six years later, joined the staff of *The New Yorker* magazine, then in its infancy. He died on October 1, 1985, and was survived by his son and three grandchildren.

Mr. White's essays have appeared in *Harper's* magazine, and some of his other books are: *One Man's Meat*, *The Second Tree from the Corner*, *Letters of E. B. White*, *Essays of E. B. White*, and *Poems and Sketches of E. B. White*. He won countless awards, including the 1971 National Medal for Literature and the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award, which commended him for making a "substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children."

During his lifetime, many young readers asked Mr. White if his stories were true. In a letter written to be sent to his fans, he answered, "No, they are imaginary tales . . . But real life is only one kind of life—there is also the life of the imagination."

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