

Writers from the Other Europe
General Editor: PHILIP ROTH

**The Book of
Laughter and Forgetting**

MILAN KUNDERA

Afterword: A Talk with the Author

"An absolutely dazzling entertainment... arousing on every level—political, erotic, intellectual, and above all, humorous."—*Newsweek*

BARRY HANNAH
Author of
Airships



NOBEL PRIZE-WINNER
PATRICK WHITE

THE
TWYBORN AFFAIR

ONE OF WHITE'S BEST, SLENDILLY EVOCATIVE
—*ALLEN GINSBERG*



Peter DeVries
**Consenting Adults,
or The Duchess
Will
Be furious**



The Penguin Contemporary American Fiction Series

ALICE ADAMS
RICH REWARDS

Nonstoply readable... Daphne is one of the most admirable female characters in modern fiction. — Anne Tyler, *The New York Times Book Review*

At your bookstore

"**IT'S GENIUS,**" said John Leonard in *The New York Times* about Milan Kundera's "magnificent fiction," **THE BOOK OF LAUGHTER AND FORGETTING** — a bestselling addition to Penguin's **WRITERS FROM THE OTHER EUROPE** series. \$4.95

THE CONFESSIONS OF A GOOD OL' BOY, womanizer, poet, and vigilante will keep you in stitches when you read **RAY**. The wildly funny, widely acclaimed comic novel by Barry Hannah, in Penguin's **CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN FICTION** series. \$3.95

THREE'S COMPANY. From Eudoxia... to Eddie... to Eadith... Nobel Prize-winner Patrick White's **THE TWYBORN AFFAIR** is the story of one of recent fiction's most intriguingly varied and memorable characters. \$4.95

EROS IN ILLINOIS. The hilarious, erotic saga of young Ted Peachum, who escapes his feelings of nonexistence in a licentious pursuit of the flesh. You'll love Peter De Vries's comic masterpiece, **CONSENTING ADULTS, OR THE DUCHESS WILL BE FURIOUS**. \$3.50

SHE FOUND HER HEART IN SAN FRANCISCO. Daphne Matthiesson, the intelligent, honest heroine of Alice Adams's beautifully crafted novel, **RICH REWARDS**, comes to San Francisco and discovers the risks — and rewards — of genuine love. \$4.95

Penguin has the gift of fiction.

And that's a fact!



PENGUIN PAPERBACKS
625 Madison Ave., New York 10022



excess and Depression doom, of *The Beautiful and the Damned*—was shaped and abetted by his fiction and his and Zelda's gift (or curse) for self-dramatization. But all myths are too simple. In this excellent and exhaustively researched biography, Matthew J. Bruccoli gives the Fitzgerald myth flesh and dimension, as well as full-scale scholarly documentation. There are minor corrections: Hemingway never retorted, "Yeah, they have more money" to Fitzgerald's "The very rich are different from you and me." (Money was, of course, a constant Fitzgerald theme; typical of Bruccoli's thoroughness is a year-by-year record of all his earnings—and it is to be noted that even in the worst years the income was substantial.) More important, Fitzgerald was no wastrel. He was churning out stories and essays all the time, and even in the nadir of the 1930s was far more productive than simple myth would have it.

But the major correction is that we are given the life and the writing as they happened, so that the myth unfolds as if new and in the context of reality, not the other way around. It is an extraordinarily touching story, not least because Fitzgerald was a good deal more honest with himself than most writers tend to be (and he seems to have recorded everything). Bruccoli is naturally sympathetic, but he holds adoration in careful check. The tone is factual and neutral—which is to say just right. The dramatics—the burst of genius, the vortex of anguish—speak for themselves.

—ELIOT FREMONT-SMITH

The Language of Clothes

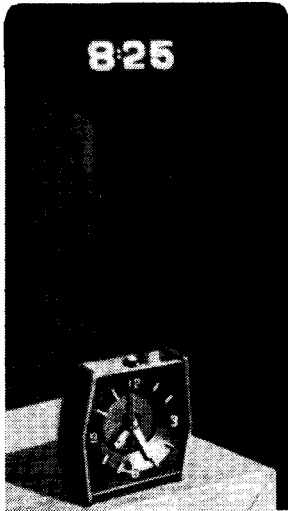
by Alison Lurie
Random House, 238 pp., \$20

The Fashionable Mind: Reflections on Fashion, 1970-1981

by Kennedy Fraser
Alfred A. Knopf, 290 pp., \$13.95

WHILE SOME of Alison Lurie's more absolute pronouncements are questionable—that orange is an "aggressive" color people invariably react against—most of her observations are trenchant and astute. For example, she notes that whether adorned with safety pins or unnecessary buttons and buckles, both punks and preppies are signaling their danger of bursting or falling apart. Especially suggestive are comparisons of clothes to the landscape in which they crop up: the Londoner's squared-off grays emulating the buildings and fog of that city, the horizontal stripes of a sail-

A new way to tell the time—A better way to get to sleep!



Invisible electronic time projector beam shows the correct time continuously on your ceiling.

The Sleep Clock

Projects the time on your ceiling in big 3 inch floating numerals



Here's an amazing new clock that may help you fall sound asleep!

All night long the time magically floats by overhead in soft, glowing digital numerals. It's soothing—it's almost "hypnotic"—and before you know it you could be drowsily dozing off. If you want to know the time in the middle of the night, just peep open one eye, glance at the ceiling and drift easily back to sleep. No more strained eyes, tossing and turning, stumbling out of bed to read an old-fashioned clock or watch in the dark. Sleep Clock can be read from anywhere in the room, features a firm-but-gentle wake-up alarm...reliable plug-in accuracy...UL and CSA approval...10-day free trial and money-back guarantee. Measures 3" deep x 6" wide x 6½" high. Order today—you'll sleep better for it!

- No night-light glare to keep you awake
- No batteries—plugs into any 110V AC outlet
- Time projector beam can be switched on and off without affecting accuracy
- Also shows time in conventional manner

\$24.95

LIMITED TIME INTRODUCTORY OFFER

NATIONALLY ADVERTISED AT \$39.95

ELECTRIC ALARM
MADE IN U.S.A.

10 DAY FREE TRIAL

Electronics International 666 Dundee Rd., Suite 701, Northbrook, Ill. 60062 Dept. CHP-11

Yes! Send me _____ SLEEP CLOCKS for 10-day trial on full money-back guarantee. I enclose \$24.95 each, plus \$2.00 each postage and handling. Total enclosed \$ _____ (Ill. residents add 6% sales tax)

Name _____ YOU MAY CHARGE YOUR ORDER
 Address _____ Visa no. _____
 City _____ Master Chg. no. _____
 State _____ Zip _____ M. Chg. Interbank no. (above your name) _____
 Card good thru _____
 Signature _____

FOR FASTER SERVICE ... CREDIT CARD CUSTOMERS CALL (312) 564-4080

DOUBLE GUARANTEE
MONEY BACK—Try the Sleep Clock in your home for 10 days. If not 100% delighted, return it for full refund.
EVERY CLOCK IS SOLD WITH A LIMITED REPLACEMENT GUARANTEE.
 Our references: American National Bank & Trust Co., Chicago.

ELECTRONICS INTERNATIONAL A division of Robert Kahn Enterprises, Inc.
 666 Dundee Rd., Suite 701, Northbrook, Ill. 60062

TEA First time offered in the U.S.
100% PURE CEYLON TEAS & SPICES
 Send for FREE descriptive brochure. Includes suggestions for brewing, glossary of tea terms, new sampler offering, and attractive tea filled canisters for gift giving
 Send name and address to: Embassy House, Dept. D, PO Box 525 Watertown, Conn. 06795

New Natural Way To Sleep
 Pure Cotton Knit

 Tee-PJ's resemble a T-shirt, but over a foot longer. Special knit gives when you move, eases up when you relax. No bind, no bunch, no chafe, no buttons, no ironing! Most comfortable sleeper you've ever worn or money back. (Great for Ladies, too). Choose snow white or soft blue. S-M-L-XL (to ensure best fit include height-weight when ordering.) Order NOW, while prices include postage/handling!
 \$12 ea. 3 for \$26
 Long sleeve style (not shown) \$15 ea 3 for \$35
 WITTMANN TEXTILES
 Dept. 424, Hobe Sound, Fla. 33455

The essence of celebration is captured in 250 exhilarating photos taken throughout the world.



Celebrations

FROM BIRTH TO DEATH AND FROM NEW YEAR'S TO CHRISTMAS
 By CATERINE MILINAIRE

11x10. Over 250 color and black-and-white photographs. \$27.50 until 12/31/81. \$30.00 thereafter. Now at your bookstore, or send check or money order to Crown Publishers, One Park Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10016. Please add \$1.70 postage and handling charge. N.Y. and N.J. residents, add sales tax.

H·A·R·M·O·N·Y B·O·O·K·S

or's jersey mimicking the blue waves of the sea. Though there is much here that will be familiar to anyone conversant with the history and theory of dress, *The Language of Clothes* is above all a novelist's morphology of literary types in which clothing is wittily explored as the ultimate in the "telling" detail.

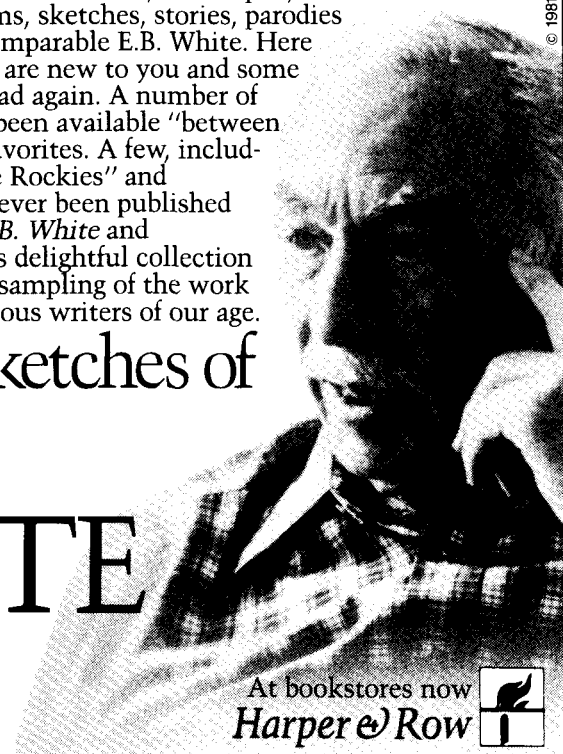
The essays Kennedy Fraser has preserved from her *New Yorker* columns are not about clothing but about fashion. Whereas Lurie has the bright eye of the social ironist, Fraser writes from a partisan point of view. Perhaps because of the insecurity that fashion generates in any sophisticated woman, *The Fashionable Mind's* tone is as brittle, albeit as elegant, as a formalized fashion spread in *Vogue* circa 1959. Much of the material is so particular to its time as to be dated or irrelevant, and the focus on the immediate tends to blind the author to the fact that much of the phenomena she concentrates on in such a fury of judgment has been seen in one form or another before. She believes she is witnessing the collapse of fashion from a monolithic series of prevailing uniforms into a chaotic array of "anything goes"; she seems at once to mourn its passing and to view the old couture with disdain. One can only wonder why someone so out of sympathy with her subject has chosen it at all.

—ANNA SHAPIRO

"Nobody else could come close to writing like that." — James Thurber

Thurber was describing "Two Letters, Both Open," included in this collection of poems, sketches, stories, parodies and opinions by the incomparable E.B. White. Here you will find things that are new to you and some that you've wanted to read again. A number of these pieces have never been available "between covers." Others are old favorites. A few, including "Wedding Day in the Rockies" and "Youth and Age," have never been published before. Like *Letters of E.B. White* and *Essays of E.B. White*, this delightful collection offers a richly satisfying sampling of the work of one of the most felicitous writers of our age.

Poems & Sketches of
E. B. WHITE



© 1981 Jim Kalett

At bookstores now
 Harper & Row



Bismarck

by Edward Crankshaw
 The Viking Press, 408 pp., \$19.95

IN THIS SCRUPULOUSLY detailed, eloquently written biography, the 19th-century master of Realpolitik emerges as a peculiarly fascinating kind of scoundrel. As historian Edward Crankshaw sees it, Bismarck's celebrated courage was not that of a great leader, "unspeculatively advancing to destruction in the conviction of his own infallibility." On the contrary, Bismarck was a supreme calculator, a "confidence trickster of genius," who became minister-president of Prussia with virtually no professional training or political base.

He managed, through a "virtuosic" manipulation of the power available to him, to maneuver his country into three savage, successful wars and transform a fragmented Germany into the most feared war machine in Europe.

Nevertheless, says Crankshaw, it was an empty performance by a vulgar man. Bismarck was engaged only in the "dreary and unsatisfying business of consolidating his personal power" through