

Play It As It Lays: A Novel #2005 #9780374529949 #Joan Didion #Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005 #213 pages

Didion included the short novels *Play It as It Lays* (1970), *A Book of Common Prayer* (1977), *Democracy* (1984), and *The Last Thing He Wanted* (1996; film 2020) and the essays *Salvador* (1983), *Miami* (1987), and *Where I Was From* (2003). Essays on U.S. politics, including the presidential election of 1972. film adaptation. In Frank Perry. (1972), an adaptation of a novel by Joan Didion, who cowrote the script with her husband, John Gregory Dunne. The dramedy featured Tuesday Weld as an actress who suffers a nervous breakdown after a series of traumatic incidents, including the suicide of her husband. *Give books away. Get books you want. Play It as It Lays. 2005. 3.87. 20,722 Ratings. 213 Pages.* by Joan Didion. David Thomson. Add to Wishlist. Just as there is no loss of basic energy in the universe, so no thought or action is without its effects, present or ultimate, seen or unseen, felt or unfeelt. Norman Cousins. Authors' Books. Alfred Hayes is one of the secret masters of the twentieth century novel, a journalist and scriptwriter and poet who possessed an immaculate ear and who wrote with razorsharp intelligence about passion and its payback. *My Face for the World to See* is set in Los Angeles. Moments That Made the Movies. by David Thomson. So opens Joan Didion's spellbinding novel *PLAY IT AS IT LAYS*, which has my vote for best first lines of a book. It immediately encapsulates the novel's mood of weary nihilism and the lawless California setting where morality and the debate of good versus evil are beside the point. With the release of the Netflix original documentary *Joan Didion: The Center Will Not Hold* directed by her nephew, Griffin Dunne, and produced by her grandniece, Annabelle Dunne, Didion and her works are once again hot on the cultural radar. She's one of my holy-grail writers. I was 18 the first time I read her work, in her books include *The White Album*, *Play It As It Lays*, and *Slouching Towards Bethlehem*. She lives in New York City. David Thomson is a film critic and historian based in the United States. It is a very celebrated novel in some quarters. Personally, I found it a difficult and slow read. I have seldom started a novel with such positive expectations and felt so disappointed. I loved Joan Didion's first novel, "Run, River". This novel, "Play It As It Lays" seems more celebrated. I relished the chance to read it. Honestly, what I liked most about it is that it was short, sort of the reading experience equivalent of euthanasia. This occasionally happens to me.