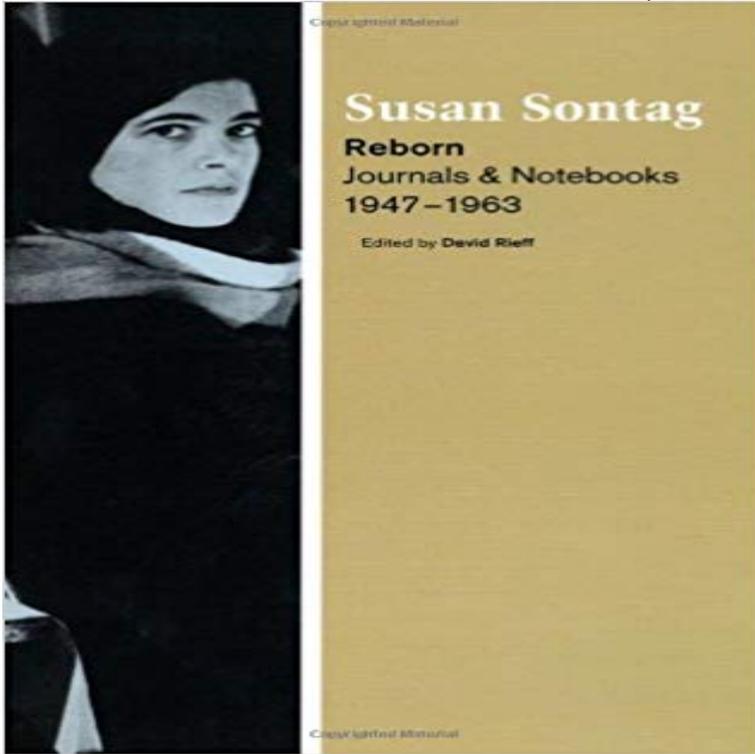


Reborn: Journals and Notebooks, 1947-1963



I intend to do everything...to have one way of evaluating experience?does it cause me pleasure or pain, and I shall be very cautious about rejecting the painful?I shall anticipate pleasure everywhere and find it too, for it is everywhere! I shall involve myself wholly...everything matters!So wrote Susan Sontag in May 1949 at the age of sixteen. This, the first of three volumes of her journals and notebooks, presents a constantly and utterly surprising record of a great mind in incubation. It begins with journal entries and early attempts at fiction from her years as a university and graduate student, and ends in 1964, when she was becoming a participant in and observer of the artistic and intellectual life of New York City.Reborn is a kaleidoscopic self-portrait of one of Americas greatest writers and intellectuals, teeming with Sontags voracious curiosity and appetite for life. We watch the young Sontags complex self-awareness, share in her encounters with the writers who informed her thinking, and engage with the profound challenge of writing itself?all filtered through the inimitable detail of everyday circumstance.

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