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William

A Temple of Texts
William H. Gass is one
of the great thinkers
of the twentieth
century, and luckily
for us he's also one of
the great writers. In
this collection of

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essays, Gass tackles a variety of topics related to literature and culture.

TEMPLE OF TEXTS, A
(American Literature
Series): Amazon.co ...

What novelist and
professor of
philosophy William
Gass practices in his
critical essays is more

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William H. Gass
in the line of learned
appreciation or
ecstatic advocacy.
Though many of
these pieces first
appeared in other
books as forwards,
afterwards, and
introductions,
reviewers feel that A
Temple of Texts may
be his most cohesive
collection yet. Gass's
allusions and

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elaborate metaphors
don't make for
skimming.

A Temple of Texts by
William H. Gass
In A Temple of Texts,
William H. Gass holds
forth on the power
and value of
important and
influential
booksbooks that have

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influenced not only his own writing and career but also, in his opinion ...

A Temple of Texts
Analysis - eNotes.com
A Temple of Texts is written by one who both venerates and appreciates texts (and also has the critical faculties not to be

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entirely blind to their defects), and it makes for a spirited defense of literary tradition -- whereby Gass sees that tradition very much also in the modern, with literature still very much a field that is alive and in which much good and interesting work is (or can be) done. It's a

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marvelous collection
of often very creative
pieces on important
(and a few lesser)
works ...

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William H. Gass

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and culture. He writes
about complex ideas
in prose that is easy
and

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William H Gass -

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William H.

Gass—essayist,
novelist, literary
critic—was born in
Fargo, North Dakota.
He is the author of
seven works of fiction
and nine books of
essays, including *Life
Sentences*, *A Temple
of...*

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William H. Gass From

one of the most

admired essayists and

novelists at work

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collection of

essays—his first since

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of the National Book

Critics Circle Award

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for Criticism. A

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Winner of the 2007
Truman Capote
Award for Literary
Criticism, "A Temple

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of Texts" is the latest critical collection from one of America's greatest essayists and novelists. Here, William H. Gass pays homage to the readerly side of the literary experience by turning his critical sensibility upon all the books that shaped his own development as a reader, writer,

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A Temple of Texts:
Temple of Texts:
Essays (American ...
William Howard Gass
was an American
novelist, short story
writer, essayist, critic,
and philosophy
professor. He wrote
three novels, three
collections of short

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William H. G. stories, a collection of novellas, and seven volumes of essays, three of which have won National Book Critics Circle Award prizes and one of which, A Temple of Texts, won the Truman Capote Award for Literary Criticism. His 1995 novel The Tunnel received the

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American Book

Award. His 2013
novel Middle C won
the 2015 William
Dean Howells Med

William H. Gass -
Wikipedia

William Temple was
an English Anglican
priest, who served as
Bishop of
Manchester,

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Archbishop of York
and Archbishop of
Canterbury. The son
of an Archbishop of
Canterbury, Temple
had a traditional
education after which
he was briefly a
lecturer at the
University of Oxford
before becoming
headmaster of Repton
School from 1910 to
1914. After serving

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William Temple
as a parish priest in
London from 1914 to
1917 and as a canon
of Westminster
Abbey, he was
appointed Bishop of
Manchester in 1921.
He worked for impro

William Temple
(bishop) - Wikipedia
The centerpiece of
this new collection is

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its title piece, “A
Temple of Texts: Fifty
Literary Pillars, ”
originally an
exhibition and
booklet created to
inaugurate the
International Writers
Center in 1991. The
‘ pillars ’ are 50
books that helped
shape William Gass
the writer, and each
one is listed and

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given a brief, colorful
description.

A Temple of Texts:
Essays by William H.
Gass - Identity Theory
Upon the Gardens of
Epicurus-William
Temple 2004 Sir
William Temple,
diplomat, statesman,
and writer, retired to
his garden in the

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1680s and wrote what has become one of the key texts, not only of gardening, but also of the English aesthetic. It was he who introduced the idea of the charm of irregularity, and who gave it the allegedly

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Quotes Showing 1-6

of 6 “ The true

alchemists do not

change lead into gold;

they change the

world into words. ”

William H. Gass, A

Temple of Texts tags:

alchemy, writing

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Quotes by William H.
Gass

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William H. Gass is one
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the great writers. In
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variety of topics
related to literature
and culture. He writes
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and enjoyable to read.

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the most admired

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William H. G
essayists and
novelists at work
today: a new
collection of
essays—his first since
Tests of Time, winner
of the National Book
Critics Circle Award
for Criticism. These
twenty-five essays
speak to the nature
and value of writing
and to the books that
result from a deep

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commitment to the
word.

A Temple of Texts by
William H. Gass:
9780307498243 ...

Despite the
occasional gem, such
as a touching, if
rambling, tribute to
William Gaddis, the
essays often devolve
into little more than a

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brief synopsis of plot.
This volume is
appropriately titled,...

Nonfiction Book

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Texts: Essays by ...

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William H. Gass A

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today: a new
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essays—his first since
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for Criticism. These
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speak to the nature
and value of writing
and to the books that

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Mr livianocalabrese
A Temple of Texts
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of the great thinkers
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the great writers. In

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William S. Gass
this collection of essays, Gass tackles a variety of topics related to literature and culture. He writes about complex ideas in prose that is easy and enjoyable to read.

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William H G
today: a new
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essays—his first since
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of the National Book
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for Criticism. These
twenty-five essays
speak to the nature
and value of writing
and to the books that
result from a deep
commitment to the
word. Here is Gass on

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Rilke and Gertrude Stein; on friends such as Stanley Elkin, Robert Coover, and William Gaddis; and on a company of “ healthy dissidents, ” among them Rabelais, Elias Canetti, John Hawkes, and Gabriel García Márquez. In the title essay, Gass offers an annotated list of the

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fifty books that have most influenced his thinking and his work and writes about his first reaction to reading each. Among the books: Ludwig Wittgenstein ' s Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus (" A lightning bolt, " Gass writes. " Philosophy was not dead after all. Philosophical

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ambitions were not
extinguished.

Philosophical beauty
had not fled prose. ”)

... Ben Jonson ' s
The Alchemist (“ A
man after my own
heart. He is capable
of the simplest lyrical
stroke, as bold and
direct as a line by
Matisse, but he can
be complex in a
manner that could

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cast Nabokov in the
shade . . .

Shakespeare may
have been smarter,
but he did not know
as much. ”) . . .

Gustave Flaubert ’ s
letters (“ Here I
learned—and
learned—and
learned. ”) And after
reading Malory ’ s Le
Morte d ’ Arthur,
Gass writes “ I began

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to eat books like an alien worm. ” In the concluding essay, “ Evil, ” Gass enlarges upon the themes of artistic quality and cultural values that are central to the books he has considered, many of which seek to reveal the worst in people while admiring what they

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do best. As Gass
writes, “ The true
alchemists do not
change lead into gold,
they change the
world into words. ” A
Temple of Texts is
Gass at his most
alchemical.

In this sequel to
Fiction & the Figures

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of Life, one of

America's most brilliant and eclectic minds examines literature, culture, writers (their lives and works), and the nature and uses of language and the written word.

Included are discussions of Valéry, Henry Miller, Sartre, Freud, Faulkner,

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suicide, "art and order," and the transformation of language into poetry and fiction. The vividness and clarity of Gass's writing, the unabashed love and inimitable use of language-his startling metaphors, the sinuousness of his philosophy, the originality of his

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William H. Gass
vision-make each
essay a searching
revelation of its
subject, as well as an
example of Gass's
own singular artistry.

From the author of
The Tunnel comes a
new collection of
essays, his first in
eight years, on art,
writing, nature and
culture. This book is

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by one of the most
important and brilliant
thinkers at work
today.

Reveals how the
Federal Reserve
under Paul Volcker
engineered changes
in America's economy

A dazzling new
collection of
essays—on reading,

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Writing, form, and thought—from one of America's master writers. It begins with the personal, both past and present. It emphasizes Gass's lifelong attachment to books and moves on to the more analytical, as he ponders the work of some of his favorite writers (among them

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Kafka, Nietzsche,
Henry James,
Gertrude Stein,
Proust). He writes
about a few topics
equally burning but
less loved (the Nobel
Prize–winner and
Nazi sympathizer
Knut Hamsun; the
Holocaust). Finally,
Gass ponders
theoretical matters
connected with

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literature: form and metaphor, and specifically, one of its genetic parts—the sentence. Gass embraces the avant-garde but applies a classic standard of writing to all literature, which is clear in these essays, or, as he describes them, literary judgments and

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accounts. Life

Sentences is William
Gass at his Gassian
best.

"Gass has produced a
book that burrows
inside us then wails
like a beast, a book
that mainlines a
century's terror direct
to the brain."-Voice
Literary Supplement

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“Every significant religious system stands upon a sacred text. This text is indeed its temple. Inside, its heroes and their history are enshrined. Although leaders of varying degrees of divinity are always involved in the creation of a new sect, they usually have short lives, often

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William H. O.
come to bad ends,
and their influence,
diluted by disciples,
soon disappears as
water does in sand.
What the leader
leaves behind is Mein
Kampf or its
equivalent: his
testament.
Occasionally, by the
indolent, an existent
text is chosen, or a
compilation

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selected—a golden treasury. From time to time, other writings may be dubbed divine, as though knighted. This is not a simple social thing, however. It is more important than a nation adding to its territories. Any addition to the divine canon will approve, proscribe, or admit

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new thoughts, new practices, and in consequence elevate different people to positions of privilege and power. ” —William H. Gass These essays and panel discussions made up The Writer and Religion Conference held at Washington University in St.

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Louis. The six essays,
all by writers of
international stature,
were followed by
panel discussions,
with audience
participation.

In a philosophical
approach to color,
William Gass explores
man's perception of
the color blue as well
as its common erotic,

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symbolic, and
emotional
associations.

A debut novel set in a rural American town, where Brackett Omensetter arrives, with his wife, family, and all earthly belongings. It soon becomes apparent that he is someone out of the ordinary as

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he sets in motion a
wave of violent
emotions in the once
tranquil community.
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