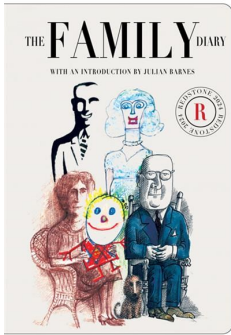


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The Family Diary

Edited by Julian Rothenstein , Introduction by Julian Barnes

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Curated by novelist Julian Barnes, the celebrated cult diary explores the mysteries and complexities of family bonds

The 2024 *Redstone Diary* opens a window on that most enigmatic part of our everyday lives: the family. It has been an essential subject for artists, writers, singers, therapists and psychoanalysts. Tolstoy wrote: "All happy families resemble one another, but each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way." But was he right? Perhaps Dodie Smith got closer to the truth when she wrote that the family was an octopus "from whose tentacles we never quite escape, nor in our inmost hearts, ever quite wish to." Together or alone, we cannot escape the family.

These bonds are explored in a marvelous array of texts selected by Julian Barnes, from writers including Willa Cather, Marcel Proust, Virginia Woolf and Philip Roth.

Images feature still captures from home movies; photographs of Depression-era group prayer; psychological tests; and artworks such as Paula Rego's disturbing imagery of fatherhood, Frida Kahlo's reimagining of her genealogy and John Lennon's lyrics to his absent mother.



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