

Index

A

“A person can get used to anything, if given enough time.”, 58
acceptance, 16
Allie. *See* Nelson, Allison
altruistic love, 31
Alzheimer’s, 17
Anne. *See* Nelson, Anne
At First Sight, 3
author. *See* Sparks, Nicholas

B

Battle of the Bulge, 20
beauty, 46
Bend in the Road, A, 3
blue-chip stock, 16
book resources, 60
“Bookreporter: Nicholas Sparks Interview”, 61
“Break Break Break” poem, 25
Bridges of Madison County, The, 6
Byron, Lord, 45

C

Calhoun, Noah
“A person can get used to anything, if given enough time.”, 58
attitude, 22
character analyses, 52
“For at that moment, the world is full of wonder as I feel her fingers reach for the buttons on my shirt and slowly, ever so slowly, she begins to undo them one by one.”, 58
overview, 9
real life parallels, 52
“You can’t live your life for other people. You’ve got to do what’s right for you, even if it hurts some people you love.”, 58
career highlights, author, 3–4
Cassavetes, Nick, 29

characters

Allison (Allie) Nelson, 9, 52
Anne Nelson, 10, 53
Dr. Barnwell, 10
Fin and Sarah, 10
Gus, 10
Janice, 10
Lon, 10, 53
Morris Goldman, 10
Noah Calhoun, 9, 52
Choice, The, 3
Clare, John, 45
“Clear Midnight, A” poem, 23
Clementine, 18
cliffnotes.com, 60
cliffnotes resource center, 60–61
co-dependent relationship, 32
Cohen, Adam Buckley, 60
commentary, critical. *See* critical commentary
common man, 16, 52
Contemporary Authors: New Revision Series, 60
“Continuities”, 47
conversational tone, 15
courtrooms, critical commentary, 38
creek image, 49
critical commentary
courtrooms, 38
crossroads, 40
dedication, 13
ghosts, 18–26
kayaks and forgotten dreams, 32–33
letter from yesterday, 41
miracles, 13–17
moving water, 34–35
phone calls, 31
reunion, 27–30
swans and storms, 36–37
unexpected visitor, 39
winter for two, 42–50
critical essays
cliffnotes resource center, 60–61
fate versus free will, 56
identifying quotes, 58
narrative techniques: Sparks’ literary form, 55
crossroads, critical commentary on, 40

D

Dear John, 3
dedication, critical commentary on, 13
depersonalizing character, 41

"Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night"

poem, 25

Dr. Barnwell, 10

dummies.com, 60

E

early published works, 3

easy-to-read narrative, 15

editing, 6

education, author, 2–3

Eliot, T.S., 34

emotional connection, 36

emotionally wounded, 20

enduring love, 16, 36–37

Entertainment Weekly, 60

essays, critical. *See* critical essays

Euripides, 6

Evans, Nicholas, 6

everyman, 52

F

Fair Oaks, California, 2

faith, 16, 37, 52

family, importance of, 20

Farewell to Arms, *A*, 6

fate, 15, 17, 22, 56

films, 61–62

Fin, 10

"First Love" poem, 45

flashback story, 17, 55

"Follow your heart.", 58

"For at that moment, the world is full of wonder as I feel her fingers reach for the buttons on my shirt and slowly, ever so slowly, she begins to undo them one by one.", 58

free will, 15, 17, 56

G

Gaston, Elaine, 60

ghosts, critical commentary on, 18–26

"God's music", 18

Goldman, Morris, 10

Greek Tragedies, modern-day, 6

Greenville, South Carolina, 3

Guardian, *The*, 3

Gus, 10

H

Hammond, Jr., Lon

character analyses, 53

overview, 10

heaven metaphor, 49

Hemingway, 6

"Heroes of Running 2008: The Philanthropist: Nicholas Sparks.", 60
Horse Whisperer, *The*, 6

I

ideal man, 52

indirection, 17

informal tone, narrative, 15

inner-story, 22, 41

inspiration, sources of, 4

Internet, 60–61

interpretations, personal, 12

interview, Nicholas Sparks, 4–7

intimacy, 15

J

Janice, 10

Johnson, Mark, 29

journal, writing, 24

K

kayaks and forgotten dreams, critical commentary on, 32–33

King, Stephen, 7

L

Leaves of Grass, 15, 18, 22, 24

letter from yesterday, critical commentary on, 41

literary style, 5

Lon. *See* Hammond, Jr., Lon
love

altruistic, 31

enduring, 16, 36–37

selfish, 31

unconditional, 44

Love Story, 6

Lucky One, *The*, 3

lying, 33, 46

M

Message in a Bottle, 3, 4, 61
 Mills, Billy, 2, 7
 miracles, critical commentary on, 13–17
 missing leg metaphor, 18
 mood of finality, 41
 moving water, critical commentary on, 34–35
 mystery, building, 17

N

narrative techniques, 55
 narrator
 attitude of, 16–17
 conversational tone, 15
 omniscient, 22
 overview, 14
 Nelson, Allison (Allie)
 character analyses, 52
 overview, 9
 “Poetry wasn’t written to be analyzed; it was meant to inspire without reason, to touch without understanding.”, 58
 Nelson, Anne
 character analyses, 53
 “Follow your heart.”, 58
 overview, 10
 New Line Cinema, 3, 29
 “Nicholas Sparks.”, 60
 “Nicholas Sparks, Author of *Nights in Rodanthe* and *The Notebook*.”, 60
 “Nicholas Sparks Homepage”, 61
Nights in Rodanthe, 3, 4, 61
 Noah. *See* Calhoun, Noah
 nomenclature, 25
 North Carolina setting, 5
Notebook, The
 audio recording, 61
 movie, 61
 synopsis, 9

O

Odyssey, The, 25
 “old party balloon” image, 16
 omniscient narrator, 22
 outer frame story, 22

P

 pacing, 39, 42
 parallels, real life
 dedication, 13
 father-son relationship, 19
 main characters, 14
 Noah, 52
 Park, Theresa, 3, 6
Passing, The, 2
 path, 16
 perfect love, 21
 periodicals, 60
 personal background, author, 2
 phone calls, critical commentary on, 31
 poet symbolism, 25
 “Poetry wasn’t written to be analyzed; it was meant to inspire without reason, to touch without understanding.”, 58
 polysyndeton, 48
 present-day storyline, 55
 priorities, life, 31, 38

Q

quotes, identifying, 58

R

rain metaphor, 33, 34
 “Reading Group Guide”, 61
 real life parallels. *See* parallels, real life
 recordings, 61
 relationships, maintaining, 48
Rescue, The, 3
 reunion, critical commentary on, 27–30
 reunion story, 55
 romanticism, 24
Romeo and Juliet, 6, 16
 Royal Murders, *The*, 2
Runner’s World, 60

S

Sarah, 10
 screenplays, translating novel into, 4
 Sedley, Sir Charles, 43
 Segal, Erich, 6
 self-absorption, 53

selfish love, 31
 sexuality, 26, 36
 Shakespeare, 6
 "She Walks in Beauty", 45
 "Sleepers, The", 46
 social class, 25–26, 27
 "Song of Myself", 26
 Sophocles, 6
 soul, 23
 soulmates, 36–37
 Sparks, Cathy, 2
 Sparks, Danielle, 2
 Sparks, Jill EmmaMarie, 2
 Sparks, Landon, 3
 Sparks, Lexie, 3
 Sparks, Micah, 2
 Sparks, Miles, 2, 3
 Sparks, Nicholas
 career highlights, 3–4
 early published works, 3
 education and work experience, 2–3
 interview, 4–7
 personal background, 2
 "Sparks, Nicholas." article, 60
 Sparks, Patrick Michael, 2
 Sparks, Ryan, 2, 3
 Sparks, Savannah, 3
 "Sparks Writes about Life Choices.", 60
 spirituality, 23. *See also* faith
 story elements, universal, 5, 6
Sun News, The, 60
 suspense, building, 17, 39, 41
 swans and storms, critical commentary on,
 36–37

T

Tennyson, Alfred, Lord, 25
 terms of endearment, 25
 Thomas, Dylan, 21, 25
Three Weeks with My Brother, 3
 timelines, 42
 "To a Common Prostitute", 45
 tragedy, 6, 16

transcendentalism, 24
True Believer, 3
 "True Believer." article, 60
2001 Current Biography Yearbook, 60

U

"Ulysses", 25
 unconditional love, 44
 unexpected visitor, critical commentary on, 39
 United Talent Agency, 3
 University of Notre Dame, 2

V

Valby, Karen, 60

W

Walk to Remember, A, 3, 4, 61
 Waller, Robert James, 6
 Warner Books, 3
 war-time experiences, 20
Washington Post, The, 60
Waste Land, The, 34
 water symbolism, 25, 34
 Web resources, 60–61
Wedding, The, 3
 Whitman, Walt, 15, 18, 22, 24, 45, 46, 47
 wiley.com, 60
 winter for two, critical commentary on,
 42–50
Wokini, 2, 7
 work experience, author, 2–3
 writing schedule, 4
 writing skills, honing, 7

Y

"You can't live your life for other people.
 You've got to do what's right for you, even
 if it hurts some people you love.", 58