



Brothers and Keepers: A Memoir

By John Edgar Wideman

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A haunting portrait of lives arriving at different destinies, *Brothers and Keepers* is John Edgar Wideman's seminal memoir about two brothers — one an award-winning novelist, the other a fugitive wanted for robbery and murder. Wideman recalls the capture of his younger brother Robby, details the subsequent trials that resulted in a sentence of life in prison, and provides vivid views of the American prison system.

A gripping, unsettling account, *Brothers and Keepers* weighs the bonds of blood, tenderness, and guilt that connect Wideman to his brother and measures the distance that lies between them.

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Brothers and Keepers: A Memoir By John Edgar Wideman Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

With novels like *Damballah* and *Hiding Place*, John Edgar Wideman began his career in an explicitly modernist vein--indeed, his chronicles of life in the Pittsburgh ghetto of Homewood had more than a trace of a Joycean accent. The autobiographical *Brothers and Keepers*, however, allowed the writer to find his own voice. Perhaps this dual portrait of the author and his brother Robby--serving, then and now, a life sentence for a murder committed during a bungled robbery--finally forced Wideman to fuse the modernist trappings of his earlier work with the storytelling traditions of African American culture. "My memories needed his," the author recalls. "Maybe the fact that we recall different things is crucial. Maybe they are foreground and background, propping each other up." In any case, the *Rashomon*-like result is a raw meditation on fate and family, as well as an indictment of our entire notion of crime and (especially) punishment.

From Publishers Weekly

Wideman, novelist and professor at the University of Wyoming, seeks to understand how he and his brother, who is serving a life sentence for murder, could have such disparate lives after a childhood together in a Pittsburgh ghetto. Ruthless about himself, particularly about his move into the upper middle-class as a "black intellectual," Wideman characterizes his brother as an intelligent, loving, proud dreamer. He raises "existential questions" about culture, racism and the "grief and guilt of a brother," PW wrote. November Copyright 1985 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review

"Like the Russian master [Dostoevsky], Wideman probes the torment of the soul....[He] is fashioning some of the most powerful literature today."--U.S. News and World Report

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ricky Streeter:

Information is provisions for folks to get better life, information these days can get by anyone from everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even restricted. What people must be consider when those information which is inside former life are challenging to be find than now could be taking seriously which one is acceptable to believe or which one often the resource are convinced. If you find the unstable resource then you understand it as your main information we will see huge disadvantage for you. All of those possibilities will not happen inside you if you take *Brothers and Keepers: A Memoir* as the daily resource information.

Sonja Johnson:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them family or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent all day every day to reading a guide. The book *Brothers and Keepers: A Memoir* it is rather good to read. There are

a lot of those who recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book provides high quality.

Geraldine Matson:

Brothers and Keepers: A Memoir can be one of your starter books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to get every word into joy arrangement in writing Brothers and Keepers: A Memoir but doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource data that maybe you can be one among it. This great information could drawn you into completely new stage of crucial contemplating.

Susan Albro:

The book untitled Brothers and Keepers: A Memoir contain a lot of information on this. The writer explains your girlfriend idea with easy means. The language is very simple to implement all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read the idea. The book was published by famous author. The author brings you in the new era of literary works. You can read this book because you can please read on your smart phone, or product, so you can read the book with anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can wide open their official web-site and order it. Have a nice examine.

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