

Carson McCullers : the tyranny of loneliness

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Abstrak

Carson McCullers has not been a prolific writer, but each successive volume of stories or novel has had serious attention from the critics. She began her career at the age of twenty-two with the publication of *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*. After the appearance of this first novel, until her death in 1967, Carson McCullers has written comparatively little. Suffering from bad health, McCullers writes slowly and almost always in pain. During the last years of her life her hands were crippled with paralysis and arthritis; yet she managed - by writing one page a day - to finish a play : *The Square Root of Wonderful*, and a novel : *Clock Without Hands*. These last works are less successful than her earlier ones and will not concern us here; however, the circumstances in which the author produced these works, shows us the unrelenting spirit of McCullers. Without this spirit, it would be hard to imagine McCullers' success; not because we doubt the authoress' creature talent, but because McCullers was also beset by a series of personal disasters, besides being physically handicapped. She married Reeves McCullers in 1933, the marriage was not a success and there was a divorce; several years later, she remarried Reeves McCullers, however, another separation followed. Reeves_