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"Amazon.de Written with her characteristic grace, novelist Alison Lurie's memoir

of her friendship with the poet James Merrill and his companion David Jackson offers more than reminiscences, though these are tender, frank, and perceptive. Lurie also considers the broader subjects of fame's arbitrary nature and its impact on a relationship, as well as the perils and pleasures of dabbling in the occult. When she first became close to the couple in 1954, all three were struggling young writers. But while Merrill soon became a critically respected poet, and novels like *The War Between the Tates* made Lurie some money as well as a reputation, Jackson remained unpublished and obscure. He was understandably frustrated, and Lurie suggests that the pair's increasing involvement in sessions on their Ouija board were partly an effort to find an outlet for Jackson's creative energies. These sessions formed the basis for Merrill's long poem 'The Changing Light at Sandover' (in Lurie's estimation not the best use of his gifts), and she believes they encouraged the men to become dangerously isolated from the real world. Jackson began to drink more heavily, and his casual affairs grew more irritating to Merrill, who launched a serious relationship with a young actor whose uncritical devotion exacerbated tensions between the longtime lovers. Merrill died of AIDS in 1995; the physically and mentally debilitated Jackson, writes Lurie, 'is now a ghost in Key West.' Her sensitive recollections bring back the time when they were young, beautiful, and in love, with the world before them. Examining the personal and artistic cost of their decades-long engagement with the spirit world, Lurie asks the always relevant, never resolvable questions, 'How much should one risk for art? What chances should one take?' --Wendy Smith Über den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende Alison Lurie is the author of many highly praised novels, including

The War Between the Tates, The Truth About Lorin Jones (Prix Femina Etranger), and Foreign Affairs (Pulitzer Prize for fiction). Her most recent book was Familiar Spirits. She teaches writing, folklore, and literature at Cornell University."

9780670894598 alison lurie is the author of many highly praised novels including the war between the tates the truth about lorin jones prix femina etranger and

Familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson hardcover february 19 2001 review written with her characteristic grace novelist alison lurie s memoir of her friendship with the poet james merrill free delivery across united arab emirates free returns 5m products.

Although lurie s writing is good merrill s poetry amply quoted is the true star familiar spirits is by alison lurie for me this was kind of an odd book to read i didn t know who alison lurie is or who the subjects of this memoir were david jackson and james merrill

This is a breezy and fascinating memoir of merrill and jackson and their relationship as seen through lurie s eyes lurie befriended merrill and through him jackson and was a witness to their love affair its ups and downs and merrill s literary success with his epic poem the changing light at sandover. Alison lurie one of america s greatest novelists has written a loving memoir of world famous poet james merrill and his longtime partner david jackson drawing on her forty year friendship with merrill and jackson lurie reveals the couple s deep involvement with whom they communicated through a ouija board. Buy familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson by alison lurie 2001 02 19 by alison lurie isbn from s book store everyday low prices and free delivery on eligible orders.

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Familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson by alison lurie 181 pp new york viking 22 95 xtraterrestrial isn t exactly the first word that es to mind when you hear the name of james merrill 1926 95 the american poet who during the course of a staggeringly successful 50 year career won two national book awards a

About familiar spirits alison lurie one of america s greatest novelists has written a loving memoir of world famous poet james merrill and his longtime partner david jackson drawing on her forty year friendship with merrill and jackson lurie reveals the couple s deep involvement with ghosts gods and spirits with whom they municated through a ouija board. Because spirits or no spirits there is something tragic and familiar to lurie s reading of her friends story she sees youth and promise fading for jackson as merrill s star began to rise and she. Find many great new amp used options and get the best deals for familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson by alison lurie 2002 paperback at the best online prices at ebay free shipping for many products. Familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson author alison lurie mar 2002 alison lurie 8601422147858 books ca.

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James merrill s apocalypse by timothy materer cornell up familiar spirits a

memoir of james merrill and david jackson by alison lurie viking as reviewed by justin quinn the publication of james merrill s collected poems this year has made his long poem the changing light at sandover appear somewhat eccentric to the course of his career. Familiar spirits is a very good quick read james merrill and david jackson s romantic relationship is lifted up with all its successes and failures the book in addition to being a memoir of a friendship seems to be a warning buoy in at least a couple of areas. Find many great new amp used options and get the best deals for familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson by alison lurie 2001 hardcover at the best online prices at ebay free shipping for many products.

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Familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson by alison lurie reviewed by daniel mendelsohn lurie s book itself is a little odd and her tone can be strangely prissy but as with the unexpected but brilliant characterization of merrill with which it opens it offers a lot of interesting suggestions. Lurie alison familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson viking new york ny 2001 merrill james a different person a memoir knopf new york ny 1993 polito robert a reader s guide to james merrill s the changing light at sandover university of michigan press 1994. Familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson by alison lurie click here for the lowest price hardcover 9780670894598 0670894591. Readers of merrill s masterpiece the changing light at sandover already know that the ouija board

played a key role in his poetry with her pact but densely packed memoir familiar.

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Merrill painted a candid portrait in his memoir of gay life in the early 1950s describing friendships and relationships with several men including dutch poet hans lodeizen italian journalist umberto morra u s writer claude fredericks art dealer robert isaacson david jackson and his partner from 1983 onward actor peter hooten. Familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson familiar spirits is a memoir published in 2000 by american writer alison lurie in it she recounts a friendship with poet james merrill and his life partner david jackson which began in the 1950s. Familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson by alison lurie 2001 02 19 alison lurie on free shipping on qualifying offers familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson by alison lurie 2001 02 19.

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openly gay life decades before that was mon together the two men spent many years gathering ouija board messages during. Familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson chronicles lurie s friendship with merrill and his partner david jackson lurie who knew merrill for more than 40 years covers a lot of territory in this little book remembering merrill s life with jackson in new york athens and key west and ruminating on the supernatural forces that lay behind the position of the mystical mammoth sandover. Familiar spirits a memoir of james merrill and david jackson by alison lurie 181 pages viking 22 95.

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