



Fort Smith Little Theatre

December 11, 1986

A CAPOTE CHRISTMAS

BOB HUGHART

Reading from the works of

TRUMAN CAPOTE

A Christmas Memory
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One Christmas
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Lights and Sound – Lindy Cotner

Truman Capote was born in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1924 to Archulus Persons, Jr. and Lillie Mae Faulk Persons. Truman's real name was Truman Streckfus Persons. He chose his pen name from his mother's second husband, a Cuban by the name of Joe Capote.

When he was a small child, Truman was virtually abandoned by his parents to the care of his mother's rather large eccentric family in Monroeville, Alabama. His formative years were spent primarily with an elderly cousin by the name of Miss Sook Faulk. It is the character of Sook that provides the basis of so many of his stories.

Truman was educated chiefly at Trinity School and Saint John's Academy, both in New York City after his mother married the wealthy Joe Capote. His first novel, *Other Voices, Other Room*, was published in 1948. Some of his other works include *A Tree of Night, and Other Stories* (1949), *Local Color* (1950), *The Grass Harp* (1951), *The Muses Are Heard* (1956), *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (1958), *In Cold Blood* (1966), *The Thanksgiving Visitor* (1968), *Music for Chameleons* (1975).

From his rather humble origin to the toast of the jet set, Truman lived a life always filled with eccentricities. Drugs and alcohol caused his untimely death in 1984, leaving behind an unfinished work, *Answered Prayers*.

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