

Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life By Roxana Robinson I happened upon this biography during that time and found in Roxana Robinson's depiction of Georgia O'Keeffe a new definition of a strong woman who knew from an early age who she was and lived up to her own personal ideals - even if she acted in a flawed way. A former Guggenheim Fellow she edited *The New York Stories of Edith Wharton* and wrote the introduction to Elizabeth Taylor's *A View of the Harbour* both published by NYRB Classics. After Stieglitz's death O'Keeffe asked for paintings back from his estate and her own collection of paintings and drawings provided the basis for the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum which opened in Santa Fe after her death. In that crucible of a relationship she was forced to look inward and the isolation ironically created a strong need to find out who she was - apart from Stieglitz or any other man. She eventually learned that this vision - looking closely at a flower or trying to draw/paint sound or the feeling of a headache for instance and painting what she saw was different - and people responded to it viscerally. Because she did not have access to the O'Keeffe-Chabot correspondence Robinson describes that friendship from O'Keeffe's definitely one-sided point of view and cannot tell us how Chabot felt about the way O'Keeffe used her. Her narrative of the Juan Hamilton episode is similarly weighted and unsympathetic to Hamilton perhaps because she worked primarily from print sources and those (at the time) were heavily negative. Subsequently I travelled to New York and the book gave me a new understanding of O'Keeffe's nature why she painted what she did when she did and her need to breathe in the open skies of New Mexico. Ms Robinson carefully illustrates how O'Keeffe's background and upbringing nourished her independent spirit and led to her individualistic artistic development which was nourished and nurtured by Steiglitz. She renders credible the very real affection the two shared anchored in their professional artistic interests and strong enough to survive very different temperaments and other interests - O'Keeffe's for wide open spaces solitude and travel Steiglitz's for family friends New York and Lake George. Ms Robinson shows that although O'Keeffe was content and at peace in her new home and enjoyed extensive travel and the company of local people and friends the tension and companionship of her relationship with Steiglitz was missing. The final eventually sorry relationship with Juan Hamilton who controlled access to her in her very old age and abused her trust is a sad end to what was a long and fruitful life of a woman who essentially lived and painted as she wished. I was able to visit the Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu the O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe and the Living Modern exhibit at the Reynolda House in Winston-Salem while reading this book so I feel as if I'm coming out of a sort of immersion experience right now. Yet while I come away not liking Georgia Stieglitz or Hamilton one bit the story itself is fascinating and you really do come to understand the times she lived in and to know her friends and family as you read along. Su formación profesional está muy bien documentada y me gustó leer sobre ese momento histórico de diferenciación del arte americano del europeo y la importancia que tuvo Stieglitz en ello y cómo ella formó parte de eso. Pasé de admirar la obra a admirar a la mujer su sensibilidad y su tesón su independencia cómo logró mantener su espacio vital junto a Stieglitz otro personaje tan fuerte y crearse su propio hogar en el lugar más mágico y hermoso del American Southwest abandonando el medio artístico Neoyorquino para adentrarse en el desierto, Somehow I think the best way to understand O'Keeffe is by viewing her paintings. Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life This is a very important book to me, In 1995 I was going through a difficult time in my personal life and found that I was wallowing in self-consciousness and self-pity, She was attracted to Alfred Stieglitz for his vision.

Roxana Robinson is the author of eight works of fiction including the novels *Cost and Sparta*, Recounts not only the story of O'Keeffe's artistic achievements but also her feisty personality and the controversial events of her life: A profoundly human treatment of O'Keeffe and all the people who figured prominently in her life: -- Los Angeles Times Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life This is an exhaustive work superbly researched and well-cited. It is quite lengthy and dry in places so it took some time to complete. O'Keeffe was one of the first modern female artists yet remained attached to her lover and husband the great photographer Alfred Stieglitz despite his emotional cruelty and neglect, Her love for him never wavered but his forceful and demanding personality smothered her spirit a spirit that

fed her art, After many years living in New York City and summering in Lake George O'Keefe began spending summers without Stieglitz in Taos New Mexico with like-minded artists, She ultimately settled there permanently and the photographs taken of her during that time are iconic in their spareness. In Taos she discovered a light that replenished her soul and inspired her paintings particularly the ones of bleached animal skulls and the deserts of the Southwest. O'Keefe's artistic talent was obvious growing up in a large family in the midwest and she attended the Art Institute in Chicago at the turn of the 20th century, She began teaching and taking additional classes while continuing to paint and draw: A classmate showed some of her drawings to Stieglitz and that began their collaboration resulting in his leaving his wife for her and their ultimate marriage, But his professional devotion was controlling arrogant and inflexible and at odds with his neglect of her emotional needs, Much has been written about the erotic qualities of O'Keefe's famous flowers and her rumored bisexuality, Within their avante-garde circle of friends an artist's exploration of sexuality and its role in Nature was accepted. This was the era of Picasso the Twenties and the Great Depression: One of Stieglitz's influences on O'Keefe was to never give away her work. O'Keefe lived an ascetic simple life in New Mexico after Stieglitz's death in the 40's, This is a reasonable biography but lacks the passion I would have expected from a female author writing the story of a pioneering his love of art and artists, He was attracted to her because he saw someone who was 'her own person' and an American woman artist at a time when European artists were the most revered: Stieglitz made it his mission to support emotionally and financially American artists in order to bring their art to the world, At first O'Keefe became completely absorbed by Stieglitz as many women do, He kept her in an apartment in New York while he was married to another woman, He spent many hours of time photographing O'Keefe in the nude while supporting her so she could paint without a job getting in the way of the art, Her life was a dramatic and often times funny journey of extremes, Georgia O'Keefe: A Life A NYT Notable Book and often considered the best of the spate of O'Keefe biographies that appeared in the early 1990s, Roxanna Robinson is a much-praised novelist (as of mid-2017 5 novels 3 story collections) and has a novelist's interpretive tendencies which some readers may find intrusive: In fact I wonder why she decided to write a biography rather than a novel, Still Robinson is thorough and careful and this is an eminently readable book: She especially shines in her treatment of O'Keefe's art and its critical reception perhaps a little less when it comes to the artist's relationships: If there are deficiencies in the book they arise from the time in which it was written (the late 1980s): Biographies of famous people--especially famous people who conceal their private lives behind a very public persona--are tricky things. O'Keefe is especially tricky because the iconic persona she created is powerful and even intimidating and because many important documents weren't available to the early (1990s) biographers. Her correspondence with Stieglitz was sealed for 25 years after her death: the first volume didn't become available until 2011 the second has not yet been published: The extensive Chabot correspondence (essential to an understanding of the way O'Keefe treated her slaves) wasn't published until 2003. It's important to know when a biography was published and what sources (both print and interview) were available at that time: All that said Robinson's biography is a very good one to start with: If it's the only one you read it will take you deep into O'Keefe's life and art, Georgia O'Keefe: A Life I read this book in preparation for a visit to Santa Fe and New Mexico- Georgia O'Keefe heartland: By the time Steiglitz passed away Georgia O'Keefe was a mature and even famous artist well able to settle and paint where she chose which was her beloved New Mexico, Georgia O'Keefe: A Life This was a wonderfully comprehensive look at the life of Georgia O'Keefe with tons of characters to research on the side, (Thank goodness for Google yet again!) It starts with her grand parent's history and finishes with her sad end in Santa Fe at the age of 98: :) Until the point in the book where Georgia becomes involved with Stieglitz I quite liked her presentation as a person very much. She was unconventional for her time and wasn't afraid to strike out on her own in the least: After she met Stieglitz I found that I didn't like her nearly as well and quite possibly not at all: The man while a great photographer was a manipulative hypocritical self-important jerk and around him Georgia was completely cowed and servile. Eventually of course she had enough and made her escape to New

Mexico. Unfortunately in self-imposed isolation there she became her own worst self: Imperious demanding and self-centered to the detriment of everyone around her. If her end hadn't ended up being such a blatant case of elder abuse it would almost seem just that Juan Hamilton would come into her life and take over, Robinson did a great job with her research and there are a gazillion sources. Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life No había leído nada sobre Georgia O'Keeffe ni nada de la autora y me encantó. Es una biografía bastante detallada muy bien puesta en su contexto histórico. Me gusta la descripción de su infancia rural en Wisconsin los valores con los que creció y como esas circunstancias la formaron: La autora describe muy bien su carácter sus motivaciones y su evolución hasta morir a los 97 años con una mirada que me pareció amable pero objetiva. Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life A formidable bio for a formidable artist. It is brilliantly researched and structured exquisitely written with strikingly intelligent analyses of O'Keeffe's life and art: I savoured it over several months and now feel super bummed that the read is over. Robinson allows us to truly understand O'Keeffe's need for solitude and her fierce relationship to the elemental forces of the Southwestern landscape: Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life Interesting but some of the writing inconsistent Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life An awesome account of Georgia O'Keeffe life, I was particularly interested in how she came to New Mexico and what held her there[1]

Eccentric yet extraordinarily talented female artist. They speak for themselves. She is also the author of Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life. Robinson is currently the president of the Authors Guild. His serial womanizing made living with him impossible. Stieglitz promoted her tirelessly in his famous gallery 291. Robinson addresses this in the context of that era. Her body of work is distinctive and timeless. She died in 1986 at the age of 98. This is absolutely the best book I've read all year. Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life Sensual imagery. Detailed life story. The details were rich. Robinson is an excellent storyteller. I nearly read this in one sitting. Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life

