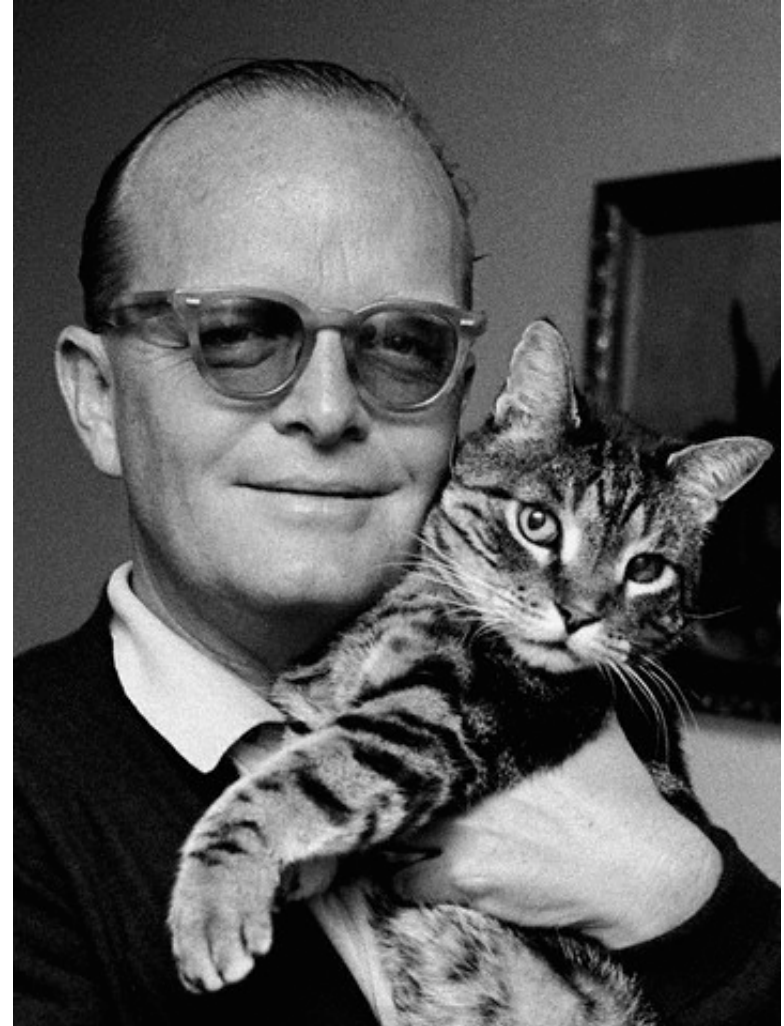


# TRUMAN CAPOTE

**THE PARTY TO WHICH YOU WERE *NOT* INVITED**

# TRUMAN CAPOTE

- Born 1924, peak of “career” in the 60’s
- Wrote *In Cold Blood*, the first nonfiction novel, and the novella *Breakfast At Tiffany’s*
- Indulgent public figure
- Final project: *Answered Prayers*



# THE CONVERSATION

- Gerald Clarke's biography *Capote*
- Deborah Davis's *Party of The Century*
- William Todd Schultz's psychobiography *Tiny Terror: Why Truman Capote (Almost) Wrote Answered Prayers*
- Almost all literary scholarship about *In Cold Blood*

# MY PROJECT

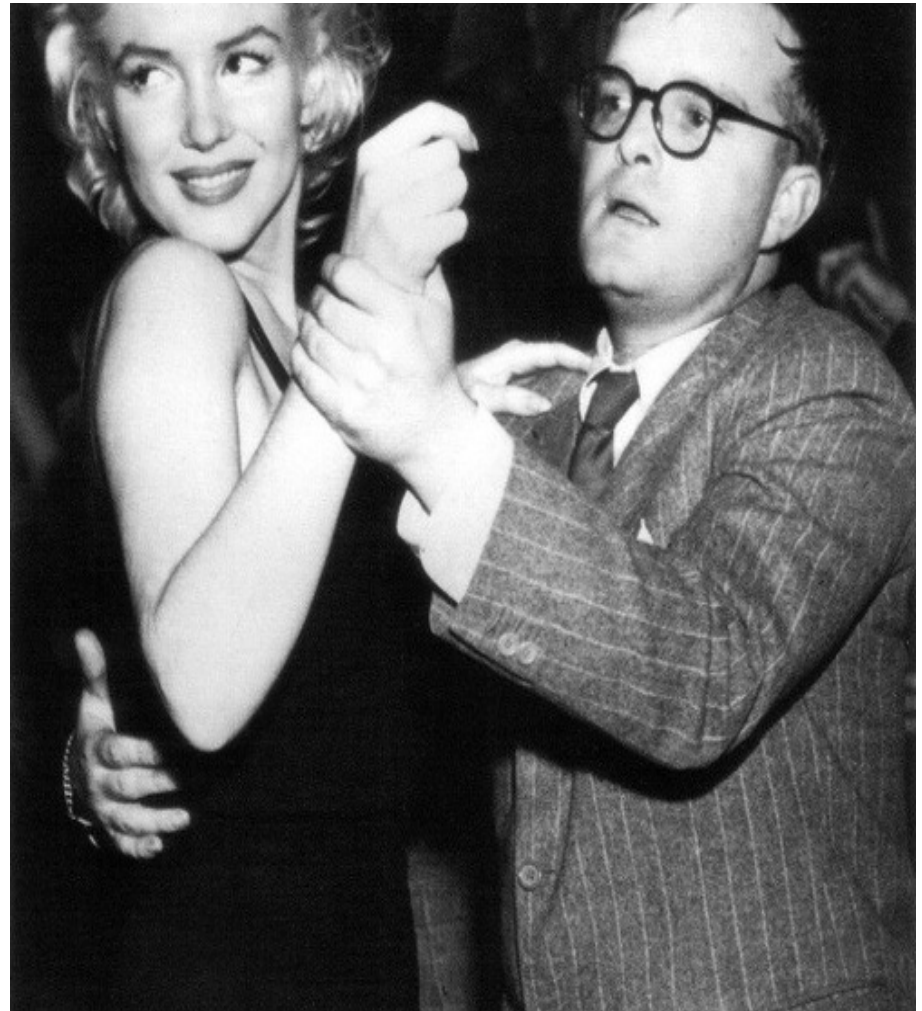
- **Big Question, Simplified: Why did Truman Capote write *Answered Prayers*?**
  - More accurately: What was Truman Capote's "life's work"?
- ***Answered Prayers* manuscript in Truman Capote Papers at New York Public Library Archives**
  - "Yachts and Things"
  - Interviews
- **Interpretation: The Black And White Ball**

## **DISSECTING ANSWERED PRAYERS**

*“My name is P. B. Jones, and I’m of two minds...I could just as well tell you nothing, or very little, **for I consider myself a reporter in this matter, not a participant, at least not an important one. But it’s [just] easier to start with me”***

# INTERPRETATION: THE BLACK AND WHITE BALL

- Parallels to *Answered Prayers*
- People: Old Money, the Capital, and New Hollywood
- Time: Vietnam
- Reception (divided)
  - Newspaper and Magazine coverage
  - Journalists



# CONCLUSION

