

CURRENT & CHOICE

ASSASSINATION ON EMBASSY ROW, by John Dinges and Saul Landau. A gripping and detailed account of the killing of Orlando Letelier and Ronni Karpen Moffitt. The authors, one an American journalist in Chile at the time of the assassination, the other a colleague of Letelier, piece together the complexity of events which led up to the bombing of the former Chilean ambassador's car. This is nonfiction which has all the ingredients of a spy-thriller. (*Book World*, July 6)

SCRIPTS FOR THE PAGEANT, by James Merrill. The final volume of poet James Merrill's trilogy based on the Ouija Board. In a swirling cosmos of voices, the dead speak with the living, and the most profound questions are asked about man's relationship with the universe. This is spiritual poetry at its most brilliant, most witty, most lyrical. (*Book World*, July 6)

ORDINARY DAYLIGHT: Portrait of an Artist Going Blind, by Andrew Potok. A moving account by a painter of his anguished coming to terms with retinitis pigmentosa, an inherited type of blindness. As Potok struggles to see what little he can, and to find an outlet for his art in words instead of images, he brilliantly conveys the anger and frustration of a man handicapped in his prime. (*Daily Book World*, July 7)

A CONFEDERACY OF DUNCES, by John Kennedy Toole (Louisiana, \$12.95). The carnival excesses of New Orleans at Mardi Gras, with a dash of *The Satyricon* and a whiff of Rabelais, make up the rich gumbo of this novel about the "Chaos, Lunacy and Bad Taste" of the modern world. (*Book World*, June 22)