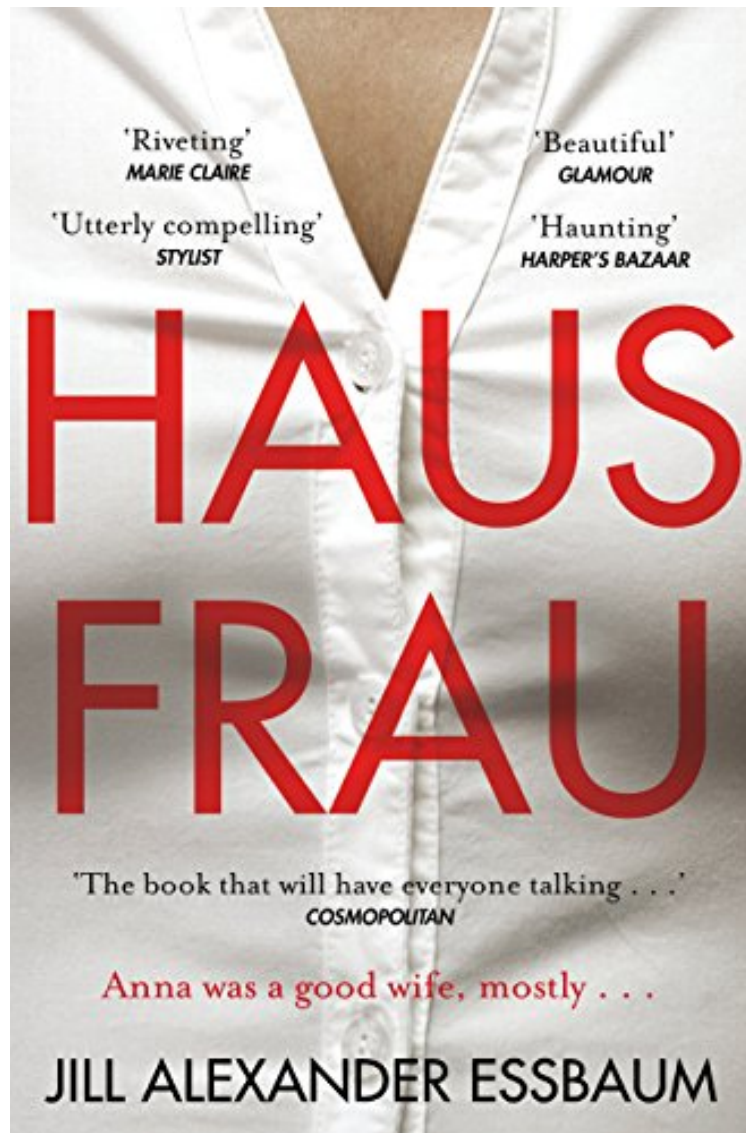


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Hausfrau (English Edition)

Von Jill Alexander Essbaum

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Von Jill Alexander Essbaum : Hausfrau (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hausfrau (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. On Love, Grief, Psychoanalysis and Alienation in Modern Times.Von KundeSeems to be underrated but Hausfrau is one of the most beautiful books that I have ever read. On love, grief, mental illness, psychoanalysis, alienation in modern times and being feeling lost. It is a delicately written fiction - makes you feel Anna's troubles immensely real while

reading - that must become a classic over the course of time. Its effect lasted for days after I finished it. Especially intriguing, if you are an expat in a German - speaking country and / or visited Zurich at some point. 6 von 8 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The dangers of boredom Von Secret Spi Anna Benz is the 21st century reincarnation of any one of those 19th century European heroines - Anna Karenina, Emma Bovary, Effi Briest - who try to escape boredom and lack of fulfilment with extra-marital affairs. Reading Anna's story is also rather akin to reading about someone like Diana, Princess of Wales - you have a foreboding that all is going to go desperately wrong in the end. Anna is not a character that it is easy to like, or even understand. She's passive, lacking in self-confidence and self-determination, yet manipulative. But the author has captured Anna's feeling of futility, alienation and ultimately despair so well that one feels compelled to read on - the story has the fascination of watching a car crash in slow motion. I felt that the portrayal of middle-class life in the German part of Switzerland was excellent. The customs, the everyday life that Anna finds excluded from and the relentless and almost foreboding rhythm of the trains and infrastructure were brilliantly described. The author makes good use of word-play and puns, with some inspired and well-chosen turns of phrase: "she lay in bed the whole night, the day's events tumbling in her head like clothes in a dryer." Or, "they're (lovers) like salty snacks. You can't stop at one." Occasionally, I felt that the writing was a little contrived - the continual analogy of the structure of German grammar and Anna's situation wore a little thin for me. I'm also not too sure how interesting those sections of the book would be to someone with no idea of the German language. However, on the whole, this was a powerful and well-written tale with an unusual setting which I'd recommend to anyone who enjoys a novel with psychological depth. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Great Read Von Danielle Porraz I really enjoyed this book. It was a bit depressing but such a great capture of a woman struggling with a mental illness.

Kurzbeschreibung Hausfrau is the exceptional debut novel from the prize-winning American poet, Jill Alexander Essbaum. 'The Book that will have everyone talking' Cosmopolitan Anna Benz, an American in her late-thirties, lives with her Swiss husband, Bruno - a banker - and their three young children, in a postcard-perfect suburb of Zurich. Though she leads a comfortable life, she is falling apart inside. Adrift and increasingly unable to connect with Bruno, or even her own feelings, Anna tries to rouse herself with new experiences: German language classes, Jungian analysis, and a series of sexual affairs she enters with an ease that surprises her. But she soon finds that she can't easily extract herself from these relationships. Having crossed a moral threshold, Anna will discover where a woman goes when there is no going back . . . Pressestimmen In Hausfrau, Anna Karenina goes Fifty Shades with a side of Madame Bovary. Time A debut novel about Anna, a bored housewife who, like her Tolstoyan namesake, throws herself into a psychosexual journey of self-discovery and tragedy. O: The Oprah Magazine Sexy and insightful, this gorgeously written novel opens a window into one woman's desperate soul. PeopleElegant . . . There is much to admire in [Jill Alexander] Essbaum's intricately constructed, meticulously composed novel, including its virtuosic intercutting of past and present. Chicago Tribune For a first novelist, Essbaum is extraordinary because she is a poet. Her language is meticulous and resonant and daring. NPR's Weekend Edition In Jill Alexander Essbaum's promising novel, we meet Anna Benz, an increasingly desperate American housewife and mother of three in her late thirties, positively brimming with ennui. . . . Were in literary territory as familiar as Anna's name, but Essbaum makes it fresh with sharp prose and psychological insight. San Francisco Chronicle This marvelously quiet book is psychologically complex and deeply intimate as sexy as it is sad. . . . Though Anna, as heroine, has literary precedent, Essbaum has gracefully combined the mundane of the familial, graphic sex scenes, linguistics lessons and precise passages of psychological expertise into something utterly original. Essbaum has written one of the smartest novels in recent memory. The Dallas Morning News Jill Alexander Essbaum's poignant, shocking debut novel rivets. Us Weekly A powerful, lyrical novel . . . Hausfrau boasts taut pacing and melodrama, but also a fully realized heroine as love-hateable as Emma Bovary and a poet's fascination with language. . . . The beauty of Hausfrau, however, is the freshness it brings to a trope seemingly beaten into the ground. . . . In Anna, we don't see a sinfully passionate naïf throwing her life away on a doomed quest for love, la Bovary or Karenina. Such a parallel hardly seems possible in these liberal modern times when divorce is common and premarital sex expected. But the numbed, uncertain person at the heart of Hausfrau is uniquely compelling. The Huffington Post [Essbaum's] first foray into fiction has already drawn references to Madame Bovary and Anna Karenina. . . . But the self-alienation of the American wife of a Swiss banker, resulting in Jungian analysis and reckless serial adultery, feels more contemporary, subjective, and just plain funny than classical bourgeois ennui. Imagine Tom Perrotta's American nowhere-villes swapped out for a tidy Zurich suburb, sprinkled liberally with sharp riffs on Swiss-German grammar and European hypocrisy. New York Hausfrau, a psychological trip about a good wife, mostly who enters into a series of messy affairs and impulsive adventures, is brain-surgically constructed to fascinate you, entertain you, and then make you question what a life lived with meaning looks like all with a sense of poetic discipline and introspection. Los Angeles Magazine Over a century after the publication of Madame Bovary and Anna Karenina, poet Essbaum proves in her debut novel that there is still plenty of psychic territory to cover in the story of a

good wife, mostly. . . . The realism of Annas dilemmas and the precise construction of the novel are marvels of the form. . . . This novel is masterly as it moves toward its own inescapable ending, and Anna is likely to provoke strong feelings in readers well after the final page. Publishers Weekly (starred review) [Annas] story will fascinate and thrill the most modern readers, even if you dont agree with her decisions. Bustle Hausfrau packs romance, sex, and infidelity into the story about a woman searching for meaning in her life. PopSugar In Anna Benz, Essbaum has created a genuine, complex woman whose journey no matter how dark it may bereveals truths as only great literature can. She may have her roots in Tolstoys Anna Karenina or Flauberts Emma Bovary or Ibsens Hedda Gabler, but she is a thoroughly modern and distinct character. Hausfrau is not just an exceptional first novel, it is an extraordinary novel period. Shelf Awareness [Essbaums protagonist] shares more than her name with that classic adulteress, Anna Karenina, but Essbaum has given a deft, modern facelift to the timeless story of a troubled marriage and tragic love in this seductive first novel. Booklist With an elegance, precision, and surehandedness that recalls Marguerite Durass *The Lover* and Anita Brookners *Hotel du Lac*, Jill Alexander Essbaum gives us this exquisite tale of an expatriate American wife living in Switzerland and her sexual and psychic unraveling. Hausfrau stuns with its confidence and severe beauty, its cascading insights into the nature of secrets, the urgency of compulsion and the difficulty of freedom. This is a rare and remarkable debut. Janet Fitch, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *White Oleander* I was mesmerized by this book. Hausfrau creates a complete, engrossing, and particular world where nothing is as easy as it should be, according to the hopeful stories we tell ourselves. Its a corrective novel, taking character, destiny, and our choices as seriously as a novelist can. Sheila Heti, author of *How Should a Person Be?* I loved this brilliant, insightful, and devastating novel about Anna: trains . . . adultery . . . the punctual, rigid Swiss . . . Jungian analysis . . . anhedonia . . . more adultery and more trains . . . and Jill Alexander Essbaums beautiful sentences strewn with sharp thorns that prick and cut straight into the heart of a womans unfulfilled life. I wish I had written it. Lily Tuck, National Book Award winning author of *The News from Paraguay* A stunningly written, hauntingly paced book. Anna Benz has the weight of a classic heroine isolated yet crowded but she is utterly modern in Jill Alexander Essbaums hands. Reading Hausfrau is like staring at a painting that simultaneously seduces and disturbs. Even when you want to turn away, you find your feet are planted to the floor. Sloane Crosley, author of *I Was Told There'd Be Cake* Hot damn, is Hausfrau beautiful, heart-wrenching novel. It casts a spell that doesnt stop working until that wonderful final line. Jill Alexander Essbaum has a seismic talent, and it shows on every page of her first novel. Just read this bad boy. Like right now. Victor LaValle, author of *The Devil in Silver* This debut brilliantly chronicles a womans life falling apart. The Times (U.K.) Uncompromising . . . [a] seductive debut. The Guardian (U.K.) Riveting and shocking. Marie Claire (U.K.) The book that will have everyone talking. Cosmopolitan (U.K.) This slow-burning literary novel of marital disintegration will leave you in bits. Its a bleak, but beautiful read, with echoes of Tolstoys Anna Karenina. Glamour (U.K.) This book is sheer sex and madness, written in one of the most amazing voices Ive ever read. Bookriot Hausfrau is authentic in its depiction of a strikingly passive woman whose betrayals overwhelm her. There are distinct echoes of Anna Karenina. But it is the wordcraft, structure and restrained intimacy of this first novel that make it a standout. BBC [An] insightful and shocking portrait of a woman on the edge. Woman Home (U.K.) With more than a passing resemblance to Anna Karenina . . . [Hausfrau will] be a book club winner. Stylist (U.K.) The ghost of Anna Karenina haunts the poet Jill Alexander Essbaums debut, Hausfrau, about an American in Zurich with the perfect husband, perfect sons and perfect home; but she is far from the perfect wife. Harpers Bazaar (U.K.) Werbetext An extraordinary debut literary page-turner with echoes of Madame Bovary and Anna Karenina