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The Berlin Stories

Von Christopher Isherwood

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Von Christopher Isherwood : The Berlin Stories before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Berlin Stories:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. the camera that captures it allVon Ein Kundeisherwood sits back and gives a good summary on how life was in berlin during the 1930's. he gives a gay view a jewish view a view of a whore and of course a nazi view. one of the most fascinating books ever, especialy good to read if in college2 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A

masterclass in the use of the English language. Together with Evelyn Waugh, Christopher Isherwood has to be regarded as one of the most proficient writers of English this century. His ability to capture a mood, a time and a place is remarkable, his efficiency in doing so is breath-taking. The Berlin Stories stand as a record of the seediness and more fundamental corruption of a city, a state and a people in the late 30s. Isherwood represents the impending shadow of Nazism through the abdication of responsibility and self-protection of individual characters. Mr Norris, a Falstaff for the 20th Century, is half cartoon conman and half based on an actual person. His depravity and crookedness is admirable, he is technical amidst the grey shabbiness of Isherwood's Berlin. We must also remember that this is Isherwood's Berlin and he has shaped and invented experiences to achieve an effect, the camera records, but it always lies. It is the technical brilliance of those lies that sets the Berlin Stories apart from any historical or social record that you'd care to mention.

1 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Takes a lot of patients to read this book. After a couple of false starts, I was able to finally finish this book. I read it because I had seen Cabaret the movie and the play. I have not seen the play "I am a Camera" by Erik Von Deuten. However, I expected a faster moving story and really had to drudge through this. There are moments that you can identify with. However for the most part you feel like a third party. You may not want to identify with some of the characters. Whatever is supposed to make this book good is lost in the details. Well I read it but I am not sure I want to read anymore of his book. I feel a little cheated when one describes his use of English and the book is over before you find this. I feel a little embarrassed at not liking it with the praise it receives, but I guess you cannot like them all.

Kurzbeschreibung A classic of 20th-century fiction, The Berlin Stories inspired the Broadway musical and Oscar-winning film Cabaret. First published in the 1930s, The Berlin Stories contains two astonishing related novels, The Last of Mr. Norris and Goodbye to Berlin, which are recognized today as classics of modern fiction. Isherwood magnificently captures 1931 Berlin: charming, with its avenues and cafes; marvelously grotesque, with its nightlife and dreamers; dangerous, with its vice and intrigue; powerful and seedy, with its mobs and millionaires. This is the period when Hitler was beginning his move to power. The Berlin Stories is inhabited by a wealth of characters: the unforgettable Sally Bowles, whose misadventures in the demimonde were popularized on the American stage and screen by Julie Harris in I Am A Camera and Liza Minnelli in Cabaret; Mr. Norris, the improbable old debauchee mysteriously caught between the Nazis and the Communists; plump Frulein Schroeder, who thinks an operation to reduce the scale of her bust might relieve her heart palpitations; and the distinguished and doomed Jewish family, the Landauers.

de Christopher Isherwood was a diverse writer whose accomplishments included The Mortmere Stories (Edward Upward Series), A Single Man and a translation of The Song of God (Bhagavad Gita). But many critics hailed The Berlin Stories, the reissue of two of his best novels, as his finest. In the book, a man named Christopher Isherwood, who is and is not the author, writes a story of exile, combining the best of Isherwood's real life with the best of the life he imagined.

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