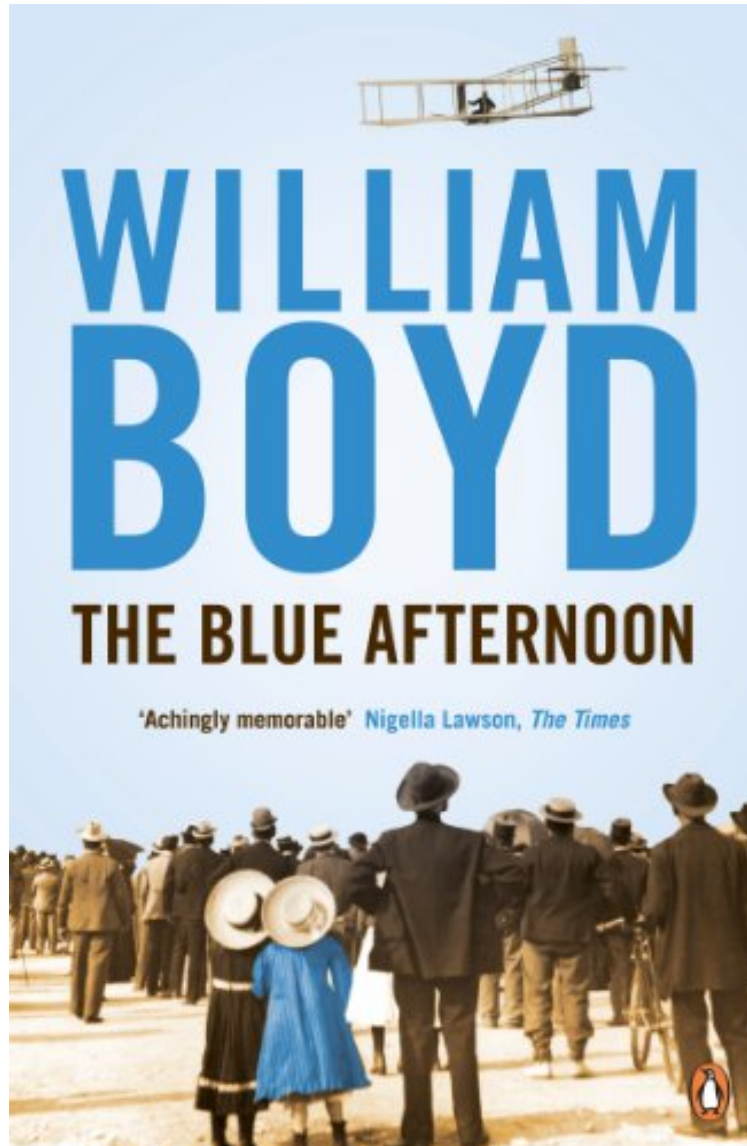


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The Blue Afternoon

Von William Boyd

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Von William Boyd : The Blue Afternoon before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Blue Afternoon:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A wonderful romantic thrillerVon Ein KundeSuperficially, it's tempting to pidgeonhole William Boyd's "The Blue Afternoon" as a thriller. For much of the way, you may find your heart racing and yourself thinking you can't put this down until you reach the end. But at the heart of this wonderfully entertaining novel is a romance, a romance so huge

and heady it's almost redemptive in its force. The thriller elements of murder, blackmail and betrayal only create the opportunities and subtext for the great love affair to play out. Some readers may find the Salvador/Delphine affair surprising and even incredible. You wouldn't if you allow yourself the luxury of accepting Cupid's strange ways. But what's even more intriguing to me is Boyd's ability to generate a deep sense of sustained ambivalence in the treatment of his characters and their personal situations throughout the novel. You're never sure enough about any of them to rule anything out. For instance, Salvador's Filipino colleague, Pantaleon, shows a surprising side to him under pressure. Delphine also remains an enigma, right to the very end. Boyd's reluctance at a clear resolution perhaps hints at how he really wishes us to regard his novel, not as a "who dunnit" but as a sojourn with the human heart which needs Love and Romance to nourish and keep it alive. Kay, Salvador's daughter, isn't a technical devise or a red herring either. She may be an observer and peripheral to the plot which is told in flashbacks, but we are told she's one of two reasons why Salvador has managed to gain strength to survive his personal tragedy. "The Blue Afternoon" is an engaging and superbly written novel. Highly recommended reading. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Another wonderful story of life by Boyd Von Ein Kunde My second William Boyd book. A complex tale of love, life, murder, intrigue and ethics. Boyd keeps the reader guessing until the end and then some more. It's a brilliantly constructed story with real life characters. Kay Fischer's life was falling apart, forced out of her architectural partnership, left with almost nothing by her sly partner, she tries to re-build her reputation as an architect. It's not only her professional life that is in shambles. She is still trying to get over her ex-husband, who turns up once in a while, and the death of her baby son. While all this turmoil is dragging her down, out of the blue a strange man, Dr. Carrissant appears in her life, changing everything. He claims to be her father, but she's never heard of him - for all she knew, her father was dead. Well, that's how the story begins and slowly unravels. One by one Dr. Carrissant tells Kay his life story. But he needs her help to find his true love, Delphine. The two of them embark on a strange and wonderful journey to bring their lives to a full circle. Boyd is a wonderful writer, who is able to keep the reader hooked, unable to put the book down. The characters are so real, it's a pleasure to read. He seems to have some fascination with flying, a theme that recurs in this book (as well as in "Brazzaville Beach"). 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Excellent story-telling, stunning conclusion. Von James Colyn (jacolyn@nobi.or.jp) The opening lines of this book grabbed me like few others, compelling me to read on. Granted, the plot didn't always proceed as expected, but that ain't no sin. It has been said that the characters in this story have not been fully developed, but to me the central characters appeared clearly enough. Maybe the reader doesn't get to know them completely, but he does get to know as much about them as is necessary for the development of the story. Boyd weaves several stories into the plot, and his evocative storytelling pulls the reader in. Again, the book has been criticized for giving away the ending, but this isn't a mystery novel, so who cares; thousands of readers will know how novels such as *The Old Man and The Sea* or *The Remains of the Day* turn out, but that in no way detracts from the sheer joy of reading the words penned by the authors of those classics. Same here. The end pulses with life, love, and loss, all tempered by hope and desire, albeit unfulfilled. The final ten pages moved me as few books ever have, with understated passion and elegance, and the final 2 pages had me awestruck. Not for some, but a gem for others.

Kurzbeschreibung Winner of the 1993 Sunday Express Book of the Year Award Los Angeles 1936. Kay Fischer, a young, ambitious architect, is shadowed by Salvador Carrissant, an enigmatic stranger claiming to be her father. Within weeks of their first meeting, Kay will join him for an extraordinary journey into the old man's past, initially in search of a murderer, but finally in celebration of a glorious, undying love. deBoyd, the author of *A Good Man in Africa* and *Brazzaville Beach*, here gives us something entirely new, part suspense, part romance, all grand storytelling. A young woman, waylaid by an old man who claims to be her father, hears his story of corruption and intrigue as the two of them embark on a remarkable journey. **Pressestimmen** A perfect-pitch story of love and redemption. *The New York Times*