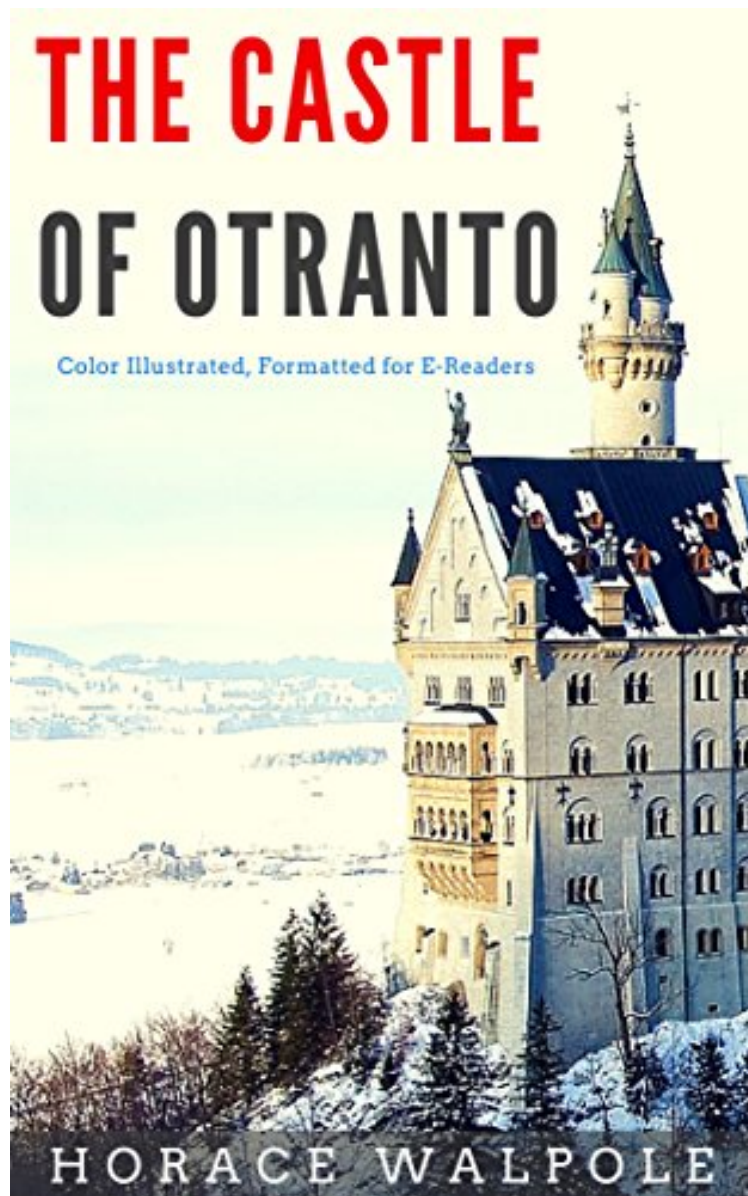


[Free read ebook] The Castle of Otranto: Color Illustrated, Formatted for E-Readers (Unabridged Version) (English Edition)

## The Castle of Otranto: Color Illustrated, Formatted for E-Readers (Unabridged Version) (English Edition)

*Von Horace Walpole*  
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**Von Horace Walpole : The Castle of Otranto: Color Illustrated, Formatted for E-Readers (Unabridged Version) (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Castle of Otranto: Color Illustrated, Formatted for E-Readers (Unabridged Version) (English Edition):

Kundenrezensionen  
Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen  
6 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Kurzweilige gothic novel!  
Von Ein Kunde  
Ich habe schon ein paar gothic novels gelesen und bin dabei immer an den etwas langatmigeren Stellen hngen geblieben. Im Castle of Otranto fehlen die aber vollkommen! Eine nette Story mit mysthischen Elementen und Spannung. Der Inhalt im Kurzformat: Manfred, Herr im Schloss Otranto, verliert durch einen unheimlichen Unfall seinen einzigen Sohn und Erben, kurz bevor dieser mit einer Prinzessin verheiratet werden kann. Um die Erbschaft zu sichern, will Manfred sich von seiner unfruchtbaren Frau scheiden lassen und die Prinzessin selbst heiraten, welche daraufhin mit Hilfe eines geheimnisvollen Unbekannten flieht. Manfred nimmt die Verfolgung auf, erwischt jedoch nur den Unbekannten und verordnet seine Hinrichtung. Das Schloss wird jedoch von mysthischen Zwischenfillen heimgesucht. Zu allem berflu steht auch noch eine feindliche Macht vor seinen Toren und seine einzige Tochter verliebt sich in den geheimnisvollen Unbekannten und verhilft ihm zur Flucht. Spannend bis zuletzt!  
14 von 14 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Die ganz offizielle Mutter des Schauerromans  
Von A. Wolf  
1764 ist als das Geburtsjahr eines neuen Genres in die Literaturgeschichte eingegangen. Denn in diesem Jahr wurde "The Castle of Otranto" anonym verffentlicht, der erste Schauerroman. Der erste Text, welcher dem Genre der "gothic novel" zugeordnet wird. Eigentlich lsst sich kein anderes Genre so przise auf seine Genese zurckverfolgen. Und nach dem auergewhnlichem Erfolg bekannte sich in der zweiten Ausgabe schlielich auch der Schpfer hchst persnlich - Horace Walpole, Sohn des einflussreichen Politikers Sir Robert Walpole. Eigentlich haben wir es hier tatschlich mit einem genuinen Streich zu tun. Jedem neuen Verfahren liegt immer auch ein Programm zugrunde. Und so dachte sich Mister Walpole einst, man knne doch den Roman, welcher bislang einer realistischen Darstellungsweise verpflichtet war, mit dem Geschehen einer Romance, also dem historischen Ritter- bzw. Abenteuerroman kombinieren. Das Ergebnis dieser Kreuzung sehen Sie hier. Die Handlung fhrt den Leser in eine vergangene, exotische Welt ein. In der Burg von Otranto ist es dunkel, es rappelt und scheppert und alles wirkt wie ein einziger, reichlich seltsamer Alptraum. Manfred, der Protagonist des Romans, ist von der Prophezeiung, er werde die Herrschaft ber Otranto verlieren, sobald der wahre Besitzer ber die Burg "hinausgewachsen" sei, wenig begeistert. Der zweite Teil der Prophezeiung: Nur solange ein mnlicher Erbe vorhanden sei, knne der Untergang seiner Linie gestoppt werden. Schleunigst will nun Manfred sein Shnchen verheiraten, dieser ist allerdings erstens von eher schwchlicher Natur und wird zweitens am Tag seiner Hochzeit von einem riesigen Helm erschlagen. rgerlich fr Manfred. Er ist der unrechtmige Besitzer der Burg und solche Konstellationen enden fr den Usurpator selten gut. Aber Manfred setzt alles daran, seine Macht zu erhalten, probiert sein Glck mit anderen Frauen - auch gegen deren Willen -, whrend die Geschehnisse auf der Burg immer abscheulicher werden: Statuen bluten, eine riesige, scheppernde Rstung stapft durch die Korridore des finsternen Anwesens und weitere, scheinbar bernatrliche Dinge geschehen, ehe sich das ganze Treiben in einem ziemlich drastischen Schlussakt auflst. Was frher den Leser noch zu fesseln vermochte, was gar dazu taugte, Skandale auszulesen, wirkt auf den heutigen Leser eher belustigend und reichlich krude. Aber die dargestellte Atmosphre der Burg, das wird niemand leugnen knnen, hat bis zum heutigen Tage ihre finstere, dunkle Faszination konserviert, die eben jene Stellen unserer Seele auch heute noch anspricht. Das Vorbild der dsteren und labyrinthartigen gotischen Burg bewohnte Walpole brigens hchst selbst. Sein Landsitz "Strawberry Hill" wurde zum Inbegriff eines Settings, das ber Jahrzehnte die Schauerliteratur prgen sollte. Heute mag man "The Castle of Otranto" belcheln, denn in den vielen Jahrzehnten, die folgten, sind bessere, groartigere Werke der gothic novel entstanden. Stoffe und Geschichten, die selbst Autoren und Filmemacher der Gegenwart noch prgen. Aber es braucht ganz am Anfang eben einen, der das Rad mal erfindet - und das ist gewiss, auch literarisch, eine enorme Leistung.  
3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The sins of the fathers...  
Von mp  
Walpole's 1765 novel "The Castle of Otranto" is the story of Manfred, a power-crazed tyrant, seeking to secure the right of his lineage to the dominion of Otranto in Italy. Trying to avoid the end of his line, he attempts to marry his infirm and frail son, Conrad, to Isabella, the daughter of a rival family. The death of Conrad and subsequent manifestation of various gigantic body parts and relics, to wit, a helmet, leg, sword, and hand, seem to be harbingers of Manfred's prophesied demise. The three most prevalent themes in the novel are the threats posed by male sexuality, misperception, and women. Male sexuality plays itself out in Manfred's frantic need for a specifically male heir, the indiscretions of Jerome, a priest whose son Theodore harbors an unfulfilled lust for Manfred's daughter Matilda. Misperceptions abound in "The Castle of Otranto". There are constantly people doubting the truth of their own eyes and ears. Disguises and darkness prevent characters from knowing who is friend and who is foe, often with fatal results. Women are consistently characterized as pseudo-angelic beings, whose virtues and fidelity, both filial and connubial, are secondary to their ability to produce male heirs. Hippolita, Manfred's wife, emerges as the story's true tragic figure, whose only crime as her family and dominions slip away, is that she could not produce a healthy son. "The Castle of Otranto" is not particularly well-written - dialogue is often confusing to follow, and the characters are all fairly flat. However, the precedents for the gothic narrative style are wonderful to note. One can easily see the roots of stories from Poe's "Fall of the House of Usher" to Wilde's "Picture of Dorian Gray" to Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" in Walpole's work. This is a classic text, and one more people should read.

KurzbeschreibungHow is this book unique? Formatted for E-Readers, Unabridged Original version. You will find it much more comfortable to read on your device/app. Easy on your eyes.Includes: 15 Colored Illustrations and BiographyThe Castle of Otranto is a 1764 novel by Horace Walpole. It is generally regarded as the first gothic novel, initiating a literary genre which would become extremely popular in the later 18th century and early 19th century, with authors such as Charles Maturin, Ann Radcliffe, Bram Stoker, Edgar Allan Poe and Daphne du Maurier.The initial 1764 edition was titled in full The Castle of Otranto, A Story. Translated by William Marshal, Gent. From the Original Italian of Onuphrio Muralto, Canon of the Church of St. Nicholas at Otranto. This first edition purported to be a translation based on a manuscript printed at Naples in 1529 and recently rediscovered in the library of "an ancient Catholic family in the north of England". This "ancient Catholic family" is possibly the Percy family, as Walpole would have known the Duke of Northumberland and his wife Elizabeth Percy, though this is not proven. The Italian manuscript's story, it was claimed, derived from a story still older, dating back perhaps as far as the Crusades. This Italian manuscript, along with alleged author "Onuphrio Muralto", were Walpole's fictional creations, and "William Marshal" his pseudonym.In the second and subsequent editions, Walpole acknowledges authorship of his work, writing: "The favourable manner in which this little piece has been received by the public, calls upon the author to explain the grounds on which he composed it" as "an attempt to blend the two kinds of romance, the ancient and the modern. In the former all was imagination and improbability: in the latter, nature is always intended to be, and sometimes has been, copied with success...". There was some debate at the time about the function of literature, that is, whether or not works of fiction should be representative of life, or more purely imaginative (i.e. natural vs. romantic). The first edition was well received by some reviewers who understood the novel as belonging to medieval fiction, "between 1095, the era of the First Crusade, and 1243, the date of the last", as the first preface states; and some referred to Walpole as an "ingenious translator". Following Walpole's admission of authorship, however, many critics were loath to lavish much praise on the work and dismissed it as absurd, fluffy, romantic fiction.In his 1924 edition of The Castle of Otranto, Montague Summers showed that the life story of Manfred of Sicily inspired some details of the plot. The real medieval castle of Otranto was among Manfred's possessions.Pressestimmensee record

3842KurzbeschreibungHow is this book unique? Formatted for E-Readers, Unabridged Original version. You will find it much more comfortable to read on your device/app. Easy on your eyes.Includes: 15 Colored Illustrations and BiographyThe Castle of Otranto is a 1764 novel by Horace Walpole. It is generally regarded as the first gothic novel, initiating a literary genre which would become extremely popular in the later 18th century and early 19th century, with authors such as Charles Maturin, Ann Radcliffe, Bram Stoker, Edgar Allan Poe and Daphne du Maurier.The initial 1764 edition was titled in full The Castle of Otranto, A Story. Translated by William Marshal, Gent. From the Original Italian of Onuphrio Muralto, Canon of the Church of St. Nicholas at Otranto. This first edition purported to be a translation based on a manuscript printed at Naples in 1529 and recently rediscovered in the library of "an ancient Catholic family in the north of England". This "ancient Catholic family" is possibly the Percy family, as Walpole would have known the Duke of Northumberland and his wife Elizabeth Percy, though this is not proven. The Italian manuscript's story, it was claimed, derived from a story still older, dating back perhaps as far as the Crusades. This Italian manuscript, along with alleged author "Onuphrio Muralto", were Walpole's fictional creations, and "William Marshal" his pseudonym.In the second and subsequent editions, Walpole acknowledges authorship of his work, writing: "The favourable manner in which this little piece has been received by the public, calls upon the author to explain the grounds on which he composed it" as "an attempt to blend the two kinds of romance, the ancient and the modern. In the former all was imagination and improbability: in the latter, nature is always intended to be, and sometimes has been, copied with success...". There was some debate at the time about the function of literature, that is, whether or not works of fiction should be representative of life, or more purely imaginative (i.e. natural vs. romantic). The first edition was well received by some reviewers who understood the novel as belonging to medieval fiction, "between 1095, the era of the First Crusade, and 1243, the date of the last", as the first preface states; and some referred to Walpole as an "ingenious translator". Following Walpole's admission of authorship, however, many critics were loath to lavish much praise on the work and dismissed it as absurd, fluffy, romantic fiction.In his 1924 edition of The Castle of Otranto, Montague Summers showed that the life story of Manfred of Sicily inspired some details of the plot. The real medieval castle of Otranto was among Manfred's possessions.