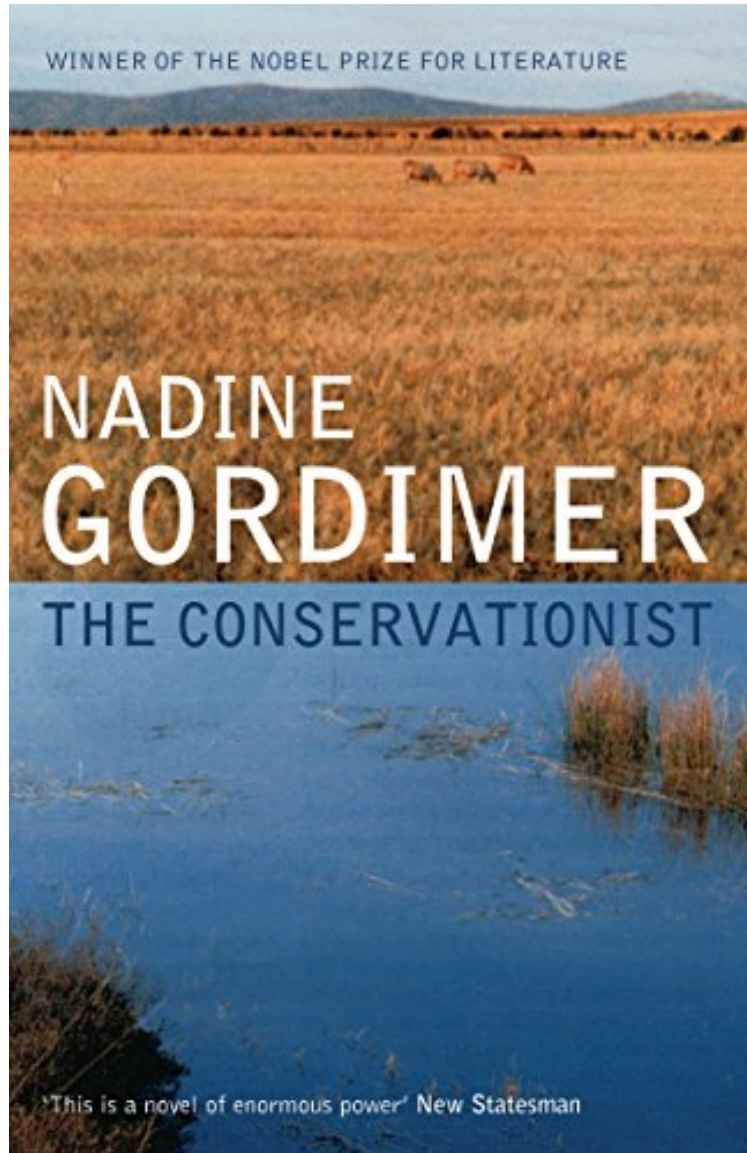


[Mobile book] The Conservationist

The Conservationist

Von Nadine Gordimer

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Von Nadine Gordimer : The Conservationist before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Conservationist:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen7 von 7 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An unparalleled story of an African farmVon Jill PiggottGordimer's Booker-prize winning novel is one of the least overtly political of her works--at least in the most traditional understanding of "political fiction" (fiction about the machinations of state power). Yet the book remains a forceful, intricate exploration of power, as timely today as it was

in 1974, as relevant to contemporary America as it was to minority-ruled South Africa. I have read--and written about--each of Gordimer's novels, and *The Conservationist* remains a favorite. Nowhere else in contemporary English-language fiction have I found such memorable passages about landscape; nowhere else have I found such a subtle exploration of self. I recommend the novel to anyone remotely interested in the modernist novel, to anyone who has ever sat under the spell of Virginia Woolf (Gordimer, too, is a Woolf reader), to anyone who turns to literature for both Beauty and that old hound Truth. 7 von 8 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Typical Gordimer intricacy Von Ein Kunde Gordimer, as always, provides the reader with stunning, vivid descriptions; living imagery. She describes life on the South African veld, the contrasts between city and country life, and the relationships among people that inhabit this backdrop. Gordimer is always subtle and endows her characters with a realism that illustrates her mastery of perspective and point of view. She intrinsically understands the different people about whom she writes and expertly conveys her understandings to people like me, who can only imagine a world in which daily, mundane details of life are shocking but accepted in apartheid-era South Africa. Like much of Gordimer's work, *The Conservationist* starts out slowly, but draws the reader into its intricacy with its exploration of the human mind and the development of human relationships. The main character of the book, Mehring, is a wealthy businessman who owns a farm in the veld, mostly just to be able to say he owns the farm. His relationships are probed in the book... including relationships with his teenage son, his mistress (who is somewhat of a liberal supporting equality for the South African blacks.) Gordimer is most adept at exposing some of the hypocrisy inherent in these people's dealings. Gordimer writes some of the most powerful passages I have ever read, including the following: "Change the world but keep bits of it the way I like it for myself-- who wouldn't make the world over if it were to be as easy as that. to keep anything the way you like it for yourself you have to have the stomach to ignore-- dead and hidden- whatever intrudes. Those for whom life is cheapest recognize that." Taken out of context perhaps this comment does not have the same impact, but it is an invitation to read the book. And all of Gordimer's other works which are equally as important and moving.

Kurzbeschreibung Mehring is rich. He has all the privileges and possessions that South Africa has to offer, but his possessions refuse to remain objects. His wife, son and mistress leave him; his foreman and workers become increasingly indifferent to his stewardship; even the land rises up, as drought, then flood, destroy his farm. As the upheaval in Mehring's world increasingly resembles that in the country as a whole, it becomes clear that only a seismic shift in ideas and concrete action can avert annihilation. Pressestimmen 'This is a novel of enormous power' New Statesman 'Gordimer is a great writer ... It is Turgenev that she most brings to mind' New York of Books 'Nadine Gordimer writes of blacks and whites, but her steady, unblinking eye sees something grey there. You could call it human nature, and you would be right' Daily Telegraph 'Gordimer has undoubtedly become one of the World's Great Writers ... her rootedness in a political time, place and faith has never dimmed her complex gifts as an artist' Independent Pressestimmen 'This is a novel of enormous power' New Statesman 'Gordimer is a great writer ... It is Turgenev that she most brings to mind' New York of Books 'Nadine Gordimer writes of blacks and whites, but her steady, unblinking eye sees something grey there. You could call it human nature, and you would be right' Daily Telegraph 'Gordimer has undoubtedly become one of the World's Great Writers ... her rootedness in a political time, place and faith has never dimmed her complex gifts as an artist' Independent