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Pure (English Edition)



Par Andrew Miller
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Par Andrew Miller : Pure (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Pure (English Edition):

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Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurWINNER OF THE COSTA BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD (2011) A year of bones, of grave-dirt, relentless work. Of mummified corpses and chanting priests. A year of rape, suicide, sudden death. Of friendship too. Of desire. Of love . . . A year unlike any other he has lived. Deep in the heart of Paris, its oldest cemetery is, by 1785, overflowing, tainting the very breath of those who live nearby. Into their midst comes Jean-Baptiste Baratte, a young, provincial engineer charged by the king with demolishing it. At first Baratte sees this as a chance to clear the burden of history, a fitting task for a modern man of reason. But before long, he begins to suspect that the destruction of the cemetery might be a prelude to his own.Revue de pressePraise for Pure"Some stories are too wonderfultoo filled with wondersto set in the

present. They can't really be called historical fiction because they don't serve history so much as plunder it to invent what might have been. Such is the case with *Pure*. "The New York Times Book "This smart reimagining of the groundwork just before France burst into flames is something to savor."The Washington Post"Andrew Miller...is another Hilary Mantel. *Pure* [is] elegantly written and intricately constructed, with an ending that, like those mirrors at Versailles, cleverly reflects the beginning."The New York Times"Such is a wonder of good fiction, when a topic and a tale of which we are ignorant can through simple ink symbols on paper acquire an urgency that casts the rest of our daily rounds in shadow."Cleveland Plain Dealer"One of the most brilliant aspects of Miller's writing is his ability to question unobtrusively, through style alone, sentimentality about both life under the Bourbons and the creative destruction of revolution...he has an instinctive knack for casting bright similes, never overextended, that ripple suggestively...The writing throughout is crystalline, uncontrived, striking and intelligent. You could call it pure."Jonathan Beckman, Literary "Every so often a historical novel comes along that is so natural, so far from pastiche, so modern, that it thrills and expands the mind. *PURE* is one ... Miller's newly minted sentences are arresting, often unsettling and always thought-provoking. Exquisite inside and out, *Pure* is a near-faultless thing: detailed, symbolic and richly evocative of a time, place and man in dangerous flux. It is brilliance distilled, with very few impurities."The Telegraph"Quietly powerful, consistently surprising, *Pure* is a fine addition to substantial body of work...pre-revolutionary Paris is evoked in pungent detail...By concentrating on the bit players and byways of history, Miller conjures up an eerily tangible vanished world."Suzi Feay, Financial Times"Murder, rape, seduction and madness impel this elegant novel...Within this physical and political decay, Miller couches the heart of the matter: how to live one's life with personal integrity, with a purity not so much morally unblemished as unalloyed with the fads and opinions of society...Miller populates Baratte's quest for equanimity with lush and tart characters, seductively fleshed out, who collectively help to deliver the bittersweet resolution of his professional and personal travails."James Urquhart, Independent"Very atmospheric...Although the theme may sound macabre, Miller's eloquent novel overflows with vitality and colour. It is packed with personal and physical details that evoke 18th-century Paris with startling immediacy. Above all he brings off that difficult trick of making the reader care about an unsympathetic character. If you enjoyed Patrick Suskind's *Perfume*, you'll love this."Daily Express"It is an audacious novelist who can so knowingly prefigure the symbolism at the heart of his own work without threatening the success of the entire enterprise. It is fortunate, then, that Miller is a writer of subtlety and skill...Unlike many parables, however, *Pure* is neither laboured nor leaden. Miller writes like a poet, with a deceptive simplicity - his sentences and images are intense distillations, conjuring the fleeting details of existence with clarity. He is also a very humane writer, whose philosophy is tempered always with an understanding of the flaws and failings of ordinary people...*Pure* defies the ordinary conventions of storytelling, slipping dream-like between lucidity and a kind of abstracted elusiveness... As Miller proves with this dazzling novel, it is not certainty we need but courage."Clare Clark, Guardian"Almost dreamlike, a realistic fantasy, a violent fairytale for adults."Brian Lynch, Irish Times"Enthralling...superbly researched, brilliantly narrated and movingly resolved."Robert McCrum, The Observer

WINNER OF THE COSTA BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD (2011)

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