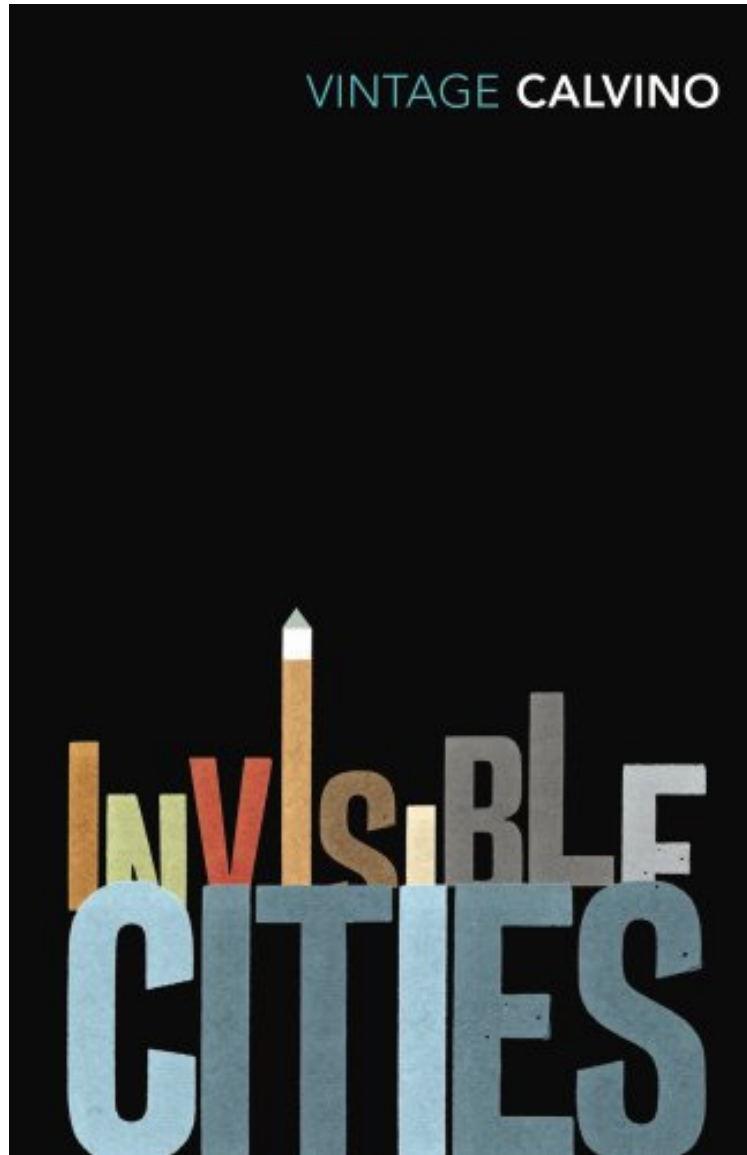


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Invisible Cities (Vintage Classics)

Von Italo Calvino

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Von Italo Calvino : Invisible Cities (Vintage Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Invisible Cities (Vintage Classics):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
InvigoratingVon Ein KundeWhoever has a problem with Calvino's 'Insivible Cities' obviously has little imagination.
Calvino, on the other hand, is preoccupied with the human mind's ability to imagine. Some people see his cities in

their mind's eye, adding texture, colour, hues and shapes and forms as they attempt to follow his visual descriptions. Other people create his cities through auditory means - they dissect his descriptions and re-create it in song. For them, symphonies are Calvino's cities. Other people approach it with more kinesthetic means. They gain a sense of the city, without forming a picture, or constructing it through sounds and music. They feel what it would be to exist in Calvino's city. They connect with the city's nature. (see your local NLP for details. To be more precise, read "NLP explained") My point is, Calvino explores imagination the way no author has ever done. He frees himself of the here and now, the pieces of reality with which humans live with because they have been taught to do so. He perhaps understands the wonder that is the human imagination. Or, at least, he raises it as a conversational topic. Genius? Perhaps not, but has any other author achieved the same effect? 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. subtle, rich, textured literative patterns Von Ein Kunde So here I was, flying north, thinking about themes such as axioms, storytelling, pattern recognition, and facilitation from the grandest, most broad vantage point. Before me, this short book of short stories based upon conversations between Marco Polo and Kublai Khan. Invisible Cities is very simple on the surface. It contains several series' of short stories - 1 to 3 pages in length - that chronicle Polo's excursions into cities throughout the domain of The Khan. The stage is Khan's garden, where Polo has been summoned to report on his journies. Each series of stories is bound by a brief contextual passage, usually a dialogue between Polo and Khan about the nature of Polo's journies and their meaning. From this simple structure, Calvino weaves a rich tapestry of patterns, some obvious (take a look at the table of contents) some very subtle (read between the lines when you read the passages that bridge one section to the next). Calvino is a masterful story teller - with an uncanny ability to create space, setting, scene and mood. I found Invisible Cities a personal, intimate read. Marvelous. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Italo Calvino's Absolute Masterpiece Von Ein Kunde He wrote so many books, and most of them are good, some of the very good. But probably this is his real masterpiece, and the number of enthusiastic comments here should be proof of this. It is highly ironic that Calvino was busy writing his *Citta' invisibili*, that is, his invisible cities while Italians were busy spoiling their towns and cities--but that's the way history goes. This is the great modernist book for all those who have been scared by Ulysses; readable, crystal-clear and endlessly rich, witty, tender sometime. And with a great ending (it HAS an ending, after all)--which sounds terribly bitter to Italian ears. But English-reading people will be fascinated by its mythical echoes and hints. Besides, this is the best book to start with if you never read anything written by this great Italian writer. You can read the rest later (and you won't be disappointed), but this is THE Introduction to Calvino's multiple narrative worlds. Enjoy!

Kurzbeschreibung In *Invisible Cities* Marco Polo conjures up cities of magical times for his host, the Chinese ruler Kublai Khan, but gradually it becomes clear that he is actually describing one city: Venice. As Gore Vidal wrote 'Of all tasks, describing the contents of a book is the most difficult and in the case of a marvellous invention like *Invisible Cities*, perfectly irrelevant.' de "Kublai Khan does not necessarily believe everything Marco Polo says when he describes the cities visited on his expeditions, but the emperor of the Tartars does continue listening to the young Venetian with greater attention and curiosity than he shows any other messenger or explorer of his." So begins Italo Calvino's compilation of fragmentary urban images. As Marco tells the khan about Armilla, which "has nothing that makes it seem a city, except the water pipes that rise vertically where the houses should be and spread out horizontally where the floors should be," the spider-web city of Octavia, and other marvelous burghs, it may be that he is creating them all out of his imagination, or perhaps he is recreating details of his native Venice over and over again, or perhaps he is simply recounting some of the myriad possible forms a city might take. Pressestimmen "so important for thinking about the rich layers of life around us, our frailties, how we question and how we find meaning." (Red) "Invisible Cities changed the way we read and what is possible in the balance between poetry and prose... The book I would choose as pillow and plate, alone on a desert island" (Jeanette Winterson) "Whole chapters of unforced poetic prose in which insight and fantasy are perfectly matched-an exquisite world" (Observer) "Invisible Cities is perhaps his most beautiful work-the artist seems to have made peace with the tension between man's ideas of the many and the one" (New York of Books) "The most beautiful of his books throws up ideas, allusions, and breathtaking imaginative insights on almost every page. Each time he returns from his travels, Marco Polo is invited by Kublai Khan to describe the cities he has visited-Although he makes Marco Polo summon up many cities for the Khan's imagination to feed on, Calvino is describing only one city in this book. Venice, that decaying heap of incomparable splendour, still stands as substantial evidence of man's ability to create something perfect out of chaos" (Paul Bailey Times Literary Supplement)