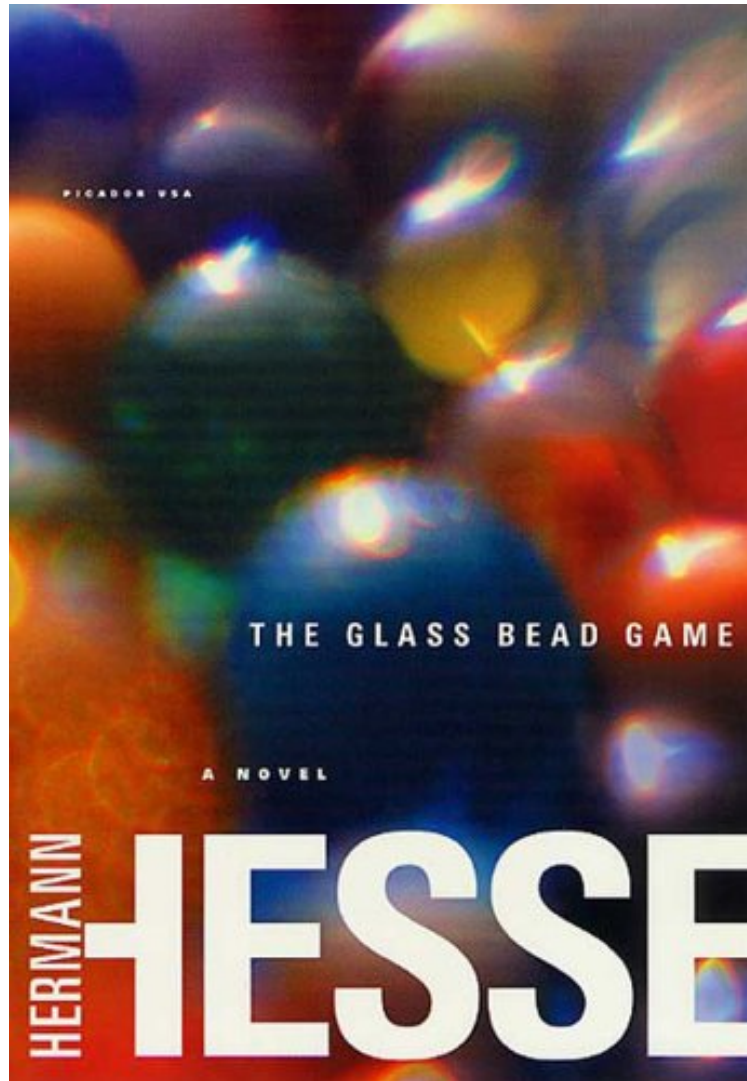


(Free and download) The Glass Bead Game: (Magister Ludi) A Novel

The Glass Bead Game: (Magister Ludi) A Novel

Von Hermann Hesse

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Von Hermann Hesse : The Glass Bead Game: (Magister Ludi) A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Glass Bead Game: (Magister Ludi) A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Fascinating glimpse of "utopia". A must-read poem in it:Von Theodore G. MihranI read MAGISTER LUDI many years ago after I had been first introduced to Hesse by the short novel DEMIAN. I found my interest in this book was captured by the "Posthumous Writings" of the main character, Joseph Knecht.I found "The Rainmaker" segment fascinating. It is the first of three short stories about what Knecht might have been in other times and places. The Rainmaker was sensitive to nature, and could deliver rain when it was most needed...except once. At which point he

was sacrificed and his heir, whom he had prepared, took over. Rilke once described a poet as a man who must understand "the gestures with which the flowers open." The Rainmaker did. But top billing in my book is the one page poem STEPS. (My translation is by Mervyn Savill, a most superior one, in my opinion.) I have often described it to my friends as "the best poem in the English language." Do I dare type it out in full? STEPS, by Herman Hesse: As every blossom fades and all youth sinks/ into old age, so every life's design,/ each flower of wisdom, every good, attains/ its prime and cannot last for ever./ At life's each call the heart must be prepared/ to take its leave and to commence afresh,/ courageously and with no hint of grief/ submit itself to other, newer ties./ A magic dwells in each beginning and/ protecting us it tells us how to live./ High-purposed we must traverse realm on realm,/ cleaving to none as to a home. The world/ of spirit wishes not to fetter us/ but raise us higher, further, step by step./ Scarce in some safe accustomed sphere of life/ have we established house, than we grow lax;/ he only who is ready to inspan/ and journey forth can throw old habits off./ Maybe death's hour too will send us out/ new-born toward undreamed-of lands, maybe/ life's call to us will never find an end.../ Courage, my heart, take leave and fare thee well! This poem was written by Knecht in his student days, and has become my most prized poem. Another one is fascinating to me, also, titled A DREAM. It describes the flashes of insight that come to us out of nowhere...and disappear just as quickly. The translator deserves special mention with his "Scarce in some safe, accustomed sphere of life have we established house..." Lovely alliteration, to my ear. Master philosophical novel, truly meaningful poetry. Thank you, Herman Hesse!

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Christmas Gift to Change a Life Von Mathew Rose Hesse is an anomaly among authors in that what he writes is both very beautiful and very true. The philosophical heritage of this book dates back to St. Thomas Aquinas and his discussion of the opposing Aristotelian poles that exert their magnetism on our lives--the pull of the active life (Vita Activa) and the life of contemplation (Vita Contemplativa). This discussion, the centerpiece of this book, is as original and atavistic a trope as can be found. It is a noteworthy characteristic of the topic, however, that it is always fresh and worth of a new evaluation. As Ralph Waldo Emerson instructs us in his 1838 oration to Harvard's Phi Beta Kappa society, "every age must write its own books." Hesse's *Glasperlenspiel* an evaluation of a great philosophical theme, analysed with great beauty for our age. In the spirit of Christmas, the protagonist's name, Josef Knecht, echoes the spirit of giving. Hesse used the name Knecht ("Servant") in open defiance of Goethe's *Wilhelm Meister* ("William the Master"). In a season devoted to a spirit of giving, *The Glass Bead Game* is a work rich in both artistry and ideology. As an addendum I must note that the full force of Hesse's prose is muddled a bit in translation. In translating passages to send to friends, I often found there was no way to express in English the sentiments of Hesse's flowing, heavily punctuated German, beset by a disinclination to use a full stop. The book, however, is mystic (in the Greek sense of being "closed mouthed"); Hesse's meaning is thankfully quite independent of the translation. In a scene that for me defines the book, Knecht crushes a bough between his fingers and struggles to define the smell: "es laesst sich mitteilen, gewiss, aber nicht uebertragen." (It may be said, of course, but not communicated) Hesse's descriptions, at their best, are, to permit the paradox, descriptions of the ineffable.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Hesse at his most profound Von P. Wung This book, along with the rest of the Hesse catalog, and *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* changed my life forever. I am sure many have said this and many more will in years to come. I started reading Hesse when my best friend in high school got me to read *Steppenwolf*. I worked my way through *Siddhartha*, *Narcissus and Goldmund*, *Beneath the Wheel* etc. But *Magister Ludi* was hard for me. I had a very hard time getting through the book for some reason. Perhaps it is so dense and perhaps it is because I read it while I was in graduate school. But the book was difficult when I found other Hesse books absorbing. But like Pirsigs book, I understood that sometimes the hardest books to start are the ones that are the most rewarding. It is with that conviction that I finally finished reading *Magister Ludi*. The philosophical points and ideas in this book have transformed my world views and have given my life a meaning that wasn't there before. For better or for worse, this book change my world view and made introspection a daily part of my life. I think that this is a must read for any intelligent adolescent and that we need to require everyone who has read it to reread it at least once during their lifetime.

Kurzbeschreibung *The Glass Bead Game*, for which Hesse won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1946, is the author's last and crowning achievement, the most imaginative and prophetic of all his novels. Setting the story in the distant postapocalyptic future, Hesse tells of an elite cult of intellectuals who play an elaborate game that uses all the cultural and scientific knowledge of the Ages. *The Glass Bead Game* is a fascinating tale of the complexity of modern life as well as a classic of modern literature. This edition features a Foreword by Theodore Ziolkowski that places the book in the full context of Hesse's thought. *Pressestimmen* "One of the truly important books of the century, in any language" (The Times) "Sublime" (Thomas Mann) "A massive novel set out to explore the positive side of human nature, the fullness of man's capacity as a thinker and as a prober into scared mysteries...Touching and impressive" (Observer) **Werbetext** Hermann Hesse's magnum opus and a twentieth-century classic