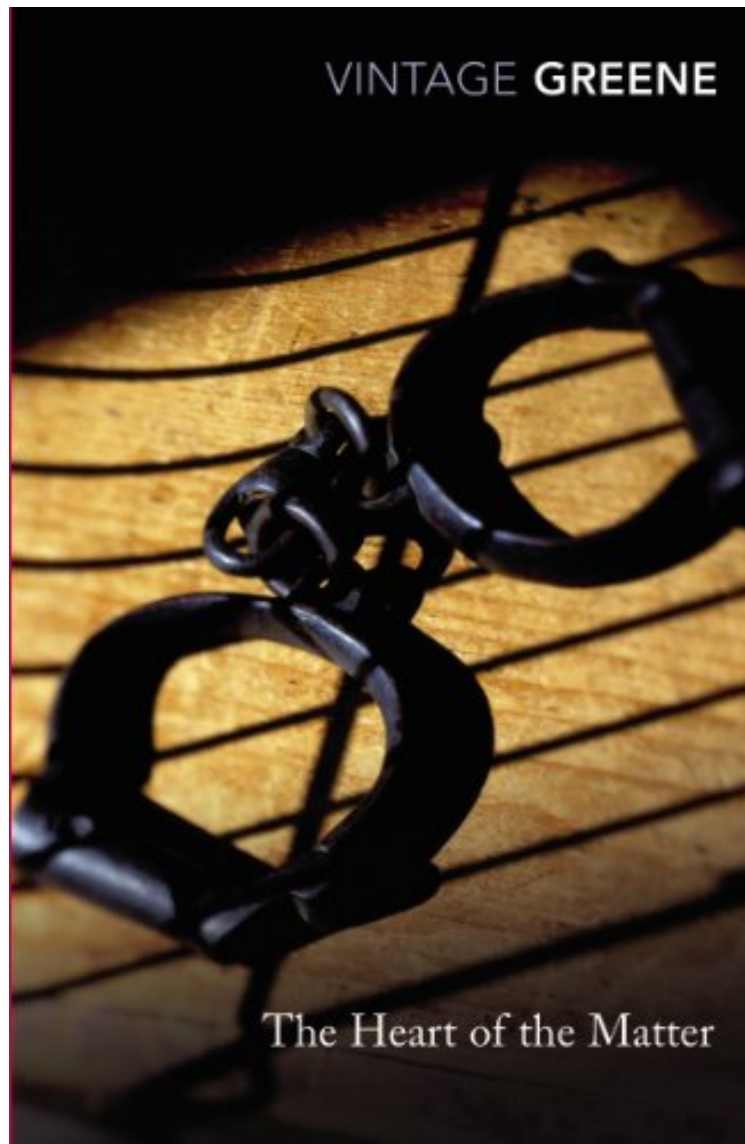


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## The Heart Of The Matter

*Von Graham Greene*

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**Von Graham Greene : The Heart Of The Matter** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Heart Of The Matter:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen6 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Very Absorbing Read!Von JayellThis novel is a brilliant masterpiece which speaks directly to the reader's heart.The writing is of such finesse and the plot so powerful that you won't be able to put down the book until you find out how Major Scobie "resolves his problems" in the end (his problems centre on how to ensure his wife's, his mistress's AND [even]

God's happiness even if it means he has to pay the ultimate price for it). The novel will evoke every kind of feelings in the reader. I know I felt love, tenderness, sadness, sometimes impatience but always PITY for Major Scobie, a deeply religious man who is merciful, responsible and kind towards everyone else but whom nobody really cares about, what more pities. Even though "everyone" claims to love Scobie or to value his friendship, they are actually selfish, ordinary people who have their own hidden agenda (even if they don't realize it) and want something or other from Scobie. All these "demands" weigh the poor man down so badly that in the end, he is driven to commit the final act of damnation so that (or so he thinks) the ones he loves will be free of him and they will no longer be unhappy. It's truly wonderful and fulfilling to read a novel which offers such a great insight into the mind's psychology and the human heart. I've been a fan of Greene's works since I read "The End of the Affair" which I loved dearly. I believe that one doesn't have to be a Catholic to appreciate and understand the novel, despite its heavy references to the religion (eg. about sins, confession, communion, repentance, etc). I can't praise this novel highly enough! Just pick it up! It may even transform some of your views on life (for the better). If not, at the very least it'll transform you instantly into a Graham Greene fan (that is, if you aren't one already)! 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Brilliant tale of a good man's walk to damnation Von Alfred J. Kwak This is widely considered Greene's best novel. However, some 65 years since publication, new readers confronted with so much Catholic fear and agony may give up on it. But it is also a surprisingly easy to read account of a failed marriage after the death of a child, in a 24/7 stifling, socially-suffocating context in coastal West Africa, a region in the 19th century known as "the white man's grave". Its venue is Freetown, Sierra Leone (SL) during WW II. It has a mostly hot and humid climate. Colonials occasionally find a big rat in the bathroom, hungry ant colonies in the kitchen, malarial mosquitoes attacking after sundown, vultures on the roof. Class-based differences among British colonial staff create a poisonous climate rife with gossip. German submarines endanger shipping routes. Syrian traders are suspected of diamond smuggling and dealing with the enemy. At nightfall the harbour is closed and a total black-out enforced. This book's sad hero Henry Scobie, SL's Deputy Police Commissioner, has spent 15 years there. And been married for 14 years with Louise. They are a devoutly Catholic couple. Early on the reader learns that Scobie has been passed over for promotion. Why? Plenty of gossip and rumour, but Louise could be the main reason: Scobie loves his job and SL, but Louise is seen as a snob, the colony's only intellectual. Unlike other wives, she has no war-time job. She thinks she is hated by everyone who matters, resents her husband's poor salary and contentment with his job, his failure to reach the top and the poor living quarters assigned to them since their last leave. In what follows, corruption is one of many themes Greene probes. This review is an introduction to the first 50 pages of one of the greatest books written in the 20th century. Follow Wilson, who is a spy sent from London and Scobie's run of disastrous moral choices. The pair may symbolize Graham Greene's own struggle with his own wartime espionage job and his conversion to Catholicism. Highly recommended. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A very interesting morality play Von Ein Kunde I thought this was an incredibly well written story of a man having to come to grasp with his faith and real life issues. Greene was very vivid in his description of the helplessness felt by Scobie, who represents everyman and can be identified today with other people in a dead end job and loveless marriage. While Scobie was flawed, Greene did a fine job of making him to be someone you could feel for, flaws and all. As a Catholic, I could understand the struggles to live one's life in line with Church rules, but I do not have quite the titanic struggle Scobie had. Book was very thought provoking and interesting.

Kurzbeschreibung WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY JAMES WOODS Scobie, a police officer serving in a wartime West African state, is distrusted, being scrupulously honest and immune to bribery. But then he falls in love, and in doing so he is forced to betray everything he believes in, with drastic and tragic consequences. Pressestimmen "A superb storyteller with a gift for provoking controversy." New York Times Greene had the sharpest eyes for trouble, the finest nose for human weaknesses, and was pitilessly honest in his observations . . . For experience of a whole century he was the man within. Norman Sherry, Independent Werbetext Winner of the 1948 James Tait Black Memorial Prize and considered one of the best English language novels of the twentieth century.