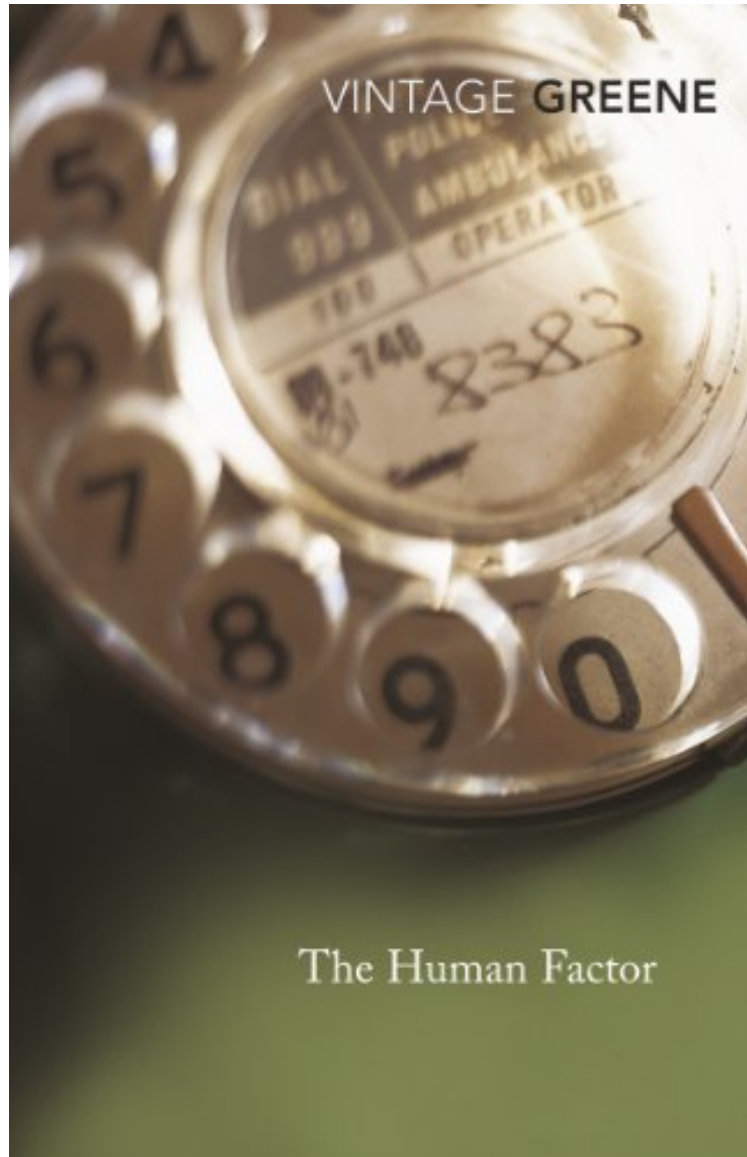


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## The Human Factor (Vintage Classics)

*Von Graham Greene*

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**Von Graham Greene : The Human Factor (Vintage Classics)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Human Factor (Vintage Classics):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A wonderful story about espionage - thrilling and humorousVon ben1005Graham Greene, one of the most influential novelists of the twentieth century, has once again created a wonderful story about espionage, power and contemporary

life. When the SIS discovers that one of their employees must be delivering information to the Russians, precautions are taken in order to find the leak. This leak is traced to a sub-section where Maurice Castle works- the end of his peaceful life...Graham Greene is a master of creating suspense and slowly revealing information to the reader. But this story is actually more than just a thriller- it is a story about power, loyalty and the real life. Greene's language is precise and ironic and creates a wonderful atmosphere, which is absolutely unique. The novel is a pleasure to read and to think of for a long time.

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Einer der genialsten Spionageromane Von Spinnosa Zu Spionagegeschichten habe ich ein gespaltenes Verhältnis, zu viele Verschwörungstheorien, Verfolgungsjagden, und als Schreibgerte getarnte Schiegerte kann sowieso nur Sean Connery mit Würde tragen ...Dieser Spionageroman ist anders. Hier agieren Männer und Frauen in Bros, hinter Schreibtischen, und verhalten sich so korrekt, wie persönliche Marotten und familiäre Probleme das eben zulassen - ein clandestines Treffen auf einem Landsitz ist das Uerste an Konspiration. Und trotzdem entfaltet sich da ein Drama, das Shakespeare auch nicht besser hin gekriegt hätte. The Human Factor - geschrieben in den 1970er Jahren - ist einerseits eine Parabel auf den Kalten Krieg, der jetzt schon etwas länger vorbei ist, andererseits hat die Story auch nach 1989 nichts an Brisanz verloren. Weil es eben nicht um die "große Weltgeschichte" geht, die große Verschwörung, sondern um die kleinen Details, und die können ganz schön widerwärtig sein. PS: Graham Greene hat selbst beim MI5 gearbeitet. Also ist anzunehmen, er weiß, wovon er schreibt. PPS: Graham Greene war lange ein Geheimtipp für den Literatur-Nobelpreis. Man munkelt, er hätte ihn nur nicht bekommen, weil er zu erfolgreich war, was offenbar irgendwie verdächtig ist.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Brilliant spy novel Von Alfred J. Kwak The late Graham Greene (1904-1991) surely is in the top-3 list of best writers not to have won the Noble Prize for Literature. In 2008, Irish author Colm Tóibín wrote a helpful Introduction to this new edition of Graham Greene's 1978 masterpiece in the awesome Penguin Classics series. He put a number of issues in perspective, confirming that Graham Greene (GG) had a boring, eventless intelligence career during and after WW II, and of his use of lots of autobiographic material in this book. This spy novel offers no major violence, nor the use of advanced technology or weaponry. Readers pining for brutal action may find it boring, like some of John Le Carr (JLC)'s books. But GG and JLC converge and differ in their treatment of espionage practitioners: Both favor what Americans call HUMINT (human intelligence) over technology as the prime source of intelligence gathering. Both are quite candid and flippant about the importance of class in intelligence circles. But where JLC roots out moles, GG's main protagonist Maurice Castle's one. He is a 62-year old veteran in espionage, fully aware of bugged rooms and telephones and all the tricks of his trade. As a British diplomat he fled South Africa around 1970. Ever since, he has worked in London as a lowly intelligence officer. Until a security probe about leaks from his section coincides with the visit of the SA security man who prompted his flight...Plot-wise and in terms of the quality of writing, "The Human Factor" remains an absolute stunner, full of fear, doubt, loneliness and subterfuge. Great plot, great atmosphere and superlative writing.

Kurzbeschreibung With a new introduction by Colm Tóibín A leak is traced to a small sub-section of SIS, sparking off the inevitable security checks, tensions and suspicions. The sort of atmosphere, perhaps, where mistakes could be made? For Maurice Castle, it is the end of the line anyway, and time for him to retire to live peacefully with his African wife, Sarah. To the lonely, isolated, neurotic world of the Secret Service, Graham Greene brings his brilliance and perception, laying bare a machine that sometimes overlooks the subtle and secret motivations that impel us. Pressestimmen The Human Factor is Greene's most extensive attempt to incorporate into fiction what he had learned of espionage when recruited by MI6 during World War II . . . What it offers is a veteran excursion into Greene's imaginative world . . . Sometimes seen as a brooding prober into the dark recesses of the soul where sins and scruples alike fester, he is equally at home in sending a narrative careering along at break-neck pace . . . Raising the demarcation line between serious fiction and fast-plotted entertainment, Greene ensures that components of both jostle energizingly together in his pages. from the Introduction by Peter Kemp Werbetext A classic espionage novel.