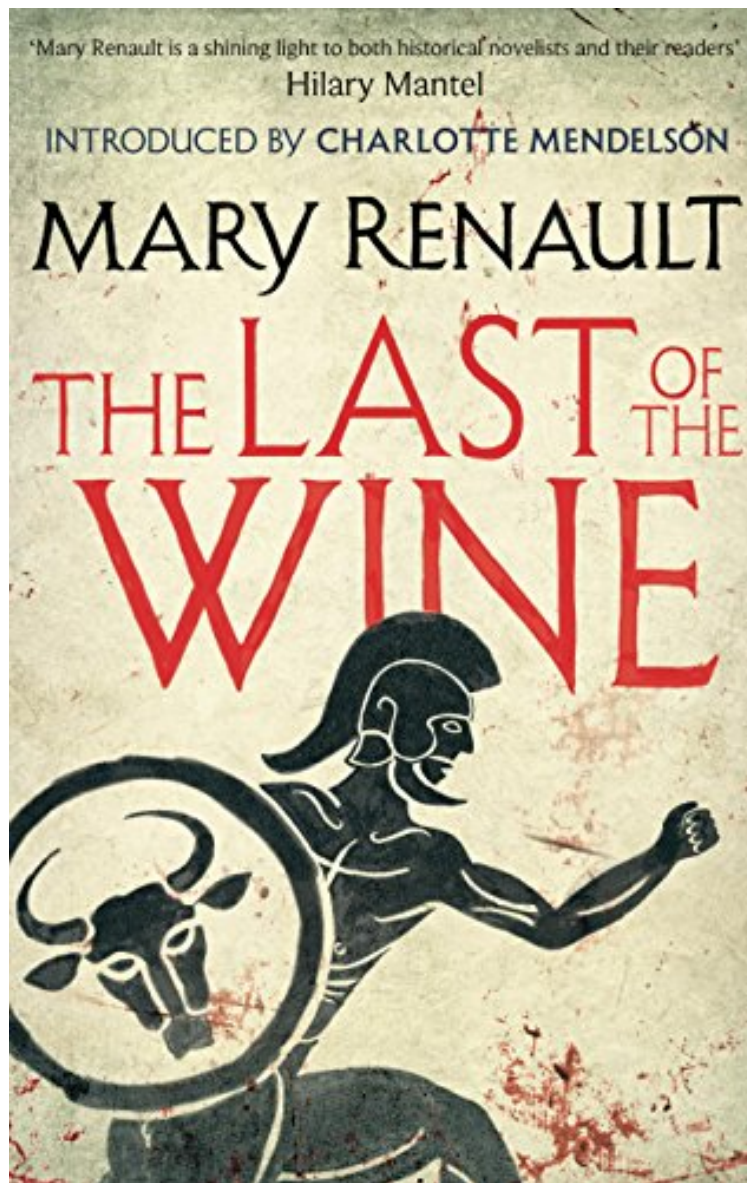


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Von Mary Renault

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Von Mary Renault : The Last of the Wine: A Virago Modern Classic (Virago Modern Classics Book 326) (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Last of the Wine: A Virago Modern Classic (Virago Modern Classics Book 326) (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen5 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. My all time favorite bookVon Ein KundeI first read this book when I was in 7th grade. Perhaps I was a bit young for it, but each reading illuminated more and more about history, human nature and philosophy. These characters are so real, so true in all their human foibles that I identified with them completely. The death of Lysis, told in its understated fashion, truly made me weep. And the historical characters are not caricatures but individuals of flesh and blood. I particularly liked the sub-plot about Phaedo and the Melian War and how that event infiltrated the lives of every character. For me this book only can be compared with Graves' I Claudius books - multi-layered and rich in language and ideas.2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A perfect gem of a novelVon Brett EvillThis novel is set in Ancient Athens about 429-404 BC. But don't be put off if you don't know anything about ancient history. Mary Renault has the gift of making things clear without stopping to explain. 'Last of the Wine' is in the first person, and the narrator, Alexias, speaks as he would to a person of his time and culture. But he is never obscure to a person from the other side of the world and 2400 years later. Such writing, lucid, even limpid, but effortlessly achieving a very difficult task, is such as to make other writers despair. This book is not fantasy, but every fantasy and SF writer ought to read it, to see how well it can be done.The subject of 'Last of the Wine' is the making of a man, by prosperity and adversity, triumph and disaster, love and hate. Alexias faces, in his Aegean microcosm, the whole breadth of human experience. And that is why 'Last of the Wine' is a novel for anyone who is interested in anything.A previous reviewer claimed that this book is 'laced with descriptions of homosexual acts'. I can only say that this is a wild exaggeration. Alexias is bisexual, and his love for Lycis dominates his youth and the book. But the only sexual act mentioned is a single kiss. If that puts you off, so be it: but I think that you would be making a mistake not to read this wonderful book.2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The greatest historical fiction novel ever written!Von Frank J O'ConnorWell no, I haen't read them all, but I've read a lot of them, and only Robert Graves comes close. This book does what historical fiction is supposed to do and seldom does: evoke a time and place that is not our time and our place. So much of historical fiction is a but a Potemkin village; contemporary characters and attitudes promenading before superficial historical settings. This book calls up in imagination Athens at its most critical hour. It is both eloquent and deeply moving. There is nothing greater in the tricky world of historical fiction writing.

KurzbeschreibungCombining the scholarship of a historian with the imagination of a novelist, Mary Renault masterfully brings the ancient world to life in this page-turning drama of the Peloponnesian War.Athens and Sparta, the mighty city states of ancient Greece, locked together in a quarter century of conflict: the Peloponnesian War.Alexias the Athenian was born, passed through childhood and grew to manhood in those troubled years, that desperate and dangerous epoch when the golden age of Pericles was declining into uncertainty and fear for the future.Of good family, he and his friends are brought up and educated in the things of the intellect and in athletic and martial pursuits. They learn to hunt and to love, to wrestle and to question. And all the time his star of destiny is leading him towards the moment when he must stand alongside his greatest friend Lysis in the last great clash of arms between the cities.PressestimmenThe most vivid and convincing reconstruction of ancient Greek life that I have ever seen. (Sunday Times)I never learned Latin or Greek; I wasn't raised on the classics, even in translation. So all my sense of the ancient world - its values, its style, the scent of its wars and passions - comes from Mary Renault. Her Theseus novels are perhaps the most exciting of her Greek fictions, and The Last of the Wine the most moving. I turned to writing historical fiction because of something I learned from Renault: that it lets you shake off the mental shackles of your own era, all the categories and labels, and write freely about what really matters to you. (Emma Donoghue)Not since Robert Graves' I, Claudius has there been such an exciting, living image of the ancient world on this grand scale. It is a glowing work of art (New York Times Book)Mary Renault is a shining light to both historical novelists and their readers. She does not pretend the past is like the present, or that the people of ancient Greece were just like us. She shows us their strangeness; discerning, sure-footed, challenging our values, piquing our curiosity, she leads us through an alien landscape that moves and delights us (Hilary Mantel)WerbetextCombining the scholarship of a historian with the imagination of a novelist, Mary Renault masterfully brings the ancient world to life in this page-turning drama of the Peloponnesian War.