

Angst Stefan Zweig Bartlweb

perfectly paced and brimming with passion twenty two tales from a master storyteller of the twentieth century in this indispensable collection of short stories stefan zweig captures the best and worst of human nature at the heart of these tales lies passion from a humble waiter s love for an aristocratic guest to an exiled frenchwoman s longing for the glitter of court life and a bookseller s fatal lust for print in wartime vienna translated by the award winning anthea bell and spanning a prolific literary career these stories form a map of the human soul drawn by a writer both tender and perceptive

the less i felt in myself the more strongly i was drawn to those places where the whirligig

of life spins most rapidly so begins an extraordinary day in the life of mrs c recently bereaved and searching for excitement and meaning drawn to the bright lights of a casino and the passion of a desperate stranger she discovers a purpose once again but at what cost in this vivid and moving tale of a compassionate woman and her defining experience zweig explores the power of intense love overwhelming loneliness and regret that can last for a lifetime

the baron bored on holiday begins a flirtation with a beautiful woman via her twelve year old son he befriends the child and charms him all the while attempting to seduce the mother but he cannot begin to imagine the effect he is having on the boy s life burning secret is a witty potent look at innocence adult attraction and childhood passion

an eclectic collection of four brilliant stories including a renaissance tragedy and an english whodunit these four stories illustrate the wide range of zweig s subject matter dating from quite early in his career as a writer of fiction the governess rooted in a world of strict edwardian morality to late did he do it almost an english detective story set near bath where zweig lived in exile in addition the miracles of life set in 16th century antwerp during the time of protestant iconoclasm and downfall of a heart both address the theme of anti semitism stefan zweig 1881 1942 was born in vienna into a wealthy austrian jewish family he studied in berlin and vienna and was first known as a poet and translator then as a biographer zweig travelled widely living in salzburg between the wars and was an international bestseller with a string of hugely popular novellas including letter from an unknown woman amok and fear in 1934 with the rise of nazism he moved to london where he wrote his only novel beware of pity he later moved on to bath taking british citizenship after the outbreak of the second world war with the fall of france in 1940 zweig left britain for new york before settling in brazil where in 1942 he and his wife were found dead in an apparent double suicide much of his work is available from pushkin press

the invisible collection and buchmendel are two of stefan zweig s most compelling novellas linked by the theme of obsession zweig explores the nature of desire in showing us two lives led in the single minded pursuit of art and literature of existential truth against the background of a disintegrating and corrupt europe

in the autumn of his days a distinguished privy councillor contemplates his past and looks back at the key moments of his life a reluctant and indolent student he recalls a chance meeting with a reclusive professor and his frustrated wife with whom he ends up

sharing lodgings his thirst for knowledge leads him to form an ambiguous and close relationship with the professor but the professor harbours a secret which changes and scars both men for ever

a collection of stories and novellas written by stefan zweig before wwii

burning secret is set in an austrian sanatorium in the 1920 s a lonely twelve year old boy is befriended and becomes infatuated by a suave and mysterious baron who heartlessly brushes him aside to turn his seductive attentions to the boy s mother stefan zweig the author of beware of pity and confusion provides the reader in this newly available translation with a study of childhood on the brink of adolescence and a boy s uncontrollable jealousy and feelings of betrayal

these stories concern the author s anti war feelings following the first world war the artist ferdinand central figure of compulsion partly reflects zweig s own experience in the snow tells of the plight of a group of jews who freeze to death while trying to escape a medieval pogrom in wondrak a woman disfigured since birth attempts to save her only child from being drafted into the army

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a doctor in the dutch east indies torn between his medical duty to help and his own mixed emotions a middle aged maidservant whose devotion to her master leads her to commit a terrible act a hotel waiter whose love for an unapproachable aristocratic beauty culminates in an almost lyrical death and a prisoner of war longing to be home again in russia in these four stories stefan zweig shows his gift for the acute analysis of emotional dilemmas his four tragic and moving cameos of the human condition are played out against cosmopolitan and colonial backgrounds in the first half of the twentieth century

five of stefan zweig s most compelling novellas are presented together in this powerful volume fantastic night is the story of one transforming evening in the life of a rich and bored young man he spends a day at the races and an evening in the seedy but thrilling

company of the dregs of society his experiences jolt him out of his languor and give him a newfound relish for life which is then cut short by the great war fantastic night is joined by the invisible collection and buchmendel two of zweig s most powerful works which explore lives led in the single minded pursuit of art and literature against a backdrop of poverty and corruption and finally letter from an unknown woman zweig s poignant and heartbreaking tale of the strength and madness of unrequited love and the fowler snared in which it is the man whose passion remains unrequited complete the collection

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one of the arrivals a young man pleasantly distinguished by his good dress and elastic walk hurried ahead of the others and entered one of the hotel buses the horses took the steep road leisurely spring was in the air up in the sky floated the white shifting clouds of may and june light sportive young creatures playfully coursing the blue path of heaven suddenly dipping and hiding behind the mountains embracing and running away crumpling up like handkerchiefs elongating into gauzy scarfs and ending their play by roguishly perching white caps on the mountain tops there was unrest below too in the wind which shook the lean trees still wet from the rain and set their limbs a groaning softly and brought down a thousand shining drops sometimes a cool breath of snow descended from the mountains and then there was a feel in the air both balmy and cutting all things in the atmosphere and on the earth were in motion and astir with the ferment of impatience the horses tossed their heads and snorted as they now trotted down a descent the sound of their bells jingling far ahead of them

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