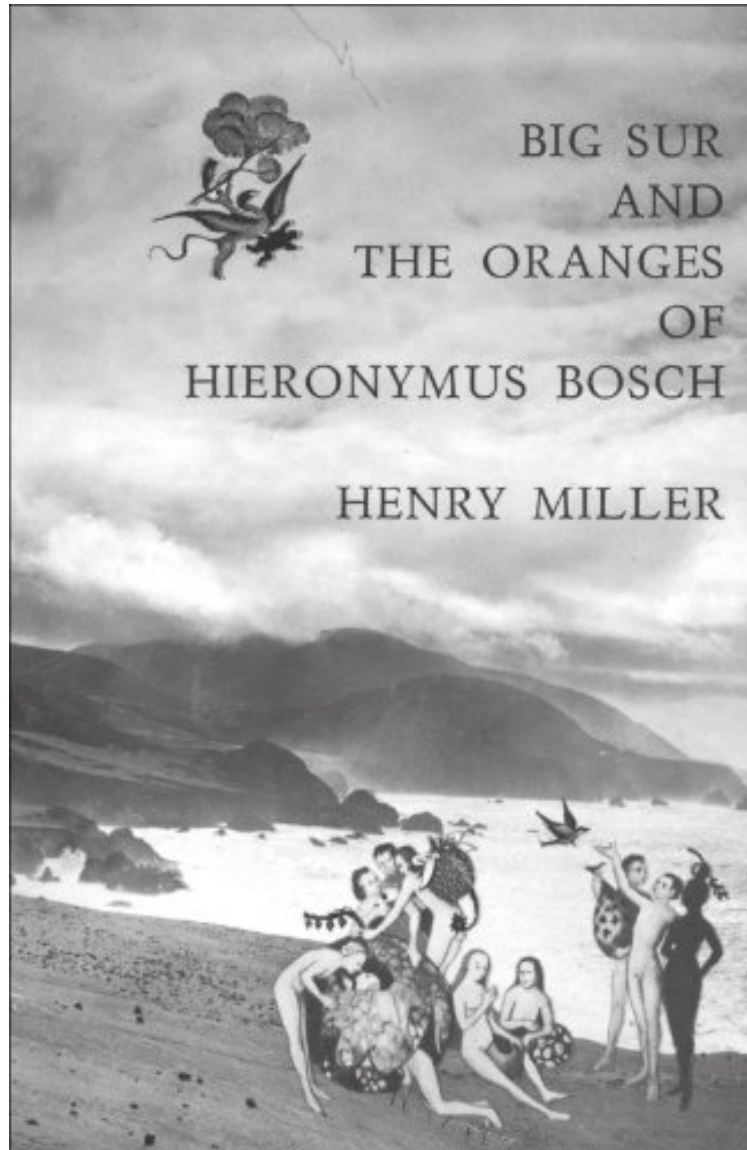


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Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch

Von Henry Miller

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Von Henry Miller : Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Refreshing reflections on Art, Life and Nature.Von Ein KundeIn the 1940's and '50's, long before the New Age gurus and their guides to better living, author Henry Miller was letting his soul run free and writing about it high above the Pacific Ocean in remote Big Sur, California. This book is his account of that experience after his return from Europe

and subsequent car tour of America. It is a refreshing, joyous, insightful, touching, humorous and often profound book that challenges our acceptance of today's hectic world while also being essential reading for those who have read the two Tropics and would like a better understanding of the man behind these books, two of the greatest and most controversial of all time. "This is my answer!" states Miller in the book's opening pages, and in this regard Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch is his Walden. Because it was here, in the far West, far removed from his native New York, that Miller found the only home he could abide by in America, a place where he felt he could live peaceably as a creative artist apart from a way of life he saw as thin and meaningless and which he had long since turned his back on. It was not easy living. The convict shack where Miller initially stayed, a thousand feet above the crashing waves, had neither electricity nor plumbing. There was also the intense isolation. At that time, Big Sur was strictly for the adventurous, a small colony of artists and individuals seeking to live and raise families freely, simply, and close to nature. Highway One had yet to bring the tourists. But despite these difficulties, and probably because of them, Miller came to see Big Sur as the first real home he had ever known. Creatively, he flourished, finding everything his spirit needed in the friendship of the community and the brilliant light and beauty of this road less traveled. He would live there for 15 years, writing, painting, raising a family, making friends, and suffering the occasional, unannounced fan! It is clear in reading this book that the awesome beauty of Big Sur affected Miller deeply, as did Paris in the 1930's and Greece afterwards. He came to see the people he met there as kindred spirits in a timeless sanctuary conducive to reflection, perspective, and inner peace. This new found consciousness found its way into his writing. As with many of his books, Big Sur is not a strict linear narrative, but a collection of thoughts, reminiscences, hopes, dreams, loves, stories, and reveries. The core of the book -- what shines through most -- is the reality of the man, his viewpoint, and a wisdom born of spiritual freedom and real experience. This is not to be found in much of anything written today. Unlike today's authors, Miller knew what it was like to live without money, to be hungry on the street, to be maligned, to turn against convention, and to subordinate all to art. Not all of what he did in life can be considered honorable. But he refused to be a pessimist or give up on life's possibilities. Optimism and hope were diamonds at the heart of him. Art, his salvation. The best of his character, his view and love of life, his being driven to create and express himself, his transcending what others accept blindly, his pursuit of individuality and a spirit enlightened and at rest, is this book's gift to readers. For those ready for it, this book inspires, and we are made better for knowing the truths Miller lived by and the paradise called Big Sur that nurtured his wandering soul.

Von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Henry Miller finds the center of his universe in Big Sur. Von Kevin Cowan (kmcowan@bellsouth.net) I must say that I am biased. Henry Miller is one of my favorite authors of all time. I have sought out the rare and out of print editions in libraries and bookstores throughout the US and Europe. I first found this book in a small used bookstore in Bisbee, AZ. I was on my way to Spain. The opening sentence in the book caught my attention because it opens with a similar intention. "In 19** I set out for Spain. I never made it there." I would make it to Spain, but only after a struggle that would challenge Prometheus himself. Certainly, this is one of Miller's finest efforts. He discusses life, art and writing and relates it all to the peace he found living in his small eutopic cabin in Big Sur, making use of the denizens as characters, reviving other specters from previous works, and detailing the fanatics who would camp at the doorstep of the 80-year-old author in search of the Cult of Sex and Anarchy. The most interesting, most poignant difference between this and so many of Miller's works is his clarity of thought. The ramblings are present as only Miller can present them, but they exude a definite cognizance, a undeniable consciousness of a man who has lived life to the utmost, and now seeks only the solitude under which he might write his final notes on the strangest journey of all -- that of daily existence. There is something for the artist in this book, something for the writer and something for the philosopher. You will not go away disappointed, or even dazed. Miller strikes out at his usual targets: passion and the root of creativity, with undaunted focus and a genius of his own creation.

Von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Ignore that last review. Von Ein Kunde Clearly, this person hasn't a clue. And just for his impertinence, I'm upping my previous review to five stars. Buy this book! Miller has no equal!

Kurzbeschreibung In his great triptych "The Millennium," Bosch used oranges and other fruits to symbolize the delights of Paradise. Whence Henry Miller's title for this, one of his most appealing books; first published in 1957, it tells the story of Miller's life on the Big Sur, a section of California coast where he lived for fifteen years. Big Sur is the portrait of a place one of the most colorful in the U.S. and of the extraordinary people Miller knew there: writers (writers who didn't write), mystics seeking truth in meditation (the not-so-saintly looking for sex-cults or celebrity), sophisticated children adult innocents; geniuses, cranks the unclassifiable. Henry Miller writes with a buoyancy brimming energy that are infectious. He has a fine touch for comedy. But this is also a serious book the testament of a free spirit who has broken through the restraints cliches of modern life to find within himself his own kind of paradise. Pressestimmen. . . a large scale book written with the skill in essay/fictional writing that will help it remain a classic for years to come. The only imaginative prose-writer of the slightest value who has appeared among the English-

speaking races for some years past.--George Orwell Kurzbeschreibung In his great triptych "The Millennium," Bosch used oranges and other fruits to symbolize the delights of Paradise. Whence Henry Miller's title for this, one of his most appealing books; first published in 1957, it tells the story of Miller's life on the Big Sur, a section of California coast where he lived for fifteen years. Big Sur is the portrait of a place one of the most colorful in the U.S. and of the extraordinary people Miller knew there: writers (writers who didn't write), mystics seeking truth in meditation (the not-so-saintly looking for sex-cults or celebrity), sophisticated children adult innocents; geniuses, cranks the unclassifiable. Henry Miller writes with a buoyancy brimming energy that are infectious. He has a fine touch for comedy. But this is also a serious book the testament of a free spirit who has broken through the restraints clichés of modern life to find within himself his own kind of paradise.