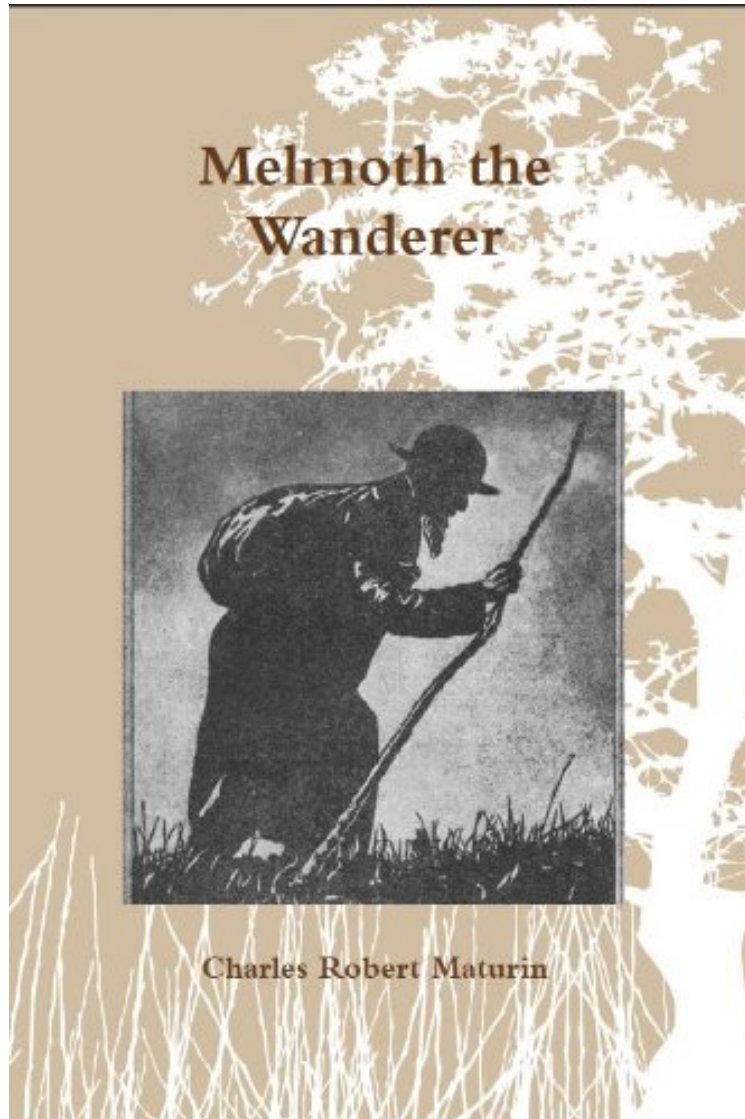


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## Melmoth the Wanderer (Annotated) (English Edition)

Von Charles Robert Maturin  
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**Von Charles Robert Maturin : Melmoth the Wanderer (Annotated) (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Melmoth the Wanderer (Annotated) (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen6 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Gothic pur - Ein Muss!Von Die StrafeMaturin hat mit dem Wanderer ein gigantisches Werk der klassischen Gothic-Literatur geschaffen, welches sich mit der Liebe, dem Leben, dem Wissen, der Religionen auseinandersetzt, zahllose Anleihen der Bibel, von Shakespeare, de Sade, Don Quichote, ..., entnimmt, und dem Leser ein dsteres Bild vorfhrt, wie es

schlimmer kaum sein kann. Melmoth der sich dem Teufel verschreibt, wird hier in verschiedenen Geschichten, die aus verschiedenen Quellen stammen, erlebt. Das Buch ist flüssig geschrieben, sein Alter kaum anzumerken, hilfreich zum Verstehen, sind die in dieser Ausgabe zahlreichen Fussnoten. Es ist spannend wegen seiner Handlungen, aber auch wegen der Ansichten, die hier dargestellt werden. 2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Melmoth - The Anti-Quixote Von mp Maturin's "Melmoth the Wanderer" is a brilliantly constructed work of gothic fiction. One hundred years after Jonathan Swift, Maturin takes up his Irish predecessor's gift for harsh, even malevolent satire against any and all offenders - organized religion, government, lovers, warriors - even making broad, devastating comments on humanity in general. Maturin and his characters are quick to point out that this is not 'Radcliffe-romance' gothic, in the direct style of works like "The Mysteries of Udolpho". They are right. Rather than the seemingly landscape-obsessed, rationalistic Radcliffe, Maturin takes his direct gothic influences from the claustrophobic psychological terrors of Godwin's "Caleb Williams," Lewis' "The Monk," and M.W. Shelley's "Frankenstein." Unlike "The Monk," however, Maturin's novel does not rely heavily on Lewis' supernatural machinery (ghosts, demons, bleeding nuns, etc.). Instead, he offers several apparently unconnected stories that concentrate on families in desperate straits and individuals in extreme crises, pushing the limits of man's inhumanity to man. The connecting element, the wild card with the wild eyes, that pops up just when the characters most/least need him, is Melmoth the Wanderer. "Melmoth" also draws heavily from Cervantes' "Don Quixote," which provides a great point of comparison for the main character. Where Don Quixote was a wandering knight, pledged to help the helpless, Melmoth is a wandering agent of evil, whose mission is to prey on the helpless. Melmoth has 150 years to tempt the indigent and desperate into selling their souls for wealth, power, or simple relief, and trading places with him. Again looking backward to "Quixote" and forward to Stoker's "Dracula," "Melmoth" is also heavily concerned with its own construction as a text. The various stories are pieced together by eyewitnesses, interviewers, and ancient manuscripts, often at several removes from their originals. There is even one gentleman in the novel who is collecting material to write a book about Melmoth the Wanderer. This is not a book for everyone. Maturin often provides almost excessively long preludes before any action occurs in his nested narratives. The traumas he inflicts on Melmoth's targets can drive you to the point of insanity yourself. However, if you are an admirer of the psychological thriller without all the show of your standard gothic-terror text, "Melmoth the Wanderer" is sure to keep you busy for days, if not weeks. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The best Gothic novel ever written Von Ein Kunde "Melmoth the Wanderer" is a tour de force of Gothicism, however, the psychological profundity of each character distinguishes this novel from typical examples of the genre. The multi-layered narrative, while occasionally confusing, is worth the concentration as Maturin weaves a complex and gripping tale. Of particular interest is the Tale of the Indian, which is concerned with the influence of Melmoth over Immalee, an innocent girl, alone on an Indian island. The description of her innocence is magnificent in its simplicity and effectiveness. An absolutely astounding, challenging and exciting book.

**Kurzbeschreibung** The central character, Melmoth (a Wandering Jew type), is a scholar who sells his soul to the devil in exchange for 150 extra years of life; he spends that time searching for someone who will take over the pact for him. The novel takes place in the present but the backstory is revealed through several nested stories-within-a-story that work backwards through time. Chapter I: The story opens in 1816: John Melmoth, a student in Dublin, visits his dying uncle. He sees a portrait of his namesake dated '1646' and catches glimpse of 'the Traveller'. Chapter II: Funeral. Biddy Brannigan tells John the family story. A stranger called Stanton arrived looking for the Traveller, and left behind a manuscript. John finds Stanton's manuscript. Chapter III: Stanton's story opens in Spain in the 1670s. Stanton encounters the Traveller laughing at the sight of two lovers who have been blasted by lightning. An old Spanish woman tells him the story of the Cardoza wedding at which the Traveller was an uninvited guest. The bride died on her wedding night and the bridegroom went mad. Stanton pursues and finds the Traveller in a theatre in London. The Traveller tells him they will meet again. Stanton's obsession with the Traveller is judged madness and he is tricked into a madhouse. There, the Traveller appears and offers to free him but Stanton refuses. Stanton escapes and looks for him in Ireland to no avail. Following his uncle's wish, John burns the portrait, but later that night he is visited by his ancestor in his dreams. Chapter IV: The following stormy night, John witnesses the Traveller laughing at a shipwreck. John tries to approach him, but slips and falls into the sea. Chapter V: John is saved from drowning by the sole survivor of the wreck, a Spaniard Alonzo Monada, who begins to tell him his story. Chapter VI: Monada continues his story. He is confined unwillingly to a monastery by his family. Chapter VII: Monada continues his story. His appeal to leave the monastery is rejected and his brother Juan sends messages saying he will help him escape. Chapter VIII: Monada continues his story. He attempts to escape with the help of a fellow monk, a parricide. Chapter IX: Monada continues his story. The parricide monk tells his story. They escape, but it is a trap and Monada's brother is killed. Chapter X: Monada continues his story. Monada is held and examined in the prison of the Inquisition. Chapter XI: Monada continues his story. He is visited in his cell by the Traveller, who says he will help him escape. A fire

breaks out, the prison is evacuated and in the confusion Monada escapes. Chapter XII: Monada continues his story. He finds his way to the house of a Jew, but officers of the Inquisition arrive searching for him. The Jew helps Monada escape through a secret trapdoor into an underground passage. Chapter XIII: Monada continues his story. He finds himself in a secret chamber with a venerable Jewish scholar, Adonijah. The chamber is decorated with the skeletons of members of Adonijah's family. Includes a biography of the Author.

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**Synopsis** A famed Gothic novel published in 1820, it teaches a moral lesson in the guise of a terrifying tale. The protagonist of the story sells his soul to the devil in exchange of 150 years of power, knowledge and happiness. But later he regrets making this bargain and searches for someone who can help him. Spine-chilling!