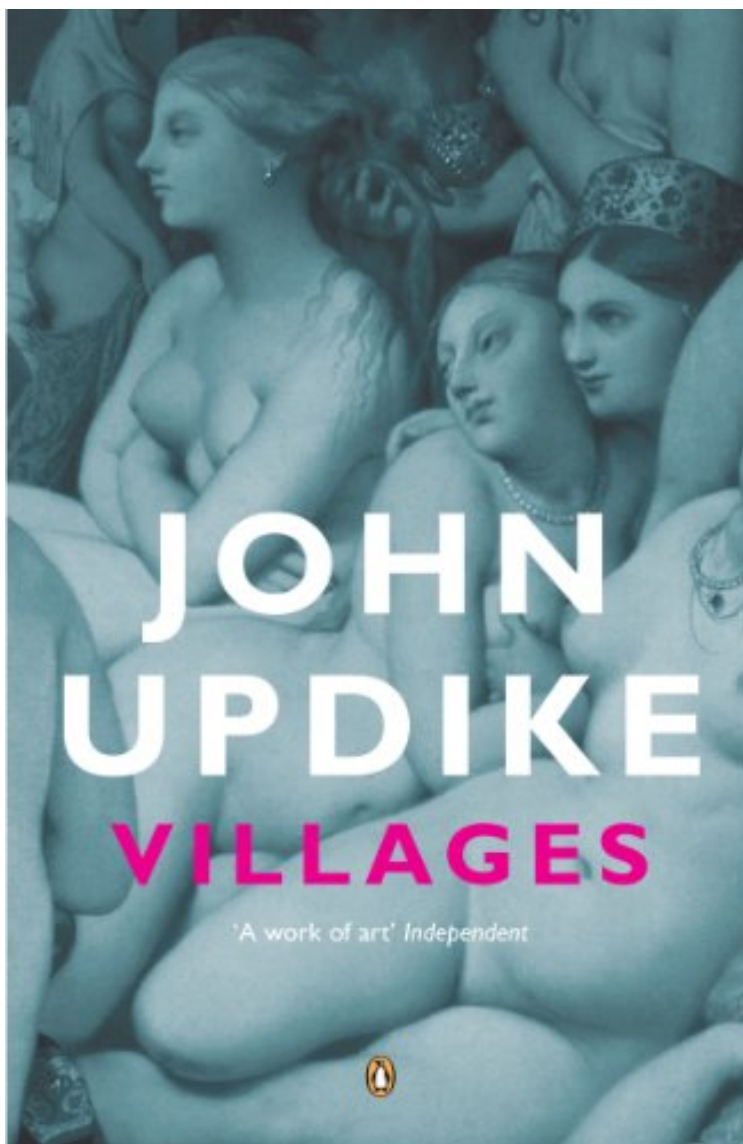


[Read now] Villages

Villages

Von John Updike

ebooks / Download PDF / *ePub / DOC / audiobook



 Download

 Read Online

Produktinformation -Verkaufsrang: #427179 in eBooksVerffentlicht am: 2006-02-23Erscheinungsdatum: 2006-02-23File Name: B000XU4V2U | File size: 50.Mb

Von John Updike : Villages before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Villages:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen8 von 12 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A beautiful storyVon Ein KundeVillages is the first John Updike book I have read so I can't compare it to his other titles. However, I loved it. John Updike is a great storyteller I shall start taking seriously. The story was a well constructed . I especially liked the Character development and like Owen, the main character the most. Like all stories set in a society

in transition, innocence, ignorance, enlightenment, courage, evil, sex and goodness are all interwoven to make situations so exciting,. John Updike captured all of those in this novel. A highly recommended read.

KurzbeschreibungOwen Mackenzie's life story abounds with sin and seduction, domesticity and debauchery. His marriage to his college sweetheart is quickly followed by his first betrayal and he embarks upon a series of affairs. His pursuit of happiness, in a succession of small towns from Pennsylvania to Massachusetts, brings him to the edge of chaos, from which he is saved by a rescue that carries its own fatal price.From Publishers WeeklyIn this 21st novel by one of the premier chroniclers of American life, a man recalls a lifetime spent in New England communities of women. Owen Mackenzie, now in his 70s and living in the small village of Haskell's Crossing, Conn., with his second wife, Julia, spends his days immersed in the daily routines of retirement while reminiscing about his childhood town of Willow, Pa., and the village where he spent his adulthood, Middle Falls, Conn. Though Owen studied at MIT and founded an early computer startup that made him moderately rich, his story is primarily defined by his romantic relationships. He marries his first wife, Phyllis, a classmate at MIT, for her cool beauty, but later decides that he needs a broader range of sexual experience. After a fraught first affair, he learns caution and is able to clandestinely indulge his love of women, until Julia, a minister's wife, comes along and convinces him to embark on a messy divorce and remarriage that indirectly results in Phyllis's accidental death. Owen's obsession with women's bodies and blithe ignorance of their inner lives can sometimes read like a tedious parody of Updike's earlier work, without a sense of humor to imply the author is in on the joke. Yet Updike still writes lovely sentences and creates a believable portrait of the American village, concealing dark secrets but providing a limited stability. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From BooklistSeventy-year-old Owen Mackenzie does what people his age often do: he dwells on the past. For Owen, this means he obsessively recollects the places he's lived and how these locations functioned as settings for what the women in his life--his mother, two wives, and assorted lovers--gave him. He feels that these females are what provided life to his life, the material of his true existence, which, in this remembrance, he stretches like a canvas on the framework of the sequence of three villages he called home from childhood in the 1930s to late middle age in the present day. Born into poverty, Owen nevertheless considers himself lucky, which is essentially the point of--the catalyst for--this look back on an outwardly unextraordinary life. Interestingly, neither career nor fatherhood occupies his mind to much extent. As is usual for Updike, this novel is elegantly styled; however, it builds to a less than impressive whole. His lovely sentences are like intricate brickwork, but they ultimately do not add up to a real structure. Readers go with Owen down memory lane through all of his life moments without receiving any noticeable payoff, for his story fails to resonate on much more than a surface level. However, it is an Updike novel, so expect demand. Brad HooperCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved