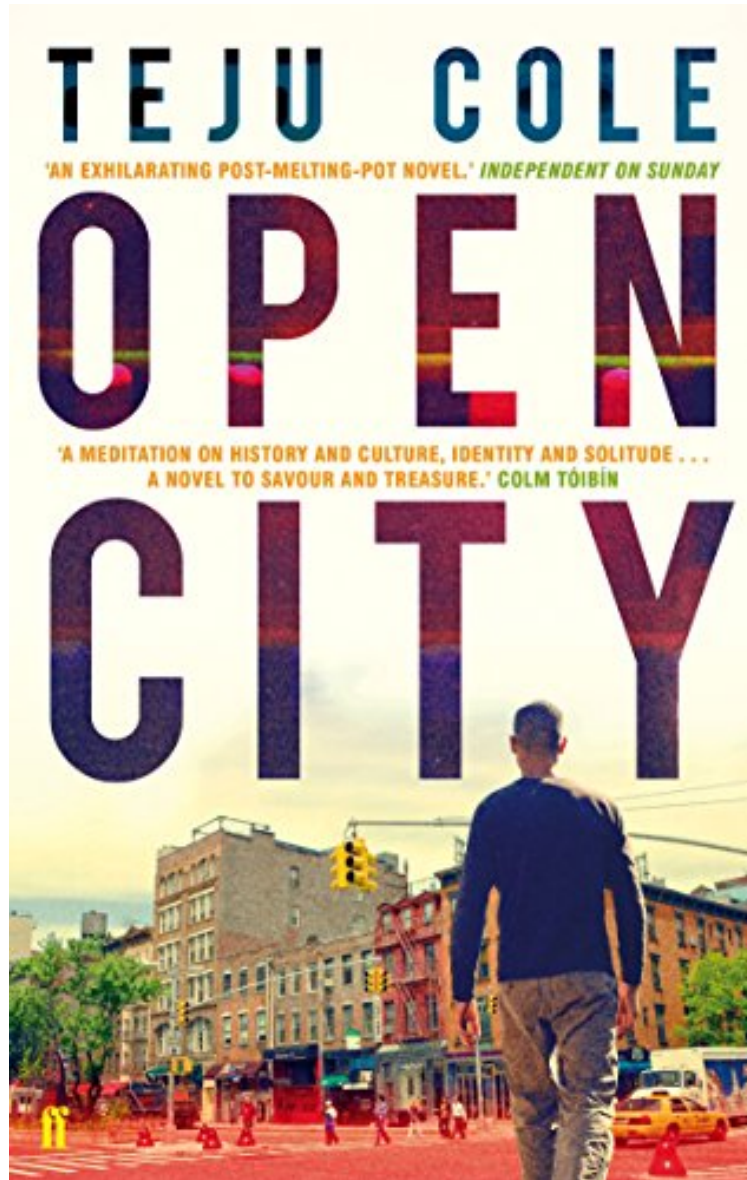


[Free and download] Open City (English Edition)

Open City (English Edition)

Von Teju Cole

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Von Teju Cole : Open City (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Open City (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen17 von 17 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Confusing DebutVon Alfred J. KwakThis debut has been showered with praise and prizes. I find it hard to judge it away from NYC, Brussels and Nigeria, its main venues. It is written in the I-form, and its narrator makes lengthy

walkabouts in Manhattan, pondering about his patients (he is a Nigerian MD, about to become a psychiatrist), commenting on little-known aspects of buildings he visits or passes by, bird migrations, etc., etc. His history is complicated and he is brilliant when describing dead matter: buildings, paintings by known and unknown masters, works of little-known experimental composers and -philosophers, the life and works of Gustav Mahler. He visits Brussels looking for his beloved German (half Russian?) grandma, but quickly gives up his search and starts walking again, criticizing the town's many statues of false heroes. His dislike of his German mother is not explored. He does not want to see her again. He is a grown man holding on to shreds of early memories, with a powerful one about his grandmother squeezing his shoulder while his parents climb some shrine or mountain in Nigeria, overruling any feeling he has for his white mother. In Brussels he lends his ear to a pair of Moroccans who feel persecuted for their mindsets before they even expressed them in public. The account of his talks with his dying, former English professor Saito shows a warm side of him. He has one or two other such friends, and meets other "brothers", blacks whose friendly overtures he does not reciprocate. And a small band of "brothers" assails and robs him. Rich book in terms of symbols such as light vs. darkness and the many meanings of white vs. black. And about the uses and limits of psychiatry. Rich also in its sudden associations and flashbacks, and his description of the NY bedbug epidemic as a metaphor for worse to come. But what? Real epidemics the world is ill-prepared for? The narrator shows worrying memory-lapses, e.g. forgetting his ATM four-digit code and a rape he committed long ago and whose victim, as well as the act, he has erased from his memory. The author never reaches out to his readers to convince them of his vision and worldview. His book is a curled-up porcupine, protecting a few cherished hometruths, but unwilling or unable to chart a future perspective... Confused, I did something I never do: I read reviews by other readers after penning this review. And no two reviews are alike. Readers seized on different aspects of Cole's book as if filling a dinner plate at a stand-up banquet with many dishes. Wonder if he has a second novel in him. 5 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. French novel style meets NYC "flaneur" Von liaberlin A wonderful mix of reflections, observations, extraordinary and everyday incidents. A fascinating journey of a young, black, and very urban psychiatrist through cities, music, life and death, history, politics, and philosophy. Combining Walter Benjamins idea of the "flaneur" with an account of the time, and the spirit if youth after Bret Easton Ellis. Very fresh, very new. And a great read. 1 von 10 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Geschenk Von Weyand Roland Das Buch haben wir auf Empfehlung des Rundfunks gekauft und sind bisher noch nicht dazu gekommen es zu lesen. Offen

Kurzbeschreibung "The past, if there is such a thing, is mostly empty space, great expanses of nothing, in which significant persons and events float. Nigeria was like that for me: mostly forgotten, except for those few things that I remembered with outsize intensity." Along the streets of Manhattan, a young Nigerian doctor doing his residency wanders aimlessly. The walks meet a need for Julius: they are a release from the tightly regulated mental environment of work, and they give him the opportunity to process his relationships, his recent breakup with his girlfriend, his present, his past. Though he is navigating the busy parts of town, the impression of countless faces does nothing to assuage his feelings of isolation. But it is not only a physical landscape he covers; Julius crisscrosses social territory as well, encountering people from different cultures and classes who will provide insight on his journey—which takes him to Brussels, to the Nigeria of his youth, and into the most unrecognizable facets of his own soul. A haunting novel about national identity, race, liberty, loss, dislocation, and surrender, Teju Cole's *Open City* seethes with intelligence. Written in a clear, rhythmic voice that lingers, this book is a mature, profound work by an important new author who has much to say about our world. Pressestimmen Winner of the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award for a distinguished first book of fiction Finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award " "Reminiscent of the works of W.G. Sebald, this dreamy, incantatory debut was the most beautiful novel I read this year--the kind of book that remains on your nightstand long after you finish so that you can continue dipping in occasionally as a nighttime consolation." -Ruth Franklin, "The New Republic" "A psychological hand grenade." -Alexis Madrigal, "The Atlantic," Best Books I Read This Year "A meditative and startlingly clear-eyed first novel." -"Newsweek"/Daily Beast Writers' Favorite Books 2011 "This year, literary discovery came, for me, in the form of Teju Cole's debut novel, "Open City," a deceptively meandering first-person narrative about a Nigerian psychiatry resident in New York. The bonhomous flaneur who strolls Manhattan from top to bottom, reveals, in the course of his walking meditations, both more about the city and about himself than we - or indeed he - could possibly anticipate. Cole writes beautifully; his protagonist is unique; and his novel, utterly thrilling." -Clare Messud in the "Globe and Mail" "On the surface, the story of a young, foreign psychiatry resident in post-9/11 New York City who searches for the soul of the city by losing himself in extended strolls around teeming Manhattan. But it's really a story about a lost nation struggling to regain a sense of direction after that shattering, disorienting day 10 years ago. A quiet, lyrical and profound piece of writing." -"Seattle Times," 32 of the Year's Best Books "[Open City is] lean and mean and bristles with intelligence. The multi-culti characters and streets of New York are sharply observed and feel just right... Toward the end, there's a poignant, unexpected scene in a tailor's shop that's an absolute knockout." -Jessica Hagedorn, author of *Toxicology* in Salon.com "Writers choose

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