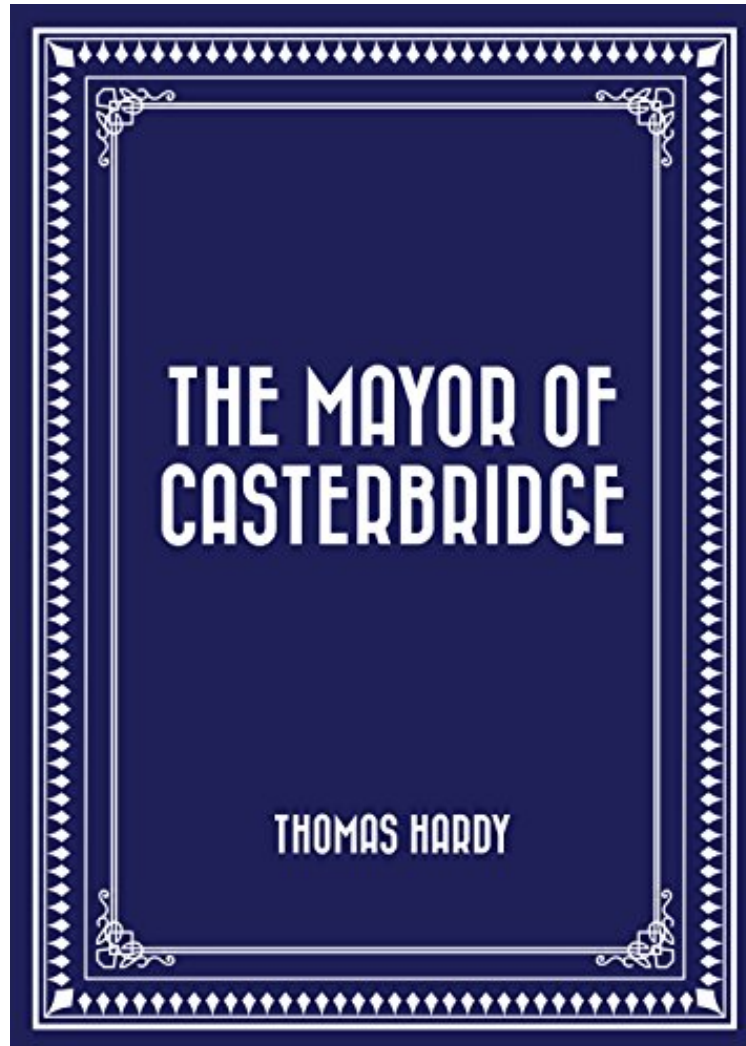


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The Mayor of Casterbridge (English Edition)

Von Thomas Hardy

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Von Thomas Hardy : The Mayor of Casterbridge (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Mayor of Casterbridge (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. I'm from India: Von M. Bachan I remember having read this book in high school. I immediately fell in love with Hardy. (I was also fond of Hardy Boys at that time, so in my opinion the name Hardy acquired a special significance.) Unfortunately, though, I never liked another book by him quite so much. I've read Tess of the d'Urbvilles, Under the Greenwood Tree, Far from the Madding Crowd (which was perhaps his second best novel, as others here have affirmed), and perhaps a few others. It is strange, or perhaps significant that I remember the exact circumstance when I was reading this book. It must have been about ten in the night. I had cleared my study desk, and unlike my common practice of

lying on my stomach on my bed to enjoy a book into the night, I sat down on the straight-backed chair at the desk to read it. Very soon, I was overwhelmed by the narrative of Mr. Hardy. My father came in to see what I was up to, saw the tears streaming down my face as I turned the pages of my book, and quietly went away. I have never before owned any story books- my parents told me to read out of libraries. But now I am 22, and have started earning some money of my own, and I'm going to start a little collection of my most beloved books, to pass on to my children, perhaps? And this is among my very best.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Mayor of Casterbridge - Men without characters Von Dr J. Evans Pritchard "The Story of a Man of Character" as described by Thomas Hardy is somewhat flaccidly applied to this novel. In fact, a better description of this novel comes from a colleague of mine, Professor Neale Scott of the Baltimore University, who remarked "I realise now I had mistaken the dullness of Henchard's character for the dullness of the whole novel.". Ultimately, Prof. Scott is quite accurate in his assessment of the text. The characters bumble around, waiting for circumstance to attach itself to their groins, and do very little of plausible importance at all. Henchard himself is, without doubt, one of the most irritating characters to be placed in 'classic' fiction, and one can't help but wish that the death of our tragic hero had happened an awful lot sooner, such as before the novel started. The character of Elizabeth-Jane, wonderfully parodied by Helli Kitchin, of the Moscow State University, is so blase towards her constantly changing parenthood that it completely ruins any sense of empathy that the audience may have for her. The least convincing Scotsman ever can also be found in this text, in the form of Donald Farfrae, and I am inclined to agree with Dr Daniel Greenfeld, whose thesis, "Hardy makes the heart grow colder", points out that the author would not know a Scotsman if one jumped up and bit him, a way that most of us admittedly meet them. To sum up - I discourage my students from reading this shambolic text. Avoid this novel like the plague - it is so soggy, you couldn't even burn it to stay warm. Attempt, perhaps, to read something a little more plausible with something other than a praetorian wanderer and an intransigent hay-trusser to tantalise the imagination, something that the author was obviously lacking - Wessex indeed.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A classic read Von Ein Kunde A question about the source of human tragedy lies at the heart of The Mayor of Casterbridge. Characters frequently mention fate and providence as causes for tragedy (and joy), but Hardy offers more subtle and complex explanations for individual tragedy. At times, Hardy seems to indicate that circumstance and timing play a more important role than Providence in shaping the course of human destiny. Can people survive without the aid of luck or providence by pure force of will? Henchard (the Mayor) is a man whose loneliness, egoism, and pride cause him to make bad decisions. His faulty judgement certainly do not help him in his quest for fulfillment, either. Hardy's depiction of an ultimately unknowable universe is achieved partly through his characters' false assignment of meaning to meaningless incidents. Fate, human will, and faulty perceptions are central issues in much of Hardy's writing. Though not as moving and intense as Hardy's masterpiece Tess of the d'Urbervilles, The Mayor is not to be missed. Hardy's complex rendering of Henchard's multi-faceted personality is remarkable. In addition, The Norton Critical Addition provides excellent commentary and background information from noteworthy critics.

Kurzbeschreibung Thomas Hardy was an English writer and poet in the Romantic era. Hardy was greatly influenced by Charles Dickens and William Wordsworth, and he went on to write critically acclaimed classics like Far From the Madding Crowd and Tess of the d'Urbervilles From Library Journal Hardy's 1866 novel gets the red carpet treatment here. Like Broadview's recent edition of Dracula (Classic Returns, LJ 1/98), this includes a scholarly preface and introduction, a chronicle of Hardy's life, and several appendixes. All that for \$9.95 makes this an absolute steal. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. Pressestimmen "Wonderful, comprehensive edition at reasonable cost to students. The chronology, maps, notes on text, and introduction by the talented Dale Kramer make this edition a great value for the money."--Bonnie W. Epstein, Plymouth State College "Wonderful, comprehensive edition at reasonable cost to students. The chronology, maps, notes on text, and introduction by the talented Dale Kramer make this edition a great value for the money."--Bonnie W. Epstein, Plymouth State College "Wonderful, comprehensive edition at reasonable cost to students. The chronology, maps, notes on text, and introduction by the talented Dale Kramer make this edition a great value for the money."--Bonnie W. Epstein, Plymouth State College "Wonderful, comprehensive edition at reasonable cost to students. The chronology, maps, notes on text, and introduction by the talented Dale Kramer make this edition a great value for the money."--Bonnie W. Epstein, Plymouth State College