

The Horseman on the Roof: A Novel by Jean Giono



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★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 677 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 433 pages



Jean Giono's *The Horseman on the Roof* is a historical novel set during the Great Terror of 1793 in the Provence region of France. The novel tells the story of Angelo Pardi, a young Italian doctor who becomes a fugitive after being wrongfully accused of murder. Angelo must travel across the war-torn countryside, hiding from the authorities and trying to find his way back to his home in Italy.

Along the way, Angelo meets a variety of characters, including a group of traveling actors, a priest, and a young woman named Pauline de Théus. Pauline is a strong and independent woman who is determined to help Angelo on his journey. Together, they face the dangers of the countryside and the ever-present threat of the authorities.

The Horseman on the Roof is a thrilling and suspenseful novel that captures the chaos and brutality of the French Revolution. Giono's writing is

lyrical and evocative, and he brings the characters and the setting to life with vivid detail. The novel is a classic of French literature and has been translated into more than 30 languages.

Characters

The Horseman on the Roof features a cast of memorable characters, each with their own unique story and motivations.

- **Angelo Pardi** is a young Italian doctor who is wrongfully accused of murder. He is a skilled horseman and a courageous man, but he is also haunted by the guilt of his past.
- **Pauline de Théus** is a strong and independent woman who is determined to help Angelo on his journey. She is resourceful and quick-witted, and she is not afraid to stand up for what she believes in.
- **The Abbé de Prades** is a priest who helps Angelo on his journey. He is a wise and compassionate man, and he offers Angelo guidance and support.
- **The Comtesse de Théus** is Pauline's mother. She is a proud and aristocratic woman, but she is also kind and generous.
- **The Marquis de Théus** is Pauline's father. He is a former soldier who is now a retired farmer. He is a kind and gentle man, but he is also fiercely protective of his family.

Setting

The Horseman on the Roof is set in the Provence region of France during the Great Terror of 1793. The countryside is war-torn and dangerous, and the authorities are hunting down anyone who is suspected of being a

traitor. Angelo must travel across this treacherous landscape, hiding from the authorities and trying to find his way back to his home in Italy.

Giono's descriptions of the setting are vivid and evocative. He brings the countryside to life with its rolling hills, lush forests, and sparkling rivers. He also captures the chaos and brutality of the French Revolution, with its public executions, its Reign of Terror, and its widespread violence.

Themes

The *Horseman on the Roof* explores a variety of themes, including the nature of good and evil, the power of love, and the importance of forgiveness. Angelo is a complex character who is capable of both great good and great evil. He is haunted by the guilt of his past, but he is also determined to make amends for his mistakes. Pauline is a strong and independent woman who is determined to help Angelo on his journey. She is not afraid to stand up for what she believes in, and she is always there for Angelo when he needs her.

The novel also explores the power of love. Angelo and Pauline fall in love despite the dangers of their situation. Their love gives them strength and hope, and it helps them to overcome the challenges they face. The novel also explores the importance of forgiveness. Angelo must learn to forgive himself for his past mistakes, and he must also learn to forgive those who have wronged him. Forgiveness is a difficult thing to do, but it is essential for healing and moving on.

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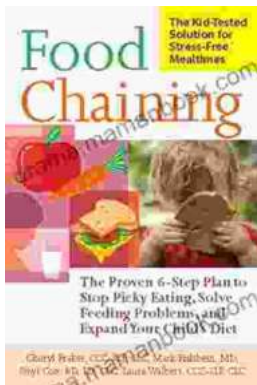
Giono's writing is lyrical and evocative, and he brings the characters and the setting to life with vivid detail. The novel is a must-read for anyone who is interested in French history or literature.



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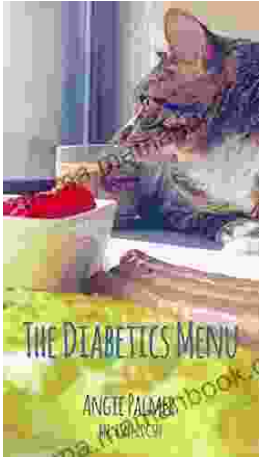
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