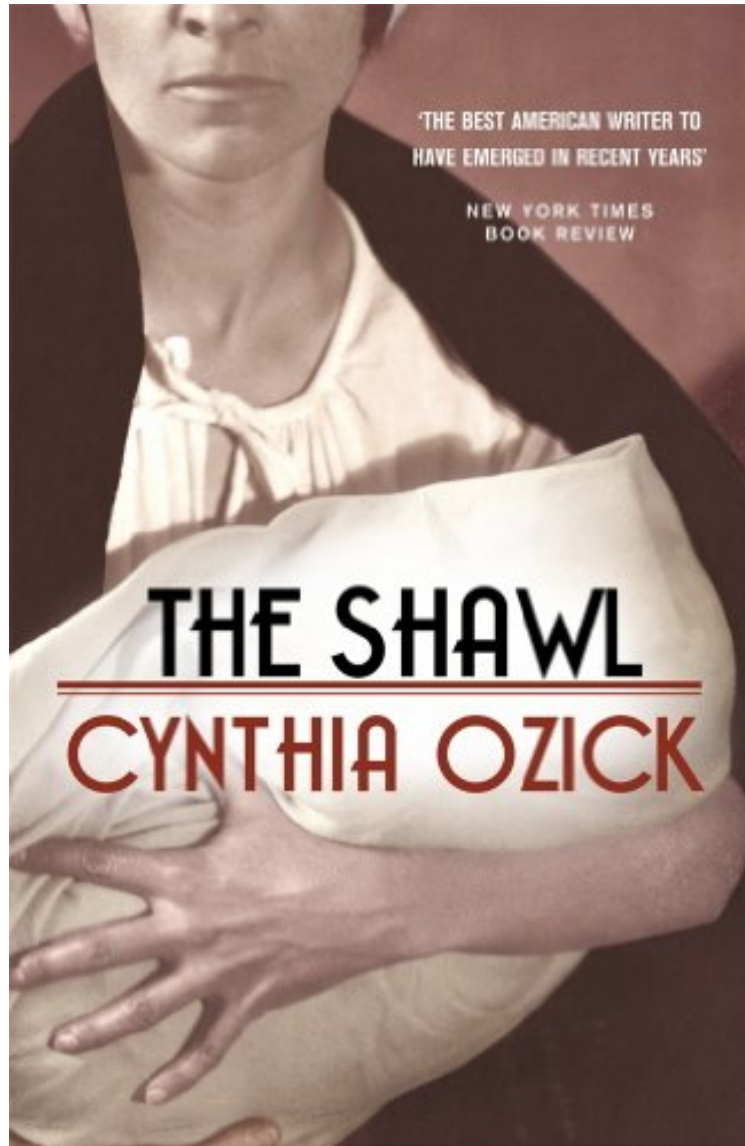


(Download pdf ebook) The Shawl (English Edition)

The Shawl (English Edition)

Von *Cynthia Ozick*

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Von Cynthia Ozick : The Shawl (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Shawl (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The best fictional evocation of the HoloaustVon jakuhn@uclink4.berkeley.eduBoth stories in this brief book ("The Shawl" and "Rosa") are about the same women, who sees her baby killed in the camps and thirty years later is haunted by her memory. "The Shawl" (the first story) is, I think, the best short story in the English language (it dwarfs Carver and

Cheever in scope, has deeper moral thrust than O'Conner and in a few pages evokes the Holocaust as much as Primo Levi was able to do in his eloquent long works). In a few words: Read this story and you will be changed. On the other hand, "Rosa" (a novella) is drawn out and, though powerful, more nuanced and subtle than its predecessor. Although usually good things, these elements work against the story (especially if read in succession) - "The Shawl"'s power is its unwillingness to compromise anything whereas "Rosa" seems to err a bit on the long side. It's almost tempting to give the stories entirely different ratings but the "10" of "The Shawl" so far eclipses any "9" or "8" I would give "Rosa" that I think it unfair to lower the status of the better story. This work is not nice or easy and doesn't attempt any of the catharsis some Holocaust Fiction ludicrously includes. It is hard to read (and should be) because both works are more or less a statement about our own humanity (or inhumanity). The prose itself is wonderfully easy, but the depth of emotion Ozick strikes makes this a very difficult 69 pages. Read it and you too will "never forget".

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An amazing piece of fiction
 Von Ein Kunde
 The Shawl is a hauntingly beautiful story and novella of a woman, Rosa, who watches her baby daughter, Magda, die at the hands of a concentration camp guard during the holocaust. Told in lyrical prose, Ms. Ozick captivates us with the symbol of the shawl representing everything that Rosa lost during the war. The shawl is what she hid her daughter Magda in at the concentration camp so that Magda wouldn't be thrown into the gas chambers. But, her evil niece Stella (who is with Rosa and Magda at the concentration camp) steals the shawl from the baby one night. The baby is then found and killed by a guard. The rest of the story tells of Rosa's life 39 years later as she has taken residence in a dumpy hotel room in Florida that evil Stella (who now resides in New York) pays for. Here, Rosa lives day to day in a sort of mental fit, deluding herself that Magda is still a live, a beautiful lioness, a doctor married to a doctor, living in a gorgeous house in New York. Amid open sardine cans and half eaten eggs, Rosa writes letters to this daughter. Toward the end of the novella, Rosa finally receives a box with the shawl in it which Stella has reluctantly sent to her. "Get on with your life; join a club; put on your bathing suit!" Stella tells her in a letter attached to the shawl. But, all that Rosa cares about is breathing in the shawl, Magda. Overall, this was certainly one of the greatest pieces of writing I've ever had the chance to read. Cynthia Ozick knows her subject, is deeply deeply in tune with her characters and touches us with all that they feel and do. I look forward to reading more of her work. She is a truly gifted writer who has much to offer the world.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Good fictional view of the Holocaust
 Von Kevin
 Cynthia Ozick, a fiction writer, clearly depicts the affects of the Holocaust on one woman, Rosa Lublin. Ozick uses an accumulation of two of her short stories, one being "The Shawl," and the other being, "Rosa." In "The Shawl," Rosa witnessed the murder of her baby daughter, Magda, while at the hands of the malicious concentration camp guards. Magda was thrust towards an electric fence the first time that she was seen by a Nazi guard. Rosa had done an efficient job of hiding Magda until Rosa's neice, Stella, stole Magda's "magical shawl" for her own comfort, thus wielding Magda to the guards. The tragic death of Magda changes the course of Rosa's life forever; long after the Holocaust is over. There is a time where Rosa tells the way that life goes... "there's life before, life during, and life after- Before is a dream. After is a joke. Only during stays." For Rosa, Hitler's reign during the Holocaust is "during." "The Shawl" follows "Rosa". In this sequel, Rosa is now living in Florida, "a hellish place," where she is meagerly financially supported by Stella. Stella lives in New York; both women live alone. The reason for their separation stems to the time when Rosa flipped out and completely destroyed her shop in Brooklyn; for she would have been placed in a mental rehabilitation center, had she not left New York immediately. Rosa, 59, continues to agonize over the loss of Magda, even after nearly 30 years. Everyday, she writes letters to Magda in "the most literary Polish," while she can only communicate with Stella in English. Unable to afford simple things such as paper, Rosa either finds blank sheets in the "hotel" lobby where she is staying or she finds envelopes which she delicately unfolds to form squares of paper, or, as she puts it, "the fresh face of a new letter." Rosa's life then changes when she encounters a wealthy man by the name of Mr. Persky. Persky is a rather obvious flirt in their chance meeting. Does anything happen between Rosa and Persky?

Kurzbeschreibung
 Two masterful short stories: one depicts the horrors of the Holocaust, the other the lifetime of emptiness that pursues a 'survivor' - by a Pulitzer Prize finalist
 The Shawl is considered a modern classic - a masterpiece in two acts. The horror and desolation evoked through piercing imagery - first through the abomination of a Holocaust concentration camp murder, second through the eyes of the murdered child's mother, thirty years later, now 'a madwoman and a scavenger' - offers the reader a chilling insight into the empty suffering of a 'survivor'. In 'The Shawl', a woman named Rosa Lublin watches a concentration camp guard murder her child, a child barely old enough to walk. The shawl that was the child's security blanket and lone possession reappears in the second story, 'Rosa'. Rosa appears thirty years later, living in a Miami hotel and feeling the strain of a lifetime of pain: the hollowness of seeing her baby killed, of managing her harrowing memories she's being told to forget, and of even now being treated as a specimen and not a human being. Pressestimmen
 "Ozick is one hell of a writer and The Shawl rings like a bell marked Truth." -- COLIN WATERS SUNDAY HERLAD
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