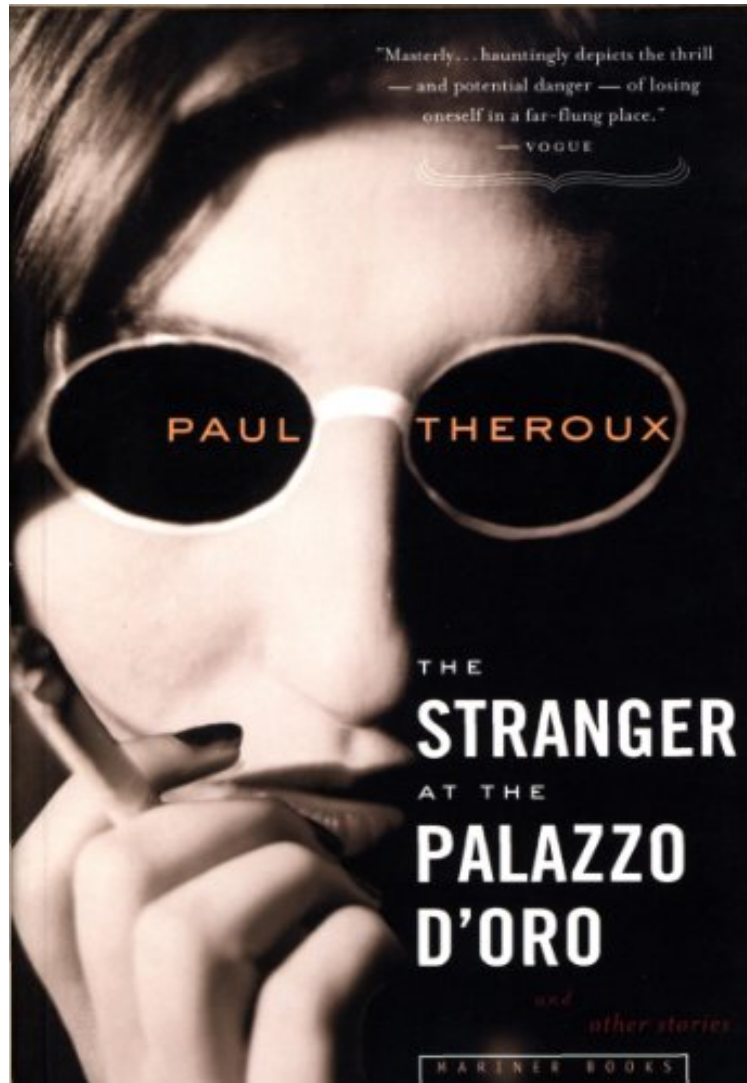


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The Stranger at the Palazzo d'Oro and Other Stories

Von Paul Theroux

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Von Paul Theroux : The Stranger at the Palazzo d'Oro and Other Stories before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Stranger at the Palazzo d'Oro and Other Stories:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Stranger Indeed Von Genieer This young American who is introduced to debauchery with an elderly countess by a Chaldean quack aka a plastic surgeon is a poor version of a Thomas Mann novelette, where the seduced young man is also American, the elderly woman also beyond her prime. Only the pimp is missing in Thomas Mann's book and for good reason. The surgeon being described as a pederast, is expected by this the reader, if not the unassuming young American, to seduce the victim of his endeavours also to his ways at any minute and this reader is disappointed. Paul

Theroux miserably fails in making his sketch plausible but earns at least a few stars for his elegant style and clever choice of words for the otherwise unspeakable instruments of sexual action. As I was unhappy with the title story, I read no more of this slim volume. Have I missed anything?

Kurzbeschreibung "This is my only story. Now that I am sixty I can tell it." He, the narrator, was a twenty-one-year-old art student traveling the world. She was a countess -- apparently cold, haughty, and inaccessible -- traveling with Haroun, her ambiguous companion. When the young man makes their acquaintance at a hotel in Sicily, he finds himself filled with unexpected lust and playing a part in something he doesn't quite understand. Filled with Theroux's typically effortless but devastating descriptions of people and places, *The Stranger at the Palazzo d'Oro* is a brilliant portrayal of aging and decay, a shocking tale of sensuality in a golden age. The thrill and risk of pursuit and desire mark the accompanying stories of the sexual awakening and rites of passage of a Boston boyhood, the ruin of a writer in Africa, and the bewitchment of a retiree in Hawaii. This is Paul Theroux at his most allusive and wise, writing with a deep understanding of the frailties of men and boys.