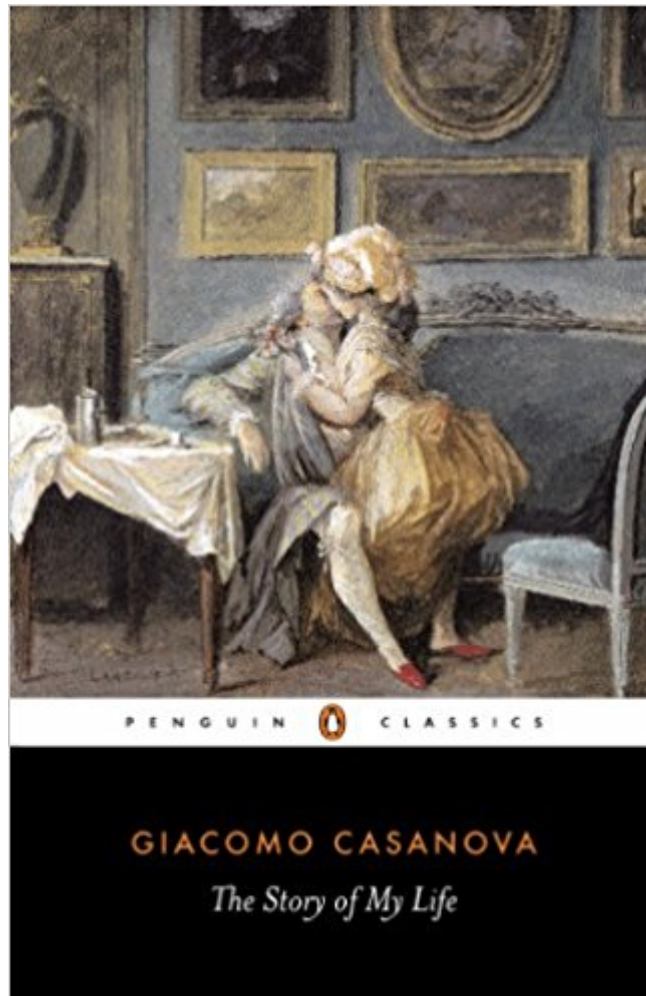




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The Story Of My Life (Penguin Classics)



Synopsis

Seducer, gambler, necromancer, swindler, swashbuckler, poet, self-made gentleman, bon vivant, Giacomo Casanova was not only the most notorious lover of the Western world, but a supreme story teller. He lived a life stranger than most fictions, and the tale of his own adventures is his most compelling story, and one that remained unfinished at the time of his death. This new selection contains all the highlights of Casanova's life: his youth in Venice as a precocious ecclesiastic; his dabbling in the occult; his imprisonment and thrilling escape; and his amorous conquests, ranging from noblewomen to nuns.

Book Information

Series: Penguin Classics

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Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #110,324 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > European > Italian #28 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Europe > Italy #569 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Essays & Correspondence > Essays

Customer Reviews

Giacomo Casanova (1725-1798) was born in Venice, the son of actors who wanted him to become a priest. Instead he had numerous occupations, and is remembered as one of history's great lovers. Stephen Satarelli is a poet and translator of Italian and French literary works. Sophie Hawes is an artist, printmaker, and translator. Gilberto Pizzamiglio is Professor of Italian Literature at the University of Venice.

Giacomo Casanova (his name has become synonymous with that of a fiery amatory male!) was born in 1725. Somehow he managed to live until 1798 in a life which would make many people tired by just reading about his countless adventures! Among his many avocations was that of priest;

soldier; courtier; gambler; violinist; spy; translator and famed author. Casanova managed to cram several lifetimes into his 73 wild years. If you want to follow this ultimate rake across the world be prepared to visit Italy, Germany, England, France, Spain, Switzerland, the Ottoman Empire of Turkey and Russia. Along the route he met such luminaries as Voltaire, Frederick the Great and Catherine the Great. Casanova a serial lover of the fair and innocent maidens he seduced with wit, charm and seductive skills. He was imprisoned at times always managing a daring escape or the ability to have friends in high place save his love machine hide. He was no dunce being able to write and converse in many languages. His autobiography was written in French being widely published in his lifetime and ever since. The Penguin edition is an abridgement of his monumental work which in its entirety would swell to over 3,000 pages. The translators add material which connects the episodes. The book is filled with colorful characters; excellent descriptions of what Europe was like among the elite and filled with enough sex scenes to keep the reader searching for more. Casanova was not someone you would want your daughter to bring home to meet her family. He would make an excellent guest on the TV chat shows! Enjoy a few hours of pure escapism with this famous work!

Made a great gift for a good friend of mine who is very into him.

nice

There are dozens of different versions of this book, and they are all DRAMATICALLY different. Do not buy this "Penguin Classics" edition!!!!!! It is horrible! All the good parts have been "abridged" out of it. This is one of the silliest ideas I ever heard-but Penguin apparently tried to "clean up" Casanova. They have removed most of his stories about seduction from his auto-biography! Since Casanova was the world's greatest lover, I don't know why they think anyone would want the book except to read about seductions but those are exactly the parts they took out! Only Penguin could make Casanova boring. Buy a different edition of the book!

I really liked this book because it is well written and gives a good understanding of the life and times of Casanova. This is a must read for those interested in 18th century classics.

Pretty good book.

good read

OK

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