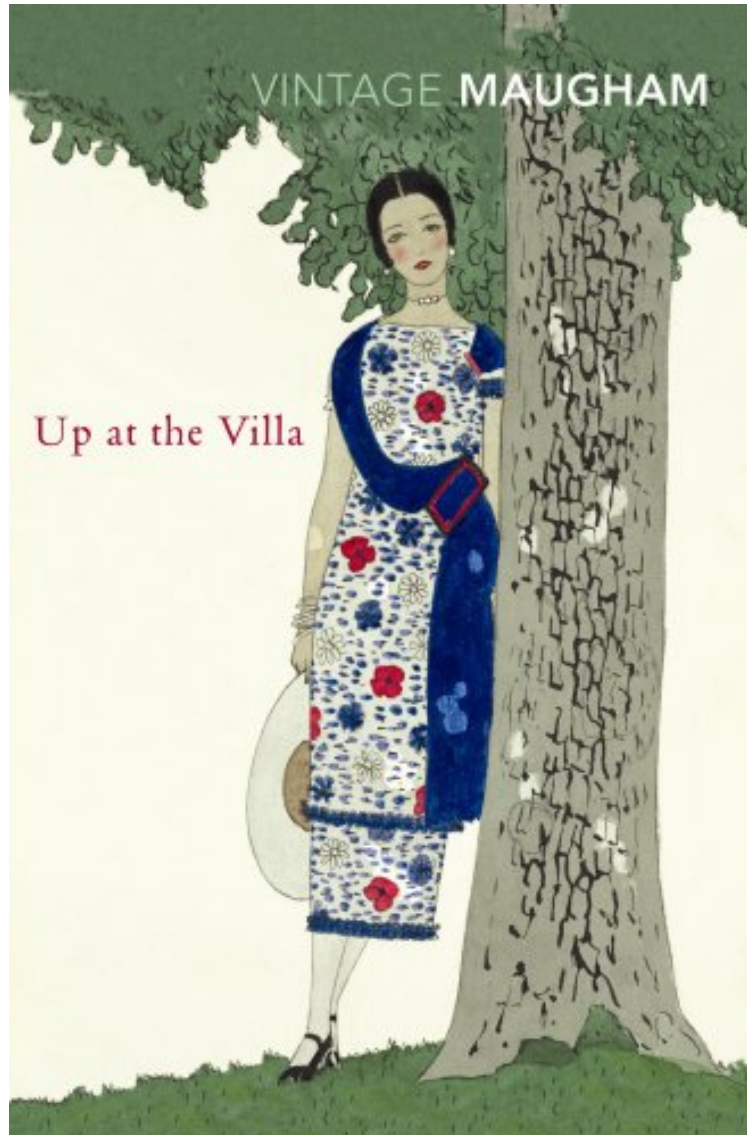


[Free pdf] Up At The Villa (Vintage Classics)

Up At The Villa (Vintage Classics)

Von *W. Somerset Maugham*
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Von W. Somerset Maugham : Up At The Villa (Vintage Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Up At The Villa (Vintage Classics):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Dr. exiled to tropics develops Buddhist non attachmentVon jimcmaui@buddhist.com Jim CampbellAlthough this book was met with less than glowing reviews and is little known today, it probably best exemplifies the expression, "That (It) was right out of Somerset Maugham." It has all the trappings that we think of when we think of Maugham. If there

is a "Greenland" (Graham Greene) then this novel is most assuredly, Maughamland. It takes place in the East Indies and has the string of colorful characters, an Opium taking Doctor, A broken down sea captain and a woman who finds herself liberated by the death of a man she is attached to. Probably Maugham's fifth most important novel, it is rather like taking many of his short story themes and elongating them into one novel. The lead character, Dr. Saunders finally resigns himself to a lazy man's view of Buddhist Non-attachment and it becomes a theme Maugham would explore more deeply in the "Razor's Edge." Like most of Maugham it is a lot of fun to read. Even, or maybe especially, today. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Straightforward romantic thriller Von Ein Kunde Somerset Maugham is a great story teller. Never pretentious or obscure, Maugham is a keen observer of human and social behaviour. His grasp of what makes people tick is instinctive, accurate and insightful. In "Up At The Villa", a straightforward novella in the romantic thriller genre, he doesn't miss a beat. His caricature of the self satisfied and prideful in Edgar Swift is a hoot! Mary Panton, the novella's heroine, is flawed as a person but redeemed by compassion and principles. The film version takes a few liberties with the nationality of Rowley (he is English in the book but American in the movie) and embellishes the plot with twists and turns but remains faithful enough to the spirit of the novel. The casting of Kristin Scott Thomas as Mary and James Fox as Edgar is also spot on. A quick and enjoyable read. Doesn't matter whether you read the book or watch the movie first. 4 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Good Maugham Book Von Ein Kunde Maugham writes about a British doctor who lives in the South Pacific. At the outset of this book, Dr. Saunders must travel to China to help out a wealthy man. Once there, he completes his task and must wait for a boat to take him back to his home. During the waiting process, he runs into a pair of traders, who offer to take him back part of the way. The traders, Captain Nichols, and his associate Fred Blake, are two very interesting characters who aren't what they seem to be. During their travels, Dr. Saunders learns more about the pair. Nichols is a scoundrel and has problems holding a job. Fred Blake, a young and handsome man, hides his past, but the reader is given clues that he had to flee from Sydney to avoid the authorities (which is later revealed). During a storm, the trio befriend fellow British people on a beautiful island. They learn some of the history and are introduced to Louise; a beautiful girl who is smitten by Blake. They have a one night fling, which causes the story's tension to begin -- Blake is haunted by his past and Louise's fiancé (who she loves, but not with her heart) commits suicide over the incident. Dr. Saunders is a spectator for the most part in this story. His life's philosophy is take what one can from life and learn to deal with it. He watches the various characters interact -- and Maugham does a great job with the characters. The writing is almost like Hemingway and the reader is drawn into the feeling of the South Pacific. The book is fairly deep -- with hints of Buddhism / Hinduism, karma, and detachment. The book was very slow to start (took about half way before any plot developed) but the writing hooked me and the ending was a gold mine.

Kurzbeschreibung Mary Panton walls up her desires in a beautiful villa high up in the hills above Florence, as she calmly contemplates her disastrous marriage. But a single act of compassion begins a nightmare of violence that shatters her serenity. She turns for help to the notorious Rowley Flint, and through him comes to realise that to deny love, with all its passions and risks, is to deny life itself. From Library Journal Delany isn't the only author Vintage is keeping afloat. Published in 1939, 1937, and 1940, respectively, these novels follow Maugham's popular theme whereby people whose seemingly steady lives become completely and utterly altered. Note also that Up at the Villa was made into a feature film in 2000, which may draw additional readers. Maugham is always a quick and pleasant read. Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. Pressestimmen A classic novel from a twentieth-century master whose "excessively rare gift of story-telling...is almost the equal of imagination itself." --The Sunday Times (London)