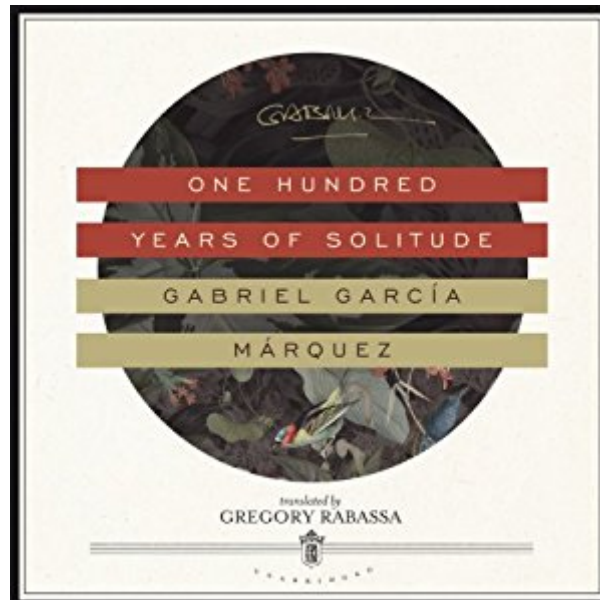




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One Hundred Years Of Solitude



Synopsis

Includes a bonus PDF with a character chart! One of the twentieth century's enduring works, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* is a widely beloved and acclaimed novel known throughout the world and the ultimate achievement in a Nobel Prize-winning career. The novel tells the story of the rise and fall of the mythical town of Macondo through the history of the Buendía family. Rich and brilliant, it is a chronicle of life, death, and the tragicomedy of humankind. In the beautiful, ridiculous, and tawdry story of the Buendía family, one sees all of humanity, just as in the history, myths, growth, and decay of Macondo, one sees all of Latin America. Love and lust, war and revolution, riches and poverty, youth and senility, the variety of life, the endlessness of death, the search for peace and truth-these universal themes dominate the novel. Alternately reverential and comical, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* weaves the political, personal, and spiritual to bring a new consciousness to storytelling. Translated into dozens of languages, this stunning work is no less than an account of the history of the human race.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This, in my opinion, is one of the world's best books. I can't imagine anyone not liking it. I have to buy a new copy, every now and then. This one was for my daughter. My parents used to keep a big stack of them handy, to give away to friends.

The book was in great condition, and good as new. As far as the book goes, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* is one of my favorite books of all time. I've revered it for its writing style, the plot, and the way in which Marquez encapsulates and engulfs the reader into his theme of magical realism.

Reading requires a certain level of patience, and such is demonstrated with Marquez. The book culminates so beautifully that I can't help but be dumbfounded. It's a book that you can read and think about for the rest of your life. It highlights the themes of solitude that we so comfortably forget.

This book made me realize so many things about what it is to be a writer - this author expanded my Universe of the constructs of what a novel is, he is breathtaking in his intellect and approach to the development of a powerful theme and levels of message; one of my top ten books ever read. m

I bought this book not really knowing what I was getting into. I was ambushed by tremendous storytelling and characters and a world that I inhabited for a month, and will gladly inhabit again. This book truly moved me, and it surprised me after reading it how polarizing the reviews are for this book. The translation is beautiful. I also originally wanted to get a digital copy for my kindle, but glad I got a paperback instead as it reminded me what a great experience reading a physical book is.

Is this book somewhat challenging? Certainly. Is there a book (or any work of art) that changes your life or perspective that doesn't somehow challenge you? Not in my experience. The menial task of trying to keep track of the characters in this sweeping, magical novel is a small favor the author asks of us, and in exchange you receive an invitation to his imaginary world of Macondo. The very idea (suggested by other reviews) that this book is somehow "too much work" I find lazy, but it's certainly not a quick and easy read. Take that for what it's worth and approach it with the right expectations. I started this book before a monthlong trip to Thailand, and found it much easier to delve into it fully once I was free from distractions and could read for longer periods of time. Hopefully my blissful state at the time isn't clouding my judgment! The plot to me was entirely secondary to the staggeringly beautiful prose. Yet at the end this story that seemed at times to be about nothing was, in fact, about everything. Marquez is one of those remarkable few that you can feel was just born with an innate genius for storytelling.

The story is actually 3 stories in one as I saw it. It is the story of a man's family, the story of the evolution of society from nothing to social and family groups, and finally the development of religion from fairy tales and magic forward into today's modern world. Someone else may not see it as such, but I see it as earning its Pulitzer with those 3 basic parts.

This book is broken down into pseudo-chapters which follows a family through several generations.

It's fiction, but it's a bit more than that. I remember reading somewhere that there is no difference between poetry or prose, fiction or nonfiction, that all these are just tools for writers to explain a truth. This book explains the truth in humans and everything from our vices to our virtues. The story also falls into a certain realm of fantasy because it does involve some supernatural elements such as ghosts and alchemy. It shows great men who lost their humanity, poor men who sold their souls for greed, the corruption of governments, the madness within ourselves, and the fallacy of our belief that people who are different than us are beneath us. The book follows an omniscient narrator as he tells the story of various family members of the Buendia family. Spanning several generations, these characters fill every quirk and vice that dogs humanity. My favorite character is Remedios the Beauty, who out of either extreme ignorance or extreme clarity is thought of as an eccentric, dumb girl. Her character poses the question, "Is she really dumb or is she just smarter than us all?" The best books, though, are impossible to summarize and break down into succinct little paragraphs for those that haven't read it to truly understand. I plead that you read a few chapters into this book just to truly understand. More likely than not, if you prefer stuff by Stephen King or Dan Brown, you may not like this book. The book does not explain things point blank for you. It confuses you with over 30 characters, half of which have the same name. It melds storylines together from father, to son, to brother. It doesn't hold your hand and create suspense to draw your attention and it surely does not answer every question you have like a nurturing parent. It requires pensive thought while reading and an intuitive grasp of things deeper than what the author writes to truly understand. When you finish the book, there will be a myriad of questions left unanswered and you may or may not feel a certain disdain for the author for creating such questions within you. Answer them yourselves, the answer is in humanity.

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