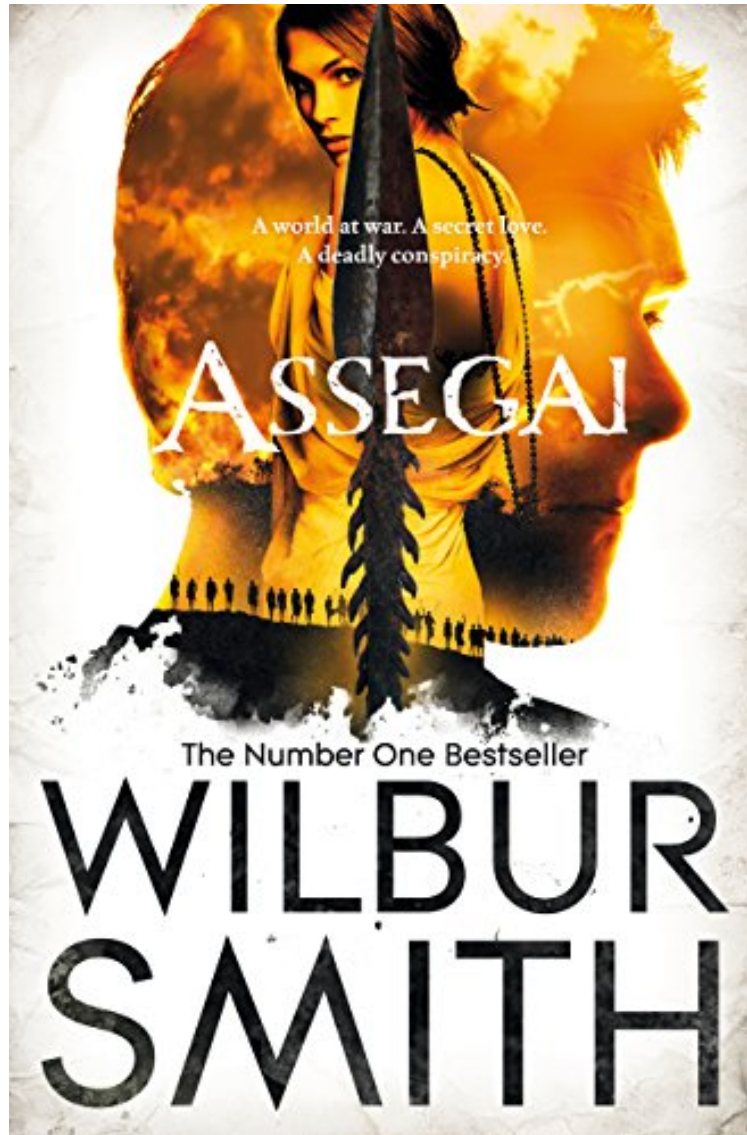


[Ebook pdf] Assegai (The Courtneys Series)

## Assegai (The Courtneys Series)

Von Wilbur Smith

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**Von Wilbur Smith : Assegai (The Courtneys Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Assegai (The Courtneys Series):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen12 von 12 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. No real disappointment but no elation eitherVon Egbert HogenhuisNot really bad but not really good either. That is all I can say about "Assegai". I suspect that Wilbur Smith only lent his name to the writing but did not write the novel himself. I.e. the same feeling I had when I finished "the Quest" two years ago. Parts of "Assegai" are quite good, e.g.

the hunting scenes and the description of the African countryside, its animals and its indigenous peoples. However, the characters of the German princess Hoherberg, Count Otto von Meerbach and Eva (Leon Courtney's loved one) seem a bit too far fetched as to have a credible relation to real life. Also, a few of the plots seem unlikely, e.g. when a shopkeeper of Indian descent in rural Africa suddenly sports a relative on the Swiss side of the Bodensee. Also, the book takes quite a few liberties with spelling and grammar of the German language, a sloppiness which could easily have been avoided. This being said, I hasten to add that - to me - Wilbur Smith is one of the very best writers the English speaking world has ever produced. I have read every novel Mr. Smith has written and the fact that I find "Assegai" somewhat disappointing does not in any way diminish the immense pleasure I derived from reading his other books.

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Assegai von Wilbur Smith  
 Von Ventrilologist  
 Als ein Jahrzehnte langer, begeisterter Leser seiner Bücher, besitze ich mit dem kürzlichen Erwerb von Assegai sämtliche Ausgaben von Wilbur Smith. Meine Begeisterung begann jedoch mit The Quest abzunehmen und in Assegai erkenne ich den alten Wilbur Smith nur noch ansatzweise. Dass die Deutschen in seinen Büchern meist blutrünstig, dilettantisch und lächerlich vorkommen kann man gerade noch durchgehen lassen. Ohne die berechtigten Kritiken der anderen Rezensionen zu wiederholen, fand ich es überhaupt nicht erklärlich, dass der Protagonist Otto von Meerbach seine High-Tech-Fabrik ausgerechnet im bayerischen Weltkulturerbe Wieskirche (Wallfahrtskirche zum Geheilten Heiland auf der Wies) ansiedelt, dort von einem Graf Meerbach schwere Autos und Flugzeuge bauen lässt, deren Name und Beschreibung sehr stark an den deutsche Autobauer Maybach erinnert. Kann man den schweren Geländewagen gerade noch akzeptieren, so ist man fassungslos, wie zwischen 1909 (Kermit Roosevelt in Afrika) und 1914, viermotorige Flugzeuge, in deren Rumpf bis zu vier Personen herumlaufen, kreuz und quer über Ostafrika fliegen, nachdem 1909 die einsitzige Blriot XI mit Hilfe des Rmelkanal überqueren konnte. Ebenso verblüfft ist man über den Bau von riesigen Luftschiffen in Friedrichshafen und deren Spezifikationen frei nach Graf Zeppelin sowie deren Überquerung der Alpen, des Mittelmeers, der Sahara bis nach Kenia.

5 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. His worst  
 Von Stefan Zschocke  
 I am a big fan of Wilbur and have read all his books, many of them even twice. But this book is really disappointing. The book is bloated by the hunting stories with Kermit Roosevelt, which are not in any way related to the main plot of the history. Most of the characters of the book remain pale and unelaborated. For example Penrod Ballantyne, hero of "Triumph of the Sun" could have made up a much more interesting part of the book. Same as Leon's father Ryder Courtney, he is not even really mentioned. In former times Wilbur would have certainly introduced these family members and have let them take part in the story. His other books are so dense compared to this one, he could have made three stories out of one and still have more happening in it, than in this book.

Kurzbeschreibung  
 1913. Ex-soldier turned professional big-game hunter, Leon Courtney, is in British East Africa guiding rich and powerful men from America and Europe on safaris in the Masai tribe territories. One of his clients, German industrialist Count Otto von Meerbach, owns a company which builds aircraft and vehicles for the Kaiser's burgeoning army. Leon is recruited by his uncle, Penrod Ballantyne, commander of the British forces in East Africa, to gather information from von Meerbach. But he had not bargained on falling passionately in love with Eva, the count's beautiful and enigmatic mistress. Then Leon stumbles on a plot by von Meerbach to raise a rebellion against the British amongst the disenchanted survivors of the Boer War, and he alone is able to find out who and what is really behind the conspiracy. . . .Assegai is the enthralling last novel in the Courtneys of Africa series by bestselling sensation, Wilbur Smith. 'Smith writes with passion and close observation about the sights and sounds of Africa' Daily Express  
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 "Smith is a master." --Publishers Weekly  
 "One of the world's most popular adventure writers." --The Washington Post Book World  
 "Smith is a captivating storyteller." --The Orlando Sentinel  
 "A rare author who wields a razor-sharp sword of craftsmanship." --"Tulsa"  
 World  
 "Wilbur Smith is one of those benchmarks against whom others are compared" --"The Times" (UK)  
 "No one does adventure quite like Smith." --"Daily Mirror" (UK)  
 "A thundering good' read is virtually the only way of describing Wilbur Smith's books" --"The Irish Times"  
 "The world's leading adventure writer." --"The Daily Express" (UK)  
 "The highly popular historical novelist returns with another guaranteed best-seller. In the early 1900s, Second Lieutenant Leon Courtney decides to hang up his military career after a near-fatal mission in British East Africa (and a subsequent court-martial proceeding instigated by a vindictive superior officer). He takes up big-game hunting, but that's only his cover: in reality, he is working as a spy, gathering intelligence for his uncle Penrod Ballantyne. Leon's target is Count Otto Von Meerbach, a German weapons manufacturer (the novel is set only a handful of years before World War I), but Leon doesn't count on falling in love with the target's seductive mistress, Eva. Can Leon foil Von Meerbach's plot to foment an African rebellion and, at the same time, protect the beautiful Eva? There is a reason Smith is a hugely popular writer of historical novels: his remarkable talent for re-creating historical periods and crafting characters we care about is virtually unmatched in the genre. Smith's novels of the Courtney and Ballantyne families (in 2005, he brought the two sagas together in The Triumph of the Sun) have been entertaining readers for nearly five decades, and if this novel is any indication, he is showing no signs of slowing

down. -- David Pitt "Booklist" (03/15/2009)OUTSTANDING PRAISE FOR THE NOVELS OF WILBUR SMITH ASSEGAI"One thrilling package that will be eagerly devoured by fans."--"Publishers Weekly""There is a reason Smith is a hugely popular writer of historical novels: his remarkable talent for re-creating historical periods and crafting characters we care about is virtually unmatched in the genre. Smith [has] been entertaining readers for nearly five decades, and if this novel is any indication, he is showing no signs of slowing down."--"Booklist"TRIUMPH OF THE SUN"Everything [Smith's] fans have come to expect: masterful storytelling and breathtaking adventure...chalk up another winner."--"Times Record News" (Wichita Falls, TX)"Espionage, disguise, stabbings in the dark...a story that is--like the Nile itself--swift and powerful." --"Booklist""Wildly entertaining, compulsively readable."--"Sunday Telegraph" (UK)BLUE HORIZON"The eleventh volume in Smith's saga of the Courtney clan is every bit as riveting as its p"One thrilling package that will be eagerly devoured by fans."--"Publishers Weekly""There is a reason Smith is a hugely popular writer of historical novels: his remarkable talent for re-creating historical periods and crafting characters we care about is virtually unmatched in the genre. Smith [has] been entertaining readers for nearly five decades, and if this novel is any indication, he is showing no signs of slowing down."--"Booklist""A Rider Haggard for our times' - Financial Times "" 'The unflagging career of Wilbur Smith is remarkable. Smith, 76, began publishing in the mid 1960's. He is not only the only author from that era to endure: John le Carre, P D James, Ruth Rendell and Dick Francis are also stars still. But he, unlike them, remains popular in a genre - gung-ho adventure... Defying another trend, Smith's hardback novel "Assegai" has, albeit at heavy discounting, outsold every novel in paperback'. - "The Times" 'Smith writes with passion and close observation about the sights and sounds of Africa...once you've started reading it you will certainly keep turning the pages.'--"The Daily Express" "Smith manages to serve up adventure, history and melodrama in one thrilling package that will be eagerly devoured by series fans"--"Publishers Weekly" 'Wilbur Smith is an adept at thrilling and harrowing scenes, researches his facts, gets it all too horribly spot-on. Terribly competent ...' - The Sunday Times" 'A thundering good read is virtually the only way of describing Wilbur Smith's books.' - "The Irish Times" "Praise for Wilbur Smith" "Smith is a master." --"Publishers Weekly" ""One of the world's most popular adventure writers." --"The Washington Post Book World ""A rare author who wields a razor-sharp sword of craftsmanship." --"Tulsa World""Wilbur Smith is one of those benchmarks against whom others are compared." --"The Times" (UK) "Best Historical Novelist--I say Wilbur Smith, with his swashbuck" "The unflagging career of Wilbur Smith is remarkable. Smith, 76, began publishing in the mid 1960's. He is not only the only author from that era to endure: John le Carre, P D James, Ruth Rendell and Dick Francis are also stars still. 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