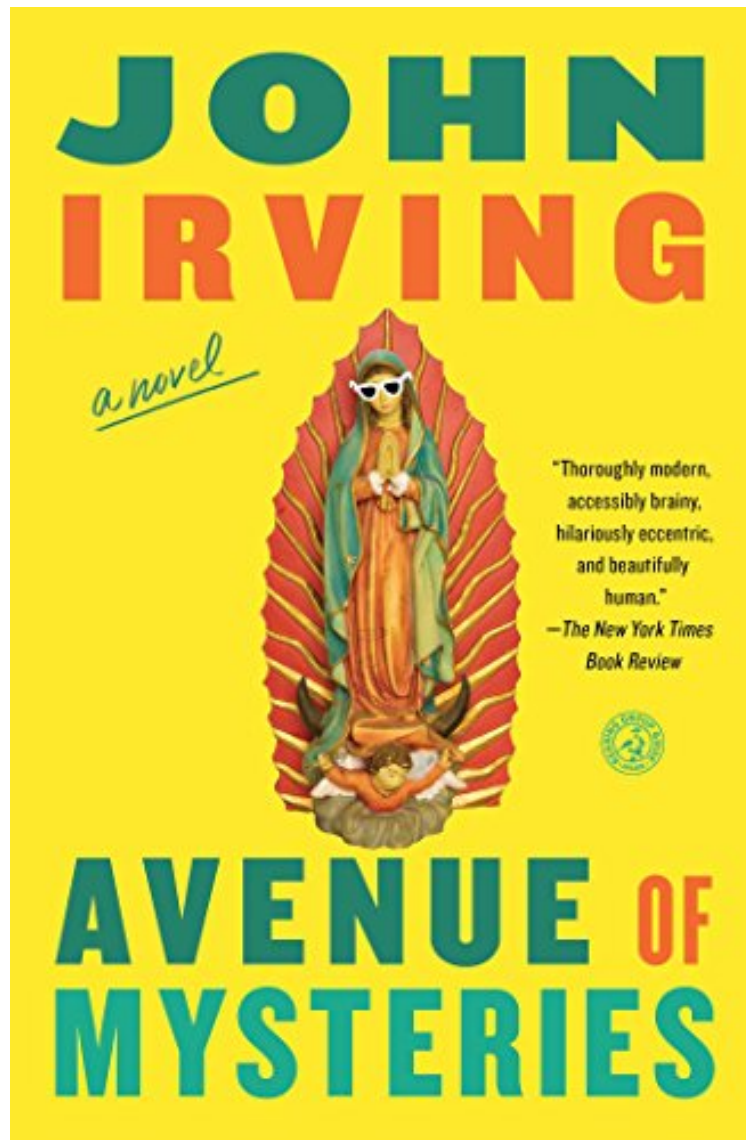


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Avenue of Mysteries (English Edition)

Von John Irving

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Von John Irving : Avenue of Mysteries (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Avenue of Mysteries (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen30 von 31 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Reifes SptwerkVon S. SellZum Inhalt sagen Klappentext andere Rezensenten genug. Dies ist ein reifes Sptwerk, Freunde und Fans des Irvingschen Pandmoniums werden Rckblicke und augenzwinkernde Querverweise zu frheren Romanen finden. In anderen Rezensionen hat das zu Kritik gefhrt und wurde als Wiederholung und mangelnder neuer

Schaffenskraft verurteilt, mir macht es aber weitgehend Freude, Erstleser (gibt es die noch?) werden das Buch aber auch ohne dieses Vorwissen ohne Abstriche lesen können. Sorge macht mir in diesem Zusammenhang lediglich, dass der Autor scheinbar anfängt, Kreise zu schließen, womöglich im Hinblick darauf, dass dies einer der letzten Irving-Romane sein könnte. Als ich das Buch las war ich krank und stellte rasch fest, dass sich das Buch selbst diesem Zustand anzupassen schien; der Held schlft und trumt viel - und immer wenn er einschlief und in die Trume ber seine Jugend abglitt, schlief ich ein und trumte. Wer von Irving eine "vernünftige" und "realistische" Story erwartet, die sich chronologisch abwickelt - wie in einigen anderen Rezensionen gefordert- wird als Leser dem Autor und dem Werk nicht gerecht und sollte lieber auf andere Autoren zurckgreifen. Wem es aber gar nicht skurril und aberwitzig genug sein kann, wer Toleranz, Verweiflung und Komik durchaus nicht als Widerspruch empfindet, der wird dieses Buch lieben. Ich bin gespannt auf die deutsche und die schwedische bersetzung, denn auch dazu, dass bersetzer durchaus "interpretieren" und dem Rezipienten einen anderen Eindruck vermitteln als der Autor dies selber im Original meinte, bezieht das Buch Stellung, wenn der Held die bersetzung dessen, was seine unverstndliche klarsichtige Schwester sagt, mitunter manipuliert.0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Langatmig.Von SabineEin bisschen langatmig.Eine Geschichte im Stile von John Irving, aber irgendwie fehlt dem Hauptcharakter, wie im Buch, der Pep. Er schlft stndig ein und trumt. Eine Geschichte zwischen Kindheitserinnerungen und dem Alter. Das Alter ist langweilig.5 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. "Why was he so easily [...] carried back to the past?" (375)Von Michael DienstbierJuan Diego ein Mann, zwei Leben. Aufgewachsen auf einer mexikanischen Milhalde, wurde er als pubertierender Teenager vom wohl unwahrscheinlichsten aller Liebespaare, einem Jesuiten und einer transsexuellen Prostituierten, adoptiert und konnte somit sein zweites Leben in Iowa beginnen, wo er zu einem gefeierten Schriftsteller avancierte, den seine Vergangenheit als 'dump reader' jedoch nie losgelassen hat. Nun, als Mann in den Fnfzigern, der stndig aufpassen muss, seine Viagrapillen nicht mit seinen Beta-Blockern zu verwechseln, begibt er sich, aufgrund eines Versprechens aus seinem alten Leben, auf eine Reise nach Manila, um dort den amerikanischen Soldatenfriedhof aufzusuchen. Doch immer wieder driftet er ab, Medikamentenmix und Jetlag tun da wohl ihr briges, und erlebt zentrale Episoden seiner Vergangenheit wieder. Whrend er in der Gegenwart eine Affre mit Miriam und Dorothy, Mutter und Tochter, beginnt, erfahren wir Genaueres ber sein Leben auf der Milkippe, den Einfluss des dortigen Jesuitenordens, die drohende Allgegenwrtigkeit der Jungfrau Maria sowie seine jngere Schwester Lupe, die nur er verstehen kann und die in der Lage ist, manchmal, aber nicht immer, die Zukunft vorherzusagen."His childhood and the people hed encountered there the ones whod changed his life, or whod been witness to what had happened to him at that crucial time were what Juan Diego had instead of religion" (14). Es war und ist John Irvings Strke, Charaktere zu erschaffen, die einen nicht mehr loslassen, weil sie bewegen, abstoen, faszinieren, amisieren oder zu Trnen rhren. In "Avenue of mysteries" sind dies vor allem Lupe, Juan Diegos sprachgestrt-hellsichtige Schwester, der idealistisch-naive Jesuit Edward Bonshaw und die transsexuelle Prostituierte Flor, die beiden Rettungsanker im Leben Juan Diegos. Doch nicht alle Charaktere berzeugen, manche wirken seltsam blass und schablonenhaft, was fr Irving-Romane doch sehr ungewhnlich ist. Zudem bernimmt der Autor einige Elemente, die er in seinem vorhergehenden hervorragenden Roman In One Person behandelt hat, Transsexualitt oder den Beginn der Beginn der Aids-Epidemie zu Beginn der achtziger Jahre, zum Beispiel, nur dass sie hier eher oberflchlich und kurz angebunden geradezu abgearbeitet werden.Fazit: Auch wenn "Avenue of mysteries" sicherlich nicht zu den besten Romanen John Irvings gehrt, wird wieder einmal deutlich, warum er zu einem der besten Autoren der Gegenwart zhlt. Irving ist ein begnadeter Geschichtenerzher, der zu unterhalten wei, ohne dabei ins Banale abzugleiten.

KurzbeschreibungJohn Irving returns to the themes that established him as one of our most admired and beloved authors in this absorbing novel of fate and memory.In Avenue of Mysteries, Juan Diegoa fourteen-year-old boy, who was born and grew up in Mexicohas a thirteen-year-old sister. Her name is Lupe, and she thinks she sees whats comingspecifically, her own future and her brothers. Lupe is a mind reader; she doesnt know what everyone is thinking, but she knows what most people are thinking. Regarding what has happened, as opposed to what will, Lupe is usually right about the past; without your telling her, she knows all the worst things that have happened to you. Lupe doesnt know the future as accurately. But consider what a terrible burden it is, if you believe you know the futureespecially your own future, or, even worse, the future of someone you love. What might a thirteen-year-old girl be driven to do, if she thought she could change the future? As an older man, Juan Diego will take a trip to the Philippines, but what travels with him are his dreams and memories; he is most alive in his childhood and early adolescence in Mexico. As we grow oldermost of all, in what we remember and what we dreamwe live in the past. Sometimes, we live more vividly in the past than in the present. Avenue of Mysteries is the story of what happens to Juan Diego in the Philippines, where what happened to him in the pastin Mexicocollides with his future.PressestimmenFrom the first page to the last, there is a goodness to this novel, a tenacious belief in love and the redemptive power of human connection, unfettered by institutions and conventions. This belief, combined with good

old-fashioned storytelling, is surely why Irving is so often described as Dickensian. But John Irving is his own thing, and so is his new novel. *Avenue of Mysteries* is thoroughly modern, accessibly brainy, hilariously eccentric and beautifully human. (The New York Times Book) "An empathically imagined, masterfully told, and utterly transporting tale of transcendent sacrifice and perseverance, unlikely love, and profound mysteries." (Booklist (starred review)) A richly detailed, imaginative and beautiful novel, with a series of events that seem equally bizarre and resoundingly universal.... It is a complex and many-layered novel that covers a lot of intellectual, moral and emotional ground, but in the end, it is the simplest, saddest and most wonderful tale of the human condition. It is about what we all fear: finding people to love, and then losing them, too. (The Fort Worth Star-Telegram) A dream-steeped, enchanted, and often amusing tale.... Irving keeps this imaginative story, his aging novelist, his odd cast of characters, and his readers, moving on a trajectory toward collision in this unfailingly masterful narrative. (USA Today) In its early pages especially, *Avenue of Mysteries* is laugh-out-loud funny.... Yet as funny as the new novel often is, Irvings reconsideration of earlier themes seems more somber here. The novel explores questions of belief and disillusionment, chance and choice, the mundane and the miraculous. *Avenue of Mysteries* is a provocative and perplexing novel. (Bookpage) Irving has always been a consummately convincing realist, in matters both great and small.... While writers of later generations seldom come close to achieving Irvings levels of verisimilitude, his realism is transmogrified by his general whimsicality and by his attraction to baroque extrapolations of the absurd. This sort of ambition... is part of what makes Irving such a prodigious entertainer.... This novel is not autobiographical, but it does present an aging artist with a sacred wound, tremendous desire, and an endless appetite for wonder. (The Boston Globe) Juan Diegos memories of adolescence around 1970 in Oaxaca compose some of the most charming scenes that Irving has ever written. Hes still an unparalleled choreographer of outrageous calamities that exist somewhere between coincidence and fate.... Those conflicting currents of spirituality flowing through *Avenue of Mysteries* add to Irvings rich exploration of faith in several earlier novels. (Washington Post) "A vivid writer about sex." (The New York Times) Like all of Irvings novels, *Avenue of Mysteries* is about awakening to the past, to hidden emotions, and to the truth and weight of trauma and childhood. Only this time, the narrative is dreamier and more ruminative. (Minneapolis Star Tribune) The character is a captivating original; his tale includes humor, pathos, and acute observations. Once again, Irving charms by blending the fantastical with what is deeply, affectingly real. (People) A wild and rollicking ride.... Irving plays delightful havoc with this colorful collection of humanity, beguiling us from start to finish. (Seattle Times) This sprawling, imaginative tale about a writer whose lifes journey has all the qualities of a modern Dickens novel is vintage Irving. (AARP Magazine) "The outsize characters on the two vast alternating canvases Irving paints are more varied than the acts in a circus caravan. (Philadelphia Inquirer) The novel is a remarkable feat... as Irving ignores the constraints of conventional fiction and tosses all of his ideas into his novelists blender and turns it on high. (Dallas Morning News) Irving proves his prose still packs a punch in *Avenue of Mysteries*.... Its good to see that this popular and insightful literary magician still has a few tricks up his sleeve. (Portland Press Herald) *Avenue of Mysteries* is full of Irvingisms the transvestite, the circus, the orphanage, the character who cant speak, the car accident, the missing father, the weird Christianity. These elements are part of the fun for fans: hearing the familiar rhythm, finding the trademark components fit together in a novel way. (Newsday) Delivers Irvings typical blend of humor and tragedy. (Houston Chronicle) Meaningfully dark and classically quirky. (Las Vegas Weekly) Once again, Irvings lyrical writing grabs readers from the first page. (Library Journal) "An entertaining, phantasmagoric look at the childhood that shaped a writers life. (St. Louis Post Dispatch) The novel's tone moves easily from drama to comedy to tragedy, the perfect mix for a film adaptation someday. Casting will probably take time these characters are so unique. Until then, lose yourself in this tale from one of America's pre-eminent storytellers. (Associated Press) Have had a hard time putting down *Avenue of Mysteries*. A new John Irving novel is always like an unexpected gift. (Bookreporter.com) Irving works his familiar themes Catholicism, sex, death with a light and assured touch.... A welcome return to form. (Kirkus s) In describing what Juan Diego goes through, Mr. Irving is something like a magician showing the audience how the rabbit actually pops out of the hat. Perhaps more than in any other of his books, *Avenue of Mysteries* demonstrates what is under the hood what goes on in writers' minds. (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette) Werbetext In his latest novel, John Irving explores - in his inimitable way - the ways in which our pasts reverberate in our presents and, indeed, our futures.