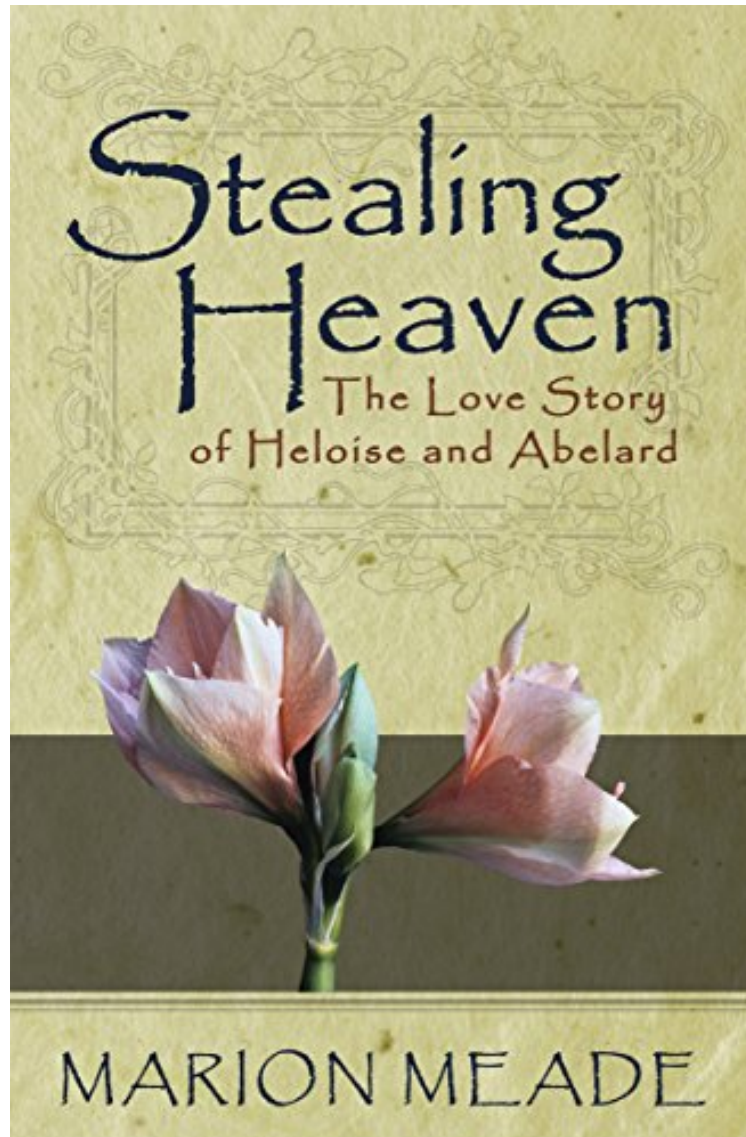


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## Stealing Heaven: The Love Story of Heloise and Abelard (English Edition)

Von Marion Meade

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**Von Marion Meade : Stealing Heaven: The Love Story of Heloise and Abelard (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stealing Heaven: The Love Story of Heloise and Abelard (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Good, not great historical novel.Von David ZampinoMarion Meade's "Stealing Heaven" is a wonderful and touching account

of the love affair between Peter Abelard, one of the most significant thinkers of his age, and Heloise, who in a different time period, might well have been considered the same. A book like this has to be written as a novel. The events are too far in the distant past, and too many details have been lost, for much else. As such, it is well written and beautifully presented. It engages the reader, and captures the "feel" of 12th century France. This being said, the book is not without its flaws. The focus is almost entirely on Heloise and her personal sacrifices -- and there were two persons in this relationship. In one sense, Abelard suffered far greater loss, both personally and professionally than did Heloise. This is not adequately displayed in the novel. Meade makes numerous negative speculations about Abelard's motives and feelings which really can't fairly be made. Essentially, Meade tends to look at the characters from a post-modern feminist viewpoint -- which is fine, as long as the reader is aware of what she is doing, and that her (Meade's) philosophical presuppositions were not those inherent in 12th century France! Somewhat disturbing was Meade's suggestion that Abelard was (or had been) engaged in homosexual relations with one or more of his students prior to his involvement with Heloise. This is a rather serious (and unsubstantiated) charge which, in the eyes of many, would detract from his character, but which is not borne out by the available historical evidence. I recommend this book with caution. If you are looking for an entertaining historical novel about some extremely colorful characters, you will enjoy this book. But you need to realize that there is a good deal of fiction mixed in with fact -- and it is not always easy to discern the difference.

0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not a bodice ripper! Von Ein Kunde This is a beautifully detailed, beautifully written historical novel. A factually accurate, sensual and moving version of the story of the 12th century French lovers Abelard and Heloise. The charismatic Abelard, the pre-eminent philosopher of Paris, is a master of dialectics and reason, celebrated throughout Paris; his pupil, Heloise, some 20 years younger is renowned for 'surpassing all women and most men' in her learning. Abelard is a rebel in the realms of theology and philosophy - but Heloise shows herself to be an even greater rebel, surpassing him in the realm of human love. The film version of the novel (1988)- out of print and difficult to acquire - has some historical inaccuracies and is rather truncated, but is a cut above the run-of-the-mill Romance channel classics. Strives to give equal weight to the paradoxical 'fields' of love and reason. It would be impossible to imagine a richer plot - and yet, though the treatment here is fiction, the events are real.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Heartbreaking Beautiful Von Ein Kunde This is an absolutely wonderful book which has a slightly different take on the legendary Abelard Heloise love story because it's written from her point of view. She is an intelligent, compelling and passionate woman who touched me deeply. The book is written in lovely language and provides wonderful descriptions of medieval France--you feel like you are running the streets of Paris with Heloise in her youth...and you stay with her through all the trials of her lost love, betrayals, lost and found faith and overall an incredible compassion for humanity. It is a great book because it shows Heloise in both her private and public selves and traces her life to eventual redemption. Fascinating and moving...I wept and smiled at the end.

Kurzbeschreibung In twelfth century France, two of Europe's greatest minds met and fell in love. It was a love forbidden by the world around them and eventually they were torn apart from each other. But the spark of it remained smoldering inside the lovers until their death and beyond. Heloise and her tutor, Peter Abelard, share a devotion passionate in its depth and beautiful in its thoughtfulness. They marry, and Heloise bears a son whom she names Astrolabe. However, all of this must be done in secret, for Abelard is forbidden to wed by the church, which considers him a cleric. When the truth of their relationship is exposed, they are separated and punished both in body and soul. Marion Meade weaves history and fiction together in *Stealing Heaven*, an epic story of one of history's most tragic love affairs. With facts pulled from Heloise's actual love letters, Meade creates a poetic and sensual tapestry of France in the twelfth century. Heloise and Abelard lived beyond their punishment in quiet contemplation of life and God. Abelard as a monk and Heloise as a nun and the founder of a convent. Her story is one of a brilliant woman, trapped within the confines of her society. But it is also the story of an inspiring love that has lived on throughout history.