

0 ratings0% found this document useful (0 votes)61 viewsSaveSave (Amharic) For Later0%0% found this document useful, undefined Your audiobook is waiting! One credit a month to pick any title from our entire premium selection to keep (youll use your first credit now). Unlimited listening on select audiobooks, Audible Originals, and podcasts. You will get an email reminder before your trial ends. \$14.95\$14.95 a month after 30 days. Cancel online anytime. Learn more about membership Sold and delivered by Audible, an Amazon company Il premio Grinzane Cavour stato un premio letterario italiano fondato nel 1982 da don Francesco Meotto e portato al successo da Giuliano Soria. La premiazione si svolgeva nel castello di Grinzane Cavour, localit delle Langhe, in Piemonte.Lo scopo era quello di avvicinare i giovani alla lettura, e il sistema di voto era diviso in due fasi: una giuria di critici letterari selezionava gli autori finalisti (vincitori), tra i quali una giuria di studenti italiani e stranieri sceglieva poi il vincitore assoluto (supervincitore). Venivano inoltre assegnati premi specialistici, tra i quali quello alla carriera e quello per il miglior esordiente. Il premio Grinzane Cavour ha cessato ufficialmente di esistere il 31 marzo 2009 con la messa in liquidazione dell'omonima associazione a seguito dello scandalo che ha investito la gestione clientelare del Premio e i comportamenti illeciti del suo presidente, Giuliano Soria. I suoi beni sono stati acquisiti dalla Fondazione Bottari Lattes di Monforte d'Alba all'asta fallimentare0 ratings0% found this document useful (0 votes)896 viewsThe document shows photos of book covers and pages from an Amharic bookstore catalog, promoting various books, stories, and literature available for purchase in Amharic.AI-enhanced title and descriptionSaveSave The Alchemist For Later0%0% found this document befor purchase in 1970. Categories:- roman- roman policier- document Freedom's Child by 3.64 avg rating 1,687 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for Policier (2016) Je vous cris dans le noir by 4.20 avg rating 206 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle (2016) Mind of Winter by 3.31 avg rating 4,547 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for Roman (2014) Heading Out to Wonderful by 3.54 avg rating 8,381 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2013) Gone Girl by 4.14 avg rating 3,328,301 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2013) The Elimination: A survivor confronts the chief of the Khmer Rouge Death Camps by 4.12 avg rating 522 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2012) Nada se opone a la noche by 4.33 avg rating 19,828 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2011) The Other Daughter by really liked it 4.00 avg rating 27,660 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2011) Zulu by 3.84 avg rating 1,223 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2010) The Genius by 3.60 avg rating 4,444 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2010) Ce que je sais de Vera Candida by 3.68 avg rating 396 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2010) Les dferlantes by 3.81 avg rating 1,079 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2009) Garden of love by 3.44 avg rating 692 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2005) Passage du dsir (Ingrid et Lola, #1) by 3.26 avg rating 178 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2005) Grey Souls by 3.77 avg rating 5,475 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2004) Shutter Island by 4.13 avg rating 211,936 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2004) Tell No One by 4.06 avg rating 181,123 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2003) Have Mercy on Us All (Commissaire Adamsberg, #4) by 4.03 avg rating 7,785 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2002) L'vangile selon Pilate by 3.98 avg rating 7,785 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2001) Le Problme avec Jane by 3.25 avg rating 547 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (1998) The Alchemist by 3.92 avg rating 3,385,972 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (1998) The Alchemist by 3.92 avg rating 185 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for document (1994) Le Jour des fourmis (La Saga des Fourmis, #2) by 4.08 avg rating 5,582 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle (1992) De parte de la princesa muerta by 4.19 avg rating 4,799 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (1988) Jump to ratings and reviewsCombining magic, mysticism, wisdom, and wonder into an inspiring tale of self-discovery, The Alchemist has become a modern classic, selling millions of copies around the world and transforming the lives of countless readers across generations. Paulo Coelho's masterpiece tells the mystical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure. His quest will lead him to riches far differentiand far more satisfying than he ever imagined. Santiago's journey teaches us about the essential wisdom of listening to our hearts, recognizing opportunity and learning to read the omens strewn along life's path, and, most importantly, following our dreams. GenresFictionFantasyPhilosophySelf HelpBook ClubNovelsSpirituality 95518 people are currently reading 1887609 people want to readThe Brazilian author PAULO COELHO was born in 1947 in the city of Rio de Janeiro. Before dedicating his life completely to literature, he worked as theatre director and actor, lyricist and journalist. In 1986, PAULO COELHO did the pilgrimage to Saint James of Compostella, an experience later to be documented in his book The Pilgrimage. In the following year, COELHO published The Alchemist. Slow initial sales convinced his first publisher to drop the novel, but it went on to become one of the best selling Brazilian books of all time. Other titles include Brida (1990), The Valkyries (1992), By the river Piedra I sat Down and Wept (1994), the collection of his best columns published in the Brazilian newspaper Folha de So Paulo entitle Maktub (1994), the compilation of texts Phrases (1995), The Fifth Mountain (1996), Manual of a Warrior of Light (1997), Veronika decides to die (1998), The Devil and Miss Prym (2000), the compilation of traditional tales in Stories for parents, children and grandchildren (2005), The Witch of Portobello (2006) and Winner Stands Alone (to be released in 2009). During the months of March, April, May and June 2006, Paulo Coelho traveled to celebrate the 20th anniversary of his pilgrimage to Saint James of Compostella in 1986. He also held surprise book signings - announced one day in advance - in some cities along the way, to have a chance to meet his readers. In ninety days of pilgrimage the author traveled around the globe and took the famous Transiberrian train that took him to Vladivostok. During this experience Paulo Coelho launched his blog Walking the Path - The Pilgrimage in order to share with his readers his impressions. Since this first blog Paulo Coelho has expanded his presence in the internet with his daily blogs in Wordpress, Myspace & Facebook. He is equally present in media sharing sites such as Youtube and Flickr, offering on a regular basis not only texts but also videos and pictures to his readers. From this intensive interest and use of the Internet as a new media and is the first Best-selling author to actively support online free distribution of his work. Displaying 1 - 30 of 136,673 reviewsFebruary 19, 2025It's the possibility of having a dream come true that makes life interesting. The Alchemist ~~ Paulo CoelhoI preface my review by saying I am amazed how wildly passionate people are in their feelings toward this novel ~~ regardless of whether they love or hate The Alchemist. Im one of those people who love it. But, I understand why people are so passionate in their dislike of this book. The Alchemist is a novel that combines an atmosphere of medieval mysticism with the voice of the desert -- dreams, symbols, signs, and adventure follow Santiago and the reader like echoes of ancient wise voices. With this symbolic novel Coelho states that we should not avoid our destinies, and urges people to follow their dreams, because to find our "Personal Myth" and our mission on Earth is the way to find God, meaning happiness, fulfillment, and the ultimate purpose of creation. The novel tells the tale of Santiago, a boy who has a dream and the courage to follow it. After listening to "the signs" the boy ventures in his personal, journey of exploration and self-discovery, searching for a hidden treasure located near the pyramids in Egypt. In his journey, Santiago sees the greatness of the world, and meets all kinds of exciting people like kings and alchemists. However, by the end of the novel, he discoveries he made, and the wisdom he acquired. As the alchemist himself says when he appears to Santiago in the form of an old king "when you really want something to happen, the whole universe conspires so that your wish comes true". This is the core of the novel's theme. Isn't it true that all of us want to believe the old king when he says that the greatest lie in the world is that at some point we lose the ability to control our lives, and become the pawns of fate. Coelho also suggests that those who do not have the courage to follow their Personal Myth", are doomed to a life of emptiness, misery, and unfulfillment. Fear, fear of failure seems to be the greatest obstacle to happiness. The old crystal-seller tragically confesses: I am afraid that great disappointment awaits me, and so I prefer to dream". This is where Coelho really captures the drama of man, who sacrifices fulfillment to conformity, who knows he can achieve greatness but denies doing so, and ends up living an empty shell of a life. The Alchemist is a novel that will not appeal to everybody. Not everyone will identify with Santiago. We all have dreams, and are praying for somebody to tell us they can come true. The novel skillfully combines words of wisdom, philosophy, and simplicity of meaning and language, and this is what makes it so enchanting.christianity classics create December 22, 2007I need to start this review by stating 1) I can't stand selfhelp books and 2) I'm a feminist (no, I don't hate men- some men are quite awesome, but I am very conscious of women and our place in the world.) Short summary (mild spoilers): A boy named Santiago follows his 'Personal Legend' in traveling from Spain to the Pyramids in Egypt searching for treasure. Along the way, he learns 'the Language of the World' the 'Soul of the World' and discovers that the 'Soul of God' is 'his own soul.'If the statements in quotes above ('personal legend', etc) fascinate you, then you'll think this is a terrible book. If you think statements such as "When you want something, all the universe conspires you to achieve it" and "All things are one" are moving and life-changing, you'll love this book. If such statements have you rolling your eves, then this isn't your cup of tea. Its not that I find anything wrong with these messages. They are important, but must be balanced with responsibility. In my experience, 'following your dreams' (or personal legend) is not the only way toward wisdom and strength. Is the person who struggles to put food on the table every day for his or her 'personal legend' any less heroic than some traveler who leaves everything and everyone he or she is responsible for to go on a spiritual quest? Coelho comes close to labeling such people, as losers in life, which I find completely off the mark as some of these people have the most to offer in terms of wisdom. The main male characters in the novel have 'Personal Legends' - they are either seeking them, or have failed to achieve them. But Coelho never mentions 'Personal Legend' with regard to women, other than to say that Fatima, Santiago's fiance, is 'a part of Santiago's fiance, is his return. This is her 'fate' as a desert women. The fact that women don't have Personal Legends, allowing the more galling considering to Coelho, even minerals such as lead and copper have Personal Legends, allowing them to 'evolve' to something better (ie, gold). In the ideal world presented in THE ALCHEMIST, it seems that the job of men is to seek out their personal legends, leaving aside thoughts of family and responsibility, and its the job of women to let them, and pine for their return. Of course, someone has to do the unheroic, inconvenient work of taking care of the children, the animals, the elderly, the ill...If everyone simply goes off on spiritual quests, deciding they have no responsibility other than to seek their Personal Legends, no one would be taking responsibility for the unglamorous work that simply has to take place for the world to run. On the other as best as they can towards them, but recognize that their responsibilities may force them to defer, compromise, or even 'sacrifice' their dreams? This may seem depressing, but it isn't necessarily. Coelho seems to think that Personal Legends are fixed at childhood (or at birth, or even before) and are not changeable: they have to be followed through to the end, no matter how silly. But in my experience, many people have chosen to adjust, compromise, and even 'give up' on their dreams, only to find that life grants them something better, or they have a new, better dream to follow, a path providing greater wisdom. For me, these people have a more realistic, more humble, more fair, and less cliched vision of the world than Paulo Coelho's vision in THE ALCHEMIST.April 21, 2013*** spoilers and bitterness ahead--be forewarned**I'm not sure that I can capture my utter disdain for this book in words, but I'll give it a shot. I read this book about three years ago and just had to re-read it for book club. It was a steaming pile of crap then and, guess what?, it's a steaming pile of crap main reason I hate this book: it's trite inspirational literature dressed up as an adventure quest. You go into it thinking that it's going to be about a boy's quest for treasure. If you read the back, there are words like "Pyramids," "Gypsy, ' "alchemist." Turns out, this is just The Purpose Driven Life dressed up with a little of Fame territory set in an exotic locale. Which pisses me off to no end as I normally try to dodge that sort of thing, but here it is masquerading as the type of book I normally like. It's cliche, didactic, and poorly written. Just as with Aesop's Fables, there's a moral to the story. And Coelho keeps backing up and running over it just to make sure that we sure tha get it (and he capitalizes important key words necessary to understanding it, lest we overlook their significance). If there's one thing Paulo Coelho can do, it's flog a dead horse. Essentially, boy thinks he's happy in life. He's a shepherd who gets to travel the world, has all of his needs met, and owns a book which he can always trade for another book when he goes to market. What more can a boy need? Boy is then told by a mysterious stranger that he's not happy at all. Why not? He has failed to recognize his Personal Legend, which is life's plan for you. However, most of us give up on our Personal Legend. Everyone has a Personal Legend, which is life's plan for you. pursue your Personal Legend, then The Soul of the World will help you obtain it. All of nature conspires to bring you luck and good fortune so that you can fulfill your destiny, whether it's to be a shepherd on a quest for treasure at the pyramids, a butcher, a baker, a candlestick maker, or, one would assume, a prostitute, drug dealer, or porn star. Hey, we're all fate's bitch in The Alchemist. But I digress. Boy seeks out his Personal Legend and finds it's a long, hard road to obtaining what you want in life. But with faith, perseverance, and just a little goshdarnit good luck, the boy learns to speak the Language of the World and tap into The Soul of the World and fulfills his Personal Legend. And what does he learn? That what he sought was back home, the place he started from. Oh, silly boy. So, in summation, here is what you should learn from The Alchemist:1) Dream. And, while you're at it, dream BIG2) Follow your bliss3) Don't be surprised if you find obstacles in your way, but you will overcome4) It's good to travel and encounter people from other cultures5) What we most often seek is right in front of us, but sometimes we have to leave home to realize itTo all of these important life lessons, I can only say, "Well, no shit, Sherlock." If Coelho knew anything about alchemy, he would have been able to transform this crap into gold. Alas, it's still crap. Cross posted at This Insignificant Cinderblog book-club-made-me-do-it crapJune 12, 2008I really disliked this book. I dislike a great deal of modern self help books. Their basic message is that if you want something to happen, you need to want it as hard as you can, without caring about anything else, not allowing yourself to doubt it, or let criticisms will ge in the way then it will happen. I disagree with this notion, not only because it is false, but because we desire something, does not make it good. This idea of 'following your heart' is often wrong. Who are we to be the arbiters of truth? Why should our hearts be sources of information that go beyond logic, doubt and reasoning? Haven't we all desired things that have turned out to not be in our best interest, or to be harmful to others? Andrew Jackson is the man who initiated the 'Trail of Tears'. Moving Native Americans from their homes and into reservations Next, this idea of not letting ourselves doubt or consider doubts. This is a terrible and dishonest way to live. If we don't consider doubts, and entertain them often, then we are deliberately blinding ourselves. Deliberately making ourselves ignorant. If someone doesn't give serious consideration to the idea that they may be wrong. Give serious thought to why they believe what they do, and that perhaps those who doubt them may be correct, then they are behaving in a dangerous and dishonest way. Not giving heed to the concerns doubts and criticisms of others is something. We place so much emphasis on the needs and rights of the individual. This causes people to focus so much on themselves to the detriment of others around them. At times, it can be beneficial to go against the groups like, the Westboro Baptist Church, (godhatesfags.com) should be seen as American heroes. These are people who take a totally irrational stance, and stick to it as hard as they can in complete defiance to the views of everyone around them. August 3, 2024A good parable--like "The Prodigal Son"--should comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable. The problem with this little book is that it does precisely the opposite. Coelho's message--and, boy, is this a book with a message--is that each of us has his own Personal Legend, and that if we recognize that legend and pursue it sincerely, everything in the Universe (which is after all made up--wind, stone, trees--of the same stuff we are) will conspire to help us achieve it. Corollaries: 1) people who don't recognize their legends are never happy, 2) people who fail to realize their legends are afraid, and 3) people who refuse to pursue their legends, even when they know what they are, are both unhappy and afraid. (I admit I've left out a nuance or two here and there, but not many. There aren't more than three or four nuances in the book.) I fear that the result of taking such a message seriously will be to make the successful even more self-congratulatory. At the same time, those who are unfortunate will blame themselves for their bad fortune, those who lack self-esteem will lose what little they have, and the poor will see-no, not God, as the beatitude says, but--the poor will see they have only themselves to blame. Perhaps I am being too harsh. I can see how a few individual young persons, hemmed in by parental expectations and seeking their own paths, may find enough hope and courage here to help them venture forth. But I am convinced the damage done by books like this--like The Secret, The Celestine Prophecy, and anything ever written by the late Dr. Wayne Dyer (or, for that matter, anything he may ever choose to channel from beyond the grave)--is far greater than the little good they may achieve. If you like parables, don't read this book. Go read a book of Hasidic tales collected by Martin Buber, a book of Sufi stories collected by Idries Shah, or a book of parables and sayings by Anthony de Mello instead. Or then again, you could just try Jesus. Jesus is always good. December 4, 2013I feel like everyone LOVES this book, but I was kind of underwhelmed. I know that translation affects the quality of writing, but I could not get into this writing style. At all. I felt like it was totally contrived. He was going for this "fable/parable" style, but it seemed to fail miserably. The parable-like quality was totally contrived, and I thought the "moral" was pretty stupid. Moral: everything you want and need is close to home. Take chances. Follow your "personal legacy."Then....there was a supernatural element which was just plain dumb. Granted, I am not religious. I think god-fearing people get more out of this bc they can take that leap of faith, excuse the phrase. If this was supposed to be a story of magic, I may have been into it. But it was supposed to be a simple story of knowing yourself. And I think philosophically speaking, when you truly know yourself that is when you truly realize your destiny. Why do you need supernatural forces to convey that message? This was about realizing your destiny, or "personal legacy." It could have been done without the hocus pocus, and, yes, the cheese. In short, the book attempted to be deep and failed 'Speaking with the wind and the sun" and "being a shepherd" and getting over "personal hardship" all as part of a transparent "higher plan" (read: personal legacy) doesn't make a plot deep. A character simply called "boy" and short sentences doesn't make a character simply called "boy" and short sentences doesn't make a story a fable. inexplicably wise. I really got nothing out of this book. It is short though. The book came very highly recommended. Read it to judge the hype for yourself. After all, a whole nation, including Bill Clinton (who I'm into), thought it was a touching account that personally changed them. Then again, this is the same country who thought The Celestine Prophesy was worthwhile. Gag.April 9, 2011 ! " - - " " !! February 15, 2015Utter drivel. The book was badly written, righteous, condescending, preachy, and worst of all, the ending was morally questionable. All the fables and stories are stolen from elsewhere, religious ideas and spirituality are badly mixed, and everything is so obvious. The book harps on about tapping into the Soul of the World, the Language of the World, about your one true path and other nonsense. The basic idea is that if you really want something and "listen to your heart", the whole universe will help you achieve it if you only look for omens. A questionable idea in a world where people no longer want to work hard and achieve independently. It reads like a really bad self-help book written for 8 year old children and disguised as a symbolic parable. I read a lot of books and I can safely say this is the worst book I have ever read. It's only saving grace was that it was mercifully short. August 13, 2015The problem with this book is not just that it's bad, which it certainly is, but that there are so many people out there who want to corner you at parties and tell you how it's totally changed their lives. In a way you might as well read it just so you can see how feeble-minded they must be to get any kind of philosophical nourishment out of this inexhaustible stream of clichs. The profound lessons you'll learn from this book amount to nothing more than several variations on the theme of "only the very ugly is truly beautiful, only the very stupid are really bad, but it's the content that gets you. By the end of the book you'll want to track down the philosopher's stone yourself and carefully beat Coelho to death with it.egypt fiction morocco February 3, 2025Whenever I felt lost, depressed, sad, numb, conflicted, frustrated, exhausted, I get this book into my hands and follow the journey not the arrival matters This journey is about self discovery, fighting with your own demons, letting your heart being your heart being your heart being your own eyes and leading you throughout the dark and threatening roads of life. Its epic, uplifting, motivational, heartfelt, poignant! Here are my favorite quotes of the book. When we love, we always strive to become better than we are. When we strive to become better than we are, everything around us becomes better too. The simple things, and only the wise can see them. Remember that wherever your heart is, there you will find your treasure. Don't give in to your fears. If you do, you wont be able to talk to your heart. There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure. And, when you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it. September 10, 2023 Coelhos finest? Andalusia, Spain. Young poor shepherd Santiago has a very vivid dream in which he finds some lost treasure in a remote unknown location. After consulting a fortune teller he learns that in order to find it he may need to travel as far as the Egyptian pyramids. A practically impossible task, since he doesnt have a map, any rational reason, or even the means to fulfil it. This is the story of his fantastic journey, and how he attempts to fulfil a wild quest, that could potentially change his life. Coelhos most acclaimed masterpiece and famed work hands down; a very short allegorical tale about listening to your dreams, no matter what. I particularly enjoyed the exchanges with the Alchemist was good, but felt a bit farfetched, and his teachings somewhat repetitive. Still, a considerable amount of quotes and moments to remember by; with some very nice plot twists, a sublimely satisfying ending, and a spiritually uplifting message. I remember by; with some very nice plot twists, a sublimely satisfying ending over the years. Still, I dont regret reading it; this was overall a worthy read, and memorable, despite de glaring self-help vibes. I liked learning about the Personally I must admit I enjoyed Veronika Decides to Die a lot more; but if you ever had in mind picking up Coelho someday, this is a good choice too. A highly uplifting story with a very memorable message, for those willing to listen to it.----- PERSONAL NOTE: The introduction also mentions this story is plagued with symbolisms. I wouldnt be able to point out a single one, but thats because I simply dont register them. Yes, Im that stupid; for certain things.[1988] [182p] [Classics] [3.5] [Recommendable] ["When you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you achieve it.] Veronika Decides to Die The Alchemist [3.5] The Fifth Mountain [2.5] The Pilgrimage [2.5]----- Lo meior de Coelho? Andaluca. Espaa. El joven y pobre pastor Santiago tiene un sueo muy vvido en el que encuentra un tesoro perdido en un remoto y desconocido lugar. Despus de consultar una adivinadora, descubre que para hallarlo necesitara viajar tan lejos como hasta las pirmides egipcias. Una tarea proticamente imposible, ya que no posee un mapa, ni una razn racional, o los medio para completarla. Esta es la historia de su fantstico viaje, y cmo intenta lograr una alocada misin, que potencialmente podra cambiar su vida.La obra maestra ms aclamada y famosa de Coelho por lejos; un muy corto relato alegrico sobre escuchar tu corazn, y seguir tus sueos, sin importar qu. Particularmente disfrut los intercambios con el misterioso viejo rey, el tiempo que transcurri con el mercader de cristales, y el encuentro con Ftima, la chica del desierto. El oasis y el encuentro con el Alquimista fue bueno, pero se sinti un poco demasiado increble, y sus enseanzas un tanto repetitivas. Aun as, una considerable cantidad de citas y momentos para el recuerdo; con unas muy interesantes vueltas de trama, un sublimemente en su da, la maravillosa sensacin de asombro lamentablemente elevador. Recuerdo disfrutar esta novela corta enormemente en su da, la maravillosa sensacin de asombro lamentablemente disminuyendo con el correr de los aos. Sin embargo, no me arrepiento de haberla ledo; esta fue por sobre todo una valiosa lectura, y memorable, a pesar del llamativo tinte de autoayuda. Me gust conocer la Leyenda Personal, entre otros curiosos conceptos esotricos. Recomendable, para la audiencia correcta. Personalmente debo admitir que disfrut Veronika Decide Morir mucho ms; pero si alguna vez tuviste en mente leer Coelho algn da, El Alquimista es tambin -- NOTA PERSONAL: La introduccin tambin menciona que la historia est plagada de simbolismos. Yo no podra sealar ni uno slo, pero eso es porque simplemente no los registro. S, soy as de idiota; una buena eleccin. Una historia altamente elevadora con un mensaje muy memorable, para aquellos dispuestos a escucharla.para ciertas cosas. [1988] [182p] [Clsicos] [3.5] [Recomendable] [Cuando realmente quieres una cosa, todo el universo conspira para ayudarte a conseguirla.] ---classics favorites inspirationalJune 21, 2016February 19, 2019This is either a beautifully written and fable-like illustration of simple and universal truths or a load of crap.I have a bad feeling its the later, but then I consider that there could also be a third option.I read once that Sting, when he wrote the classic Police song Every Breath You Take, mixed up a series of banal clichs about love and loss and just put them all together, and so this cool tune has some satire about it. Revival song Looking Out My Backdoor, a clunky but loveable country western tune, was actually begun as a facetious parody of slide guitar yokel lyricism. I also think of the comedy / performance art of Andy Kaufman and the constant, uncomfortable tension about what he was doing and why. Was it really so bad it was funny? If it was so obviously corny and insincere, was that not funny? Or was it? Was he really wrestling women and then getting beaten up by Jerry Lawler? That was a joke right?So ... Was Paulo Coelhos 1988 fantasy / magical realism parable of truths found in nature and subtle messages from God told straight or was there a wink and a nod told with some fun?Now think about it for a second. The whole lost gold theme and the discussions with the alchemist about a supposed elixir of life and follow your heart rhetoric. Was Coelho telling this straight or pulling our leg? I have to say that I doubt it, but I did laugh a few times and the over the top syrupy delivery made me wonder, and maybe I liked it better considering this twinkle of a third possibility. I will say that this could go either way. I can absolutely see where someone could find hidden treasure and deeply meaningful messages in the short novel. And I can see someone could find hidden treasure and deeply meaningful messages in the short novel. 20210 Alquimista = The Alchemist, Paulo CoelhoPaulo Coelho's masterpiece tells the mystical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure. His quest will lead him to riches far differentiated far more satisfying than he ever imagined. Santiago's journey teaches us about the essential wisdom of negative reviews are baffling to me. Where does it say this is a self help book? People are bashing the "lessons" as if this is some philosophical or religious work. It's a fun story filled to the brim with quirks and marvels. I was curious the entire time how following one's legend blindly would turn out for the boy. Am I going to now follow my dreams without logic and reason as in the story? No. Because I'm not a crazy person. Get over it. It's just a story and a good one at that.EDIT: My first 100+ likes review. Thank you everyone!March 18, 2014There are too many things one can learn from The Alchemist. Its all about following your dream and about taking the risk of following your dreams, which is actually do, I mean risk it all, just to follow your dreams, which is actually do, I mean risk it all, just to follow your dreams, which is actually do and there are very few people in this world who actually do and there are very few people in this world who actually do and there are very few people in this world who actually do and there are very few people in this world who actually do and there are very few people in this world who actually do and there are very few people in this world who actually do and there are very few people in this world who actually do and there are very few people in this world who actually do and there are very few people in this world who actually a the follow your dreams the entire term of the people in the second does not be actually a the follow your dreams the entire term of the people in the pe universe conspires in your favour which he called as the beginners luck and we all have been witness to this beginners luck at one or other point in our lives. Also, he talks about a stage in our journey towards realizing our dreams, where everything just goes haywire and there is everything against us and it almost takes us to the brink of abandoning everything and just getting back to what was so familiar and comfortable (i.e. our usual daily life which we get used to) this is actually the time and it means also that we are really close to our objective. The example given was really great and yes nothing new but we forget simple things in our life like "the darkest hour of the night is just before the dawn". It is actually true that so many of us just leave the struggle when it gets really tough and the chips are really low, whereas actually true that so many of us just leave the struggle when it gets really tough and the chips are really low, whereas actually true that so many of us just leave the struggle when it gets really tough and the chips are really low. the fact we always forget, the only reality about our life, it is a constant which is not going to change rest everything is uncertain. There are a lot of us who either the materials that they dont have time to think about anything, leave alone death. Yes, and those who do think about death, mostly fear it, some fear death because of the physical pain attached to it (such people actually fear the pain rather than the death, I am one of them) and there are some who think they do not want to die because its not time yet for them to go. Ironically but true, this decision about timings has thankfully not been left to us. So, how do we get over the fear of death or make it our friend, a companion? And not waste our beautiful life worrying about dying all the time. One of the possible solutions lies in this book, it reads "if i have to fight, it will be just as good a day to die as any other". Yes very much right, one would never know when he or she wakes up in the morning that if it was the last day of his or her life and in fact, that day would not be any different from all the other days already spent. So, why not take everyday as the last day of our lives and live it up. Frankly speaking i really know what i am talking about, because I am in a profession which involves a lot of risk and death doesn't have to look for reasons, it can just spring up from any bush in form of a small little piece of metal called a bullet coming out of the darkness of the night or just a deafening sound from under a culvert that I cross everyday. Here, everyday can be the last day of my life, every meal can be my last, every meal can be the last time I would hear her sweet and loving voice and the kids Anyways, so what I personally follow is, everyday when I wake up or every time when I move out on an operation, I say to myself "what a beautiful day to die" and there on, I just do what I have to and what I have been taught in all these years in the army and go through all the motions and concentrate on the job at hand rather than worrying about my death and I am really at peace with the fear of death. Another beautiful thought which I came across about death was in the novel by the author called "Confessions of a pilgrim". I derived from it that death can be visualized as a beautiful person who is always sitting besides us, so close to us that it travels with us wherever we go and it also accompanies us to our bed. Its a beautiful companion, a faithful companion, the only one who will never be unfaithful to us, rest all the companions are just lesser mortals and have been unfaithful at one point or other. Death always stays with us and actually speaking thats the only companion who would accompany us all through our lives right from the moment we acquired some shape in our mothers womb to the moment when we would get the vision of that white light and that feeling of lightness when we would finally leave this body also sometimes expressed as "VASTRA" (clothes) in the Indian mythology, the soul never dies, it is indestructible, it only changes a body just like we change clothes. Our soul is a part of God and it goes back to him. We can find the mention of 'The Alchemist' where the shepherd realizes that ultimately it his own soul was the part of Soul of God. I firmly believe that there is no fiction involved in this story of the shepherd, but this is a true expression of mysteries and realities of our life, which we never been into writing anything ever in my life, yes not even a personal dairy, but since the time I actually started writing which was just a month back, I realized that if we just write our thoughts as they occur, the resultant has a touch of mystery, because what we ourselves wrote. We never realized that we had so much inside us and we dont know from where, it all came. The hand that wrote all, yes I think its our soul that speaks out, the soul we never knew, the one we never knew, the one which is part of soul of God. All religions have over all the years have preached a man Know thyself, you will find God, look within yourself u will find all the answers, these words are so common but how many of us actually are ready to pause and give it a try. It may sound crazy, may be the book has a effect that may appear really crazy but I am sure there are some people who would identify with me. May be when Paulo Coelho wrote this book his soul was revealing itself and thats why some of us can identify with it because our souls are the part of same soul of God, just like his is. May be these lines of his novel were written by the Hand that wrote allSeptember 9, 2008Timing is everything. If I'd read 'The Alchemist' four years ago, I'm sure I would have loved it. It deals in big, bold pronouncements of 'follow your dreams' et cetera et cetera, and it certainly makes you think about your own life and the pursuit of your own "Personal Legend" if you will. But maybe I'm older and more cynical now, or maybe it's not cynicism so much as just seeing a reality that isn't so mystical and black and white as Paulo Coelho's, but in any event, I just wasn't buying what 'The Alchemist' was selling. It's a good, guick read, I'll give it that. I enjoyed myself, and I definitely thought a little bit about my own life in the process, which I appreciate from my literature. And while I was more or less with it for a while, I just couldn't stay on board with an ending that left me saying, "that's it? Really?" Be forewarned, there will be spoilers after this point. The whole book Santiago is in pursuit of his "Personal Legend", which he is told is a great treasure found in the pyramids of Egypt. Along the way he befriends many people and makes a great sum of money, while also meeting a beautiful young woman who agrees to more or less be his life-partner, Romeo and Juliet-style (which is stupid in and of itself, but more on that later). It is at this point that he determines he has achieved a greater treasure than any he had ever dreamed of, and would go no further. Beautiful. Cue the music and themes of recognizing treasure in all its forms. Santiago has a wonderful, fulfilling life laid out before him, and would most likely die a happy man by the side of his lovely wife and adoring children, all while living comfortably as village counselor of a beautiful desert oasis. Sounds pretty nice, no?Well, that's where the book lost it's footing. Santiago is urged, coerced even, into continuing to follow his "Personal Legend", leaving behind his "love" (who, it should be mentioned is a "woman of the desert" and so is completely fine being abandoned by her "love" and will simply wait and wait for him, whether he ever returns or not) traversing the desert and (bizarrely) evading a hostile army along the way by turning himself into the wind (it makes about as much sense as it sounds). In the end though, Coelho reveals to us that Santiago does, indeed, reach his "Personal Legend" in a two and a half page epilogue, where it is shoddily revealed that Santiago's long-sought after treasure is...treasure is...treasure. Literally. Buried treasure. A box in the sand filled with gold coins and diamonds and jewelry and crowns, and all the other cliche treasure images you can think up. What the hell?So what message are we supposed to take from this book then? Money is the most important thing in the world? Women are objects meant to be seen and valued for their beauty, there to serve you and wait around forever while you go on wild goose chases across continents in search of money? Obviously I'm being facetious, and Coelho intended to say that one should follow their dreams no matter what, even if it transcends a nice, content life, so long as you are in pursuit of a life that would be even greater than you can ever imagine, sacrificing what is good now for what can be great later. But he did so in an extremely simplistic way, and the revelation of the Santiago's treasure being literally treasure being literal while. If Fatima was Santiago's treasure, that I could have gotten behind, even if it shows a good deal of contempt for the role of women in relationships (beauty and immediately professes his love; Fatima more or less acquiesces immediately and pledges herself to Santiago no matter what, even if he must travel the desert forever in selfish pursuit of his own dreams, with no regard for her), because that is something intangible that is meaningful and fulfilling, regardless of financial standing. But then Coelho basically goes on to say that that is just a roadblock in the way of real achievement, and that one should selfishly pursue their own dreams with no regard for those closest to them. How a book can go on and on talking about seeing the everyday symbols and omens in life and taking heed of them, presumably leaving metaphors for life all along the way, and then have what was presumably the biggest metaphor of them all, Santiago's treasure, turn out not to be a metaphor at all, but just money? To me, that summed up everything. I suppose Coelho realizes this, as he begins the book with a brief fable about Narcissus falling into the river because he loved staring at his reflection, and the river's disappointment in this, as the river loved gazing into Narcissus's eyes and seeing the reflection of itself. This is a horrible little story implying that everyone is obsessed only with themselves, a sad, empty little thought that Coelho spends 167 pages endorsing wholeheartedly, under the guise of following your dreams. I understand that other people love this book and find it inspiring, and I think I would have felt the same way years ago, when I was just out of college and it appeared I had my whole life ahead of me and a lifetime to live it. I'm older now, and I've found someone who I consider to be a real treasure, and while I still have dreams, I'm not willing to sacrifice the happiness that this life brings me every day in a single-minded pursuit of something that I want for selfish reasons (fame, fortune, etc.). If I was Santiago, I would have never left Fatima in the first place if she truly made me happy, as Santiago claimed she did. Perhaps that makes me a coward in Coelho's eyes, not unlike the Crystal merchant from the story. But it'd also make me not the sad Englishman, whose single-minded pursuit of his "personal legend" had cost him all his money, friends, and family and left him alone in an oasis burning lead in a tent in the vain hopes it will turn to gold. I guess what I'm trying to say in this long-winded review, is that this book is all about being selfish and doing what you think will make you happy, regardless of everything else. I can see why that appeals to people, especially those who want to show the doubters and find their own treasure beneath a sycamore tree, but it's sad, in a way. We live in a culture where everyone wants selfish things like fame or money or power, just to satisfy some gaping hole in their own souls, ignoring the real problems that lead to these compulsions in the first place. To me, this book feeds and even encourages that misplaced ideal, and that's a shame. September 24, 2017 If books were pills, Alchemist would be a sugarcoated placebo with no real effect. Let's call it a feel-good homily. I have never read a book as meretricious as this one. Many reviewers have pointed out the problems with this 'celebrated' novel so I'd rather not expend any more words. Suffice it so say that this is a good example of portentous writing that is best avoided if your benchmark is quality literature. February 9, 2018~~~ The ~ Alchemistic and the mistic and the set avoided if your benchmark is quality literature. February 9, 2018~~~ The words. Suffice it so say that this is a good example of portentous writing that is best avoided if your benchmark is quality literature. February 9, 2018~~~ The words. Suffice it so say that this is a good example of portentous writing that is best avoided if your benchmark is quality literature. February 9, 2018~~~ The words. Suffice it so say that this is a good example of portentous writing that is best avoided if your benchmark is quality literature. February 9, 2018~~~ The words. Suffice it so say that this is a good example of portentous writing that is best avoided if your benchmark is quality literature. February 9, 2018~~~ The words. Suffice it so say that this is a good example of portentous writing that is best avoided if your benchmark is quality literature. February 9, 2018~~~ The words. Suffice it so say that this is a good example of portentous writing that is best avoided if your benchmark is quality literature. February 9, 2018~~~ The words. Suffice it so say that this is a good example of portentous writing that is best avoided if your benchmark is quality literature. February 9, 2018~~~ The words. Suffice it so say that this is a good example of portentous writing that is best avoided if your benchmark is quality literature. February 9, 2018~~~ The words. Suffice it so say that this is a good example of portentous writing that is best avoided if your benchmark is quality literature. February 9, 2018~~~ The words. Suffice it so say that the Drops of Love ~~~ A Bunch of Magic ~~~ Cub of Philosophy ~~~ Scoop of Thriller ~~~ Mix it all together in the Cauldron.. With Drops of an Oasis' Springs Water And Bunch of Golden Desert's Stone A Great Charming Story, A brilliant literature The Alchemist ------- By the Master ------- By the Master ------- Paulo Coelho ------- 24 2013 25 2012 2 2012The Cauldron picture from 10, 2021 ... :.. :" I did it my way " - Frank Sinatra . August 2, 2024Welcome to the best game show on Goodreads, the pre-review game Who Said That? [Insert audience applause] Guess if the following quotes are from The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho OR from a CEO/inspirational memoir:1. The secret of life, though, is to fall seven times and to get up eight times.2. The only thing worse than starting something and failing is not starting something.3. Chase the vision, not the money, the money will end up following you.4. Remember that wherever your heart is, there you will find your treasure.5. Sometimes theres a sign that something really great is about to happen. Yours elf.6. Life is fragile. Were not guaranteed a tomorrow so give it everything youve got.7. People are capable, at any time in their lives, of doing what they dream of.8. A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work.9. There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure.10. Pessimists may be right in the end, but an optimist has a much better time getting there.11. Without passion, you dont have any energy, and without energy, you simply have nothing.12. When we strive to become better than we are, everything around us becomes better, too. Answers1. Alchemist5. Marissa Mayer, CEO of Yahoo6. Tim Cooke, CEO of Apple7. Alchemist8. Colin Powell, former US Secretary of State9. Alchemist10. Samuel R Allen, CEO of Deere11. Whoever the ghost writer is for Donald Trump books12. AlchemistJokes aside, The AlchemistJokes aside, The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho is an endlessly quotable book. It reads like a fable, with very catchy and accessible writing that is meant to empower and make you feel good. This really works for a lot of peopleI mean this was a widely successful noveland Im happy that so many people could be moved and inspired by a book. Especially a book that unites people around the world by being an international success. Unfortunately, for myself at least, it all comes across as a pristine facade without much behind it, offering something that can be guickly digested but isnt actually filling. This is a book that I recall enjoying enough when I read it as a teen but havent thought of since, so when someone picked it as our next read for our book club I was excited to revisit it seeing as I remembered literally nothing about it. I hate to say it, but being fun but forgettable is my takeaway from it again. There is only one way to learn... It's through action. Coelho said the book was written very quickly because the book was already written in my soul, and in the forward he discusses how this novel was his own Personal Legend. I was living my own metaphor, he said, being thrilled just to get it picked up by a Brazilian publisher who, in 1988, only ran 900 copies assuming it would not be a big success. The book ended up taking off, with the 1993 English translations of a single title signed by the author in 1 sitting, signing his book in 53 different translated editions at a book event in Germany. So I can really appreciate that aspect, and his own personal journey into publishing and believing in himself is honestly better than the book itself. Fun fact: The Alchemist had a big boost in sales when then-President Bill Clinton was photographed reading it. For those who dont know, the story follows a young boy, Santiago, as he journeys across the desert and meets a lot of interesting people along the way. Literally every person has a pearl of positive wisdom to share it seems, and it becomes a rapid fire of empowerment quotes that could all go on one of those inspirational posters made for office walls in the 90s. Actually, Im fairly certain Ive seen one that quoted this book. The characters all feel like a mouthpiece for Coehlo to pass along his positive message, or wisdom, and one can easily imagine this being a self-help book had he not decided to attach a fictional narrative to it. It is a nice message, that you have to believe in yourself and in your goals and, if you truly do (only those who are true of heart vibes like in fairy tales) the universe will conspire to help you achieve your goal. Which is a nice inspirational message and sometimes that is what you need to hear to break free from self doubt. Particularly as another primary message is that we must overcome fear to accomplish what we need to do. Don't give in to your fears, Coelho writes, If you do, you won't be able to talk to your heart. So great, yea, believe in yourself. I dig that. To realize one's destiny is a person's only real obligation. I do, however, see it as a bit of a back-patting perspective. Like yes, if you are successful it is nice to feel like it is because you are pure of heart. He tells us that those who dont follow their dreams end up in ruin and sadness. This is sort of a success fallacy in a way, as it implies that if things are bad its because you just didnt try hard enough. WhichehhhhhI mean there are a lot of forces acting in society that gatekeep and sometimes its more than just not overcoming adversity. And I get it, keep trying, yea, but it feels a bit like shaming? Which is honestly overthinking it though as this book is not that nuanced or deep (something I kept saying during debates over minor details during book club: I dont think he even considered that and its beside the point because its not actually that deep). It is meant to be a fun and empowering story that paints in broad strokes and yea, I get why it means a lot to many people. For me it just seemed a bit flat and like a snack when I wanted a meal. Everyone seems to have a clear idea of how other people should lead their lives, but none about his or her own. Okay, fine, I dont know how to write a good book or how to live my life either, but I just know this one wasnt it for me. I did appreciate how it was aimed at a general positive idea of spirituality that, while using different religious. Spiritual, or mystic would seem the better term. I liked the idea of the wind, etc as conscious entities that can collaborate with you. While I really disliked the deus ex machina ending, the whole idea of the world as a spiritual presence was well done. Coelho does sort of pull an orientalism in his depiction as an outsider of the region as this wild and savage land full of wise sages and cutthroat robbers, but it does seem with the aim of capturing the feel of One Thousand and One Nights or other tales of adventure and finding yourself in exotic locale. Which I think is a topic that people have had a more nuanced discussion on since this book was written. It's the possibility of having a dream come true that makes life interesting, Coelho writes, and this I can agree with. However, in The Alchemist, the general tone of the book is that dreams seem a thing only for men. Fatima, Santiagos love interest, lacks much agency in the tale and is more or less written as a prize for following his Personal Legend. She is an element of his journey, while I quess he is all her journey, while I quess he is all her journey, while I quess he is all her journey gets to be. He tells her I love you because the entire universe conspired to help me find you, whichisnt all that romantic or great? Hey, the universe popped you into my life, quess youll do for a bride. Cmon, man, does she have any personality or intelligence you enjoy and dont just tell me how beautiful she is. Didnt vibe with any of that aspect of the book. I also didnt really like the ending. Sure it is riffing on the whole its the journey not the destination aspect but it felt a bit flat for me with the deus ex machina moment. It is a happy ending though, and one full of success and rewards. As a bookclub member pointed out, it sort of resonates with a quote by T.S. Eliot: We shall not cease from exploration And the end of all our exploration And the end of all our exploration and it is admittedly pretty and sweet and uplifting. Its a good vibe to be in. It didnt do much for me, but thats alright too. 2.5/5April 26, 2023tl;dr - important message, disappointing execution.for this to have been described as a story that changes lives, im a little let down. whilst this certainly had the potential to be life changing, i felt there were many aspects which kept the story from delivering what could have been a meaningful experience. firstly, this is told like a parable. i would consider this story to fall more along the lines of religious allegory than philosophical text. that, in itself, is neither here nor there. comfortable. unfortunately, this book does neither of those things - it pampers to the egos of the self-righteous and chastises those who dont adhere to certain values. which is a shame, because this was supposed to be a story about following ones heart by chasing dreams and passions. too bad that message got lost somewhere along the way. secondly, i didnt connect with the any of characters, as i found them to be very two-dimensional. for a story that was meant to be about personal growth, i did not get any sense of emotion in the writing. a boy sells his entire livelihood, sets sail for distant continent, and crosses an entire desert in search of something he desperately desires - and yet, i couldnt care less about his journey. also, the portrayal of women in this is frustratingly poor. anyways, i liked the idea. i personally try to live my life by many of the lessons and teachings in this book - i believe it is important for one to follow their dreams, to always listen to their heart, and to never give up on something they are passionate about (as much as realistically possible). but i think the effectiveness of those messages was lost in this story. 2.5 starsFebruary 23, 2016Superficially deep (ie deep on the surface and shallow underneath), but actually rather pretentious new age waffle - yet somehow manages to be beautiful despite that. I would have enjoyed it in my late teens/early 20s (when I enjoyed Jonathan Livingston Seagull), but reading this as an adult, I found it annoyingly unsubtle. Reading, and disliking this, was something of a watershed: a few years earlier and I'd probably have loved it, but as it was, I realised I'd turned into a cynical adult (and I know where I get that from!). god-religion-faith overratedSeptember 25, 2019Homework for "Introductory Course For Irony Disposal And Sarcasm Removal (ICFIDASR)", lesson one, re-submission number 47.1 once read a book that inspired me to change my whole attitude towards reading. It was a medicine of universal, cosmic impact. Before, I had thought that books existed to enrich me, giving me knowledge, pleasure and understanding. After reading the introductory pages of this "enchanting novel" however, I learned that more wisdom can be gained from the companionship of sheep than from books, as stated by the wise young protagonist, a shepherd who uses books for a pillow and sheep for dialogue partners (it is a one-way road, with the sheep as teachers, for the sheep don't learn anything from him). In simple, unsophisticated prose, which seems to be carefully following the rubric of a Grade 6 descriptive writing assignment, I read: "The only things that concerned the sheep were food and water. As long as the boy knew how to find the best pastures in Andalusia, they would be his friends. Yes, their days were all the same, with the seemingly endless hours between sunrise and dusk; and they had never read a book in their young lives, and didn't understand when the boy told them about the sights of the cities. They were content with just food and water, and, in exchange, they generously gave of their wool, their company, and - once in a while their meat. "Learning to take everything literally is part of my course, so I try not to see a metaphor in the fact that the boy learns more from sheep than from books. But I do have a question or two: If the sheep are only his "friends" as long as he brings them food, do they really count as friends? Are they not just following their needs? Is it not quite selfevident that they have not read any books in their young lives - they are sheep after all, and won't read in their old age either, I assume? Do they really "generously offer their wool, their company, and -ONCE IN A WHILE - their meat? At least as far as the meat is concerned, I am sure they offer it once, and not again, and not by free choice, and

generously? As this book is to be taken seriously, I beg to accept my apology if my questions sound like sarcasm. That is not my intention. I am really just asking "all universe to conspire to help me achieve my goal" (another piece of wisdom the book offers) - of understanding how anyone can take this seriously! I just wonder how all universe deals with opposing wishes, which must occasionally occur, even in a small place like our earth. If I for example wish to have my neighbour's garden chair, and my neighbour's garden chair, and my neighbour wishes to keep it, who does it conspire to help me get it, and at the same time to help my neighbour to keep it? Things that happen once can never happen again, I also learn. Before I can even ask why, I get another piece of information: Things that happen twice, that is sure. I can't travel to Italy twice. If I do it anyway (which is not possible) I will definitively do it again. That is interesting, and I do not know why I all of a sudden associate this with the sheepish followers in Life Of Brian, who found omens in sandals. Call me literal-minded, but I do have some issues with the idea of omen provision. Can I order them online nowadays? What do they cost? To close my reflection on learning more from sheep than books, I have to say: In some cases, that is very true! What a bitter medicine! As with all medicines, there are some side effects, and it is very important to read the warning before you take this drug: Please do not read this book if you are in danger of thinking too rationally. When you read this Grade 6 essay, be careful to check if you show behaviours that you would define as out of character, as they might be symptoms of acute drivel reading allergy. Symptoms include: anger, frustration, ridicule, frowning, nausea, meaningless giggling, dreams about book burning, urge to throw the book in the bin or out the window. Symptoms may vary, but in all cases, it is recommended to suspend reading until the brain is reset in adequate sheep mode again. If symptoms do not diminish after enjoying a couple of good, real books, opening your eyes to more than just the world in front of you. This is the kind of read that leaves you pondering about life and the choices we make, well after youve finished reading. Its the kind of book you read more than once. Written exceptionally well, its an effortless and comfortable read that warms you like a cozy blanket. It left me thinking silently for quite awhile after I closed the book. I honestly just lost myself in thought and how we can so easily lose sight of whats important in life. How we can be quick to assume instead of coming from curious. This isnt just a novel, its a lesson. If you like books that leave you enlightened, this is a good one to read. January 8, 2025(B+) 78% GoodNotes: On chasing dreams, don't settle themes, enjoying silver linings, but too clich and child's play, relies on stars aligning.*Check out progress updates:06/08/2024 - Preamble(1) It's been a very long time since I first read this. Really, this is one of the earliest novels I read when I began reading recreationally.- I remember at the time not getting what all the hype was about and thought it, while quite well done, was fairly ordinary.- It'll be interesting to see if I'll change my tune at all after so many years.(2) No real chapter breaks, which is a shame. I like boundaries.06/09/2024 - Prologue(1) You know, I'd just been wondering why the original cover art was "Narcissus" by Caravaggio. I couldn't understand why. Well, the prologue answered that question immediately albeit not directly.- My first thought is it's symbolic of this book in concept. The prologue tells the story of Narcissus, but then adds to it. Which is to say this book might use existing folklore as a base to build its fiction upon.06/12/2024 - Andalusia(1) Melchizedek's interesting. He says he's the Biblical King of Salem, who dealt with Abraham. So, he's either a liar/conman or in some way divine.- You'd think Santiago, who attended seminary, would be either a wed or skeptical. He seems neither.- Presuming he's divine, the way he disrupts Santiago's life, overturning the status quo, makes him an archetypical trickster.- This is magical realism, I suppose.06/13/2024 - Tangier(1) "The boy knew that in money there was magic; whoever has money is never really alone."- True, albeit cynical. You're never alone because people want your money.- Of course, it implies the inverse is also true. Losing all his money means he's now really alone and has no ability to make things magically happen.(2) This whole Tangier section is about blessings in disguise and not settling for the familiar.06/14/2024 (1) - The Caravan and Oasis(1) "Once you get into the desert, there's no going back, and, when you can't go back, you have to worry only about the best way of moving forward."- That's the difference between the Crystal Merchant, who looks back and never sees Mecca, and the Englishman, who builds a forge in the desert.- This whole section is like one big Nike ad. So many metaphors all amounting to the same "Just Do It!" call to action.06/14/2024 (2) - The Desert(1) It's interesting how figures here tie themselves into a Biblical lineage, as if to imply this story is Biblical as well.- We saw this previously with the old man who insisted he was the Biblical Melchizedek.- At the oasis, the tribal elder says they were the very people who purchased Joseph and brought him to Egypt.- Like Joseph, Santiago is a foreigner who saves the locals and is made a court official.06/15/2024 (1) - The Military Camp(1) It's around this point in the book that you realize the titular "Alchemist" isn't the alchemist character, but Santiago.- Because turning lead into gold is a metaphor for leaving a mundane life to pursue treasure.(2) "Usually the threat of death makes people a lot more aware of their lives."- Hitting rock bottom usually spurs people into action.- That's why the boy was robbed of everything three times.06/15/2024 (2) - Epilogue(1) Ultimately, this is one of those "it's not you it's me" books.- I can understand why it inspires so many people and why it's one of the most popular books on this site.- But (call me jaded, cynical or a grump) the book-long refrain that the universe conspires to make your dreams come true just seems quixotic and trite.(2) Overall, a better experience than before, but nothing to make me change my rating audiobook-audible author-latin-american era-early-modern Displaying 1 - 30 of 136,673 reviewsGet help and learn more about the design.

The alchemist amharic. The alchemist eritrean.