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# Isaac Bashevis Singer

## Il mago di Lublino



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## Description

Yasha di Lublino è un funambolo, un prestigiatore, un illusionista, ipnotizzatore, maestro, come Houdini, nell'aprire serrature e lucchetti anche bendato o ammanettato. Sul punto di abbandonare la fedele moglie Ester per fuggire in Italia con la bella Emilia, sul punto di usare le sue abilità per scopi criminali, come gli consigliano da tempo amici ruffiani e ladri, questo zingaro della lussuria torna nel villaggio natio e si fa murare in una stanza della sua vecchia casa per scontare i suoi peccati e diventare, suo malgrado, un saggio venerato da ebrei vicini e lontani.

## Insightful reviews

Niki: Well, that's the last time I pick up a book just because there's a monkey on the cover.

Mrymbalg: I'd had this book sitting around on my bookshelf for years, inherited from my parents, and just picked it up this evening, read the first ten or so pages, and found myself interested. It then became a nice Friday night reading affair. The book's well written, very readable, and it becomes completely gripping towards the climax, as you are sucked into the insane terror of Yasha's life collapsing in on itself.

The book is descriptively powerful, effortlessly conveying the mood, atmosphere, imagery, and sound of its narrative. There is also something deep and special about this book, I believe, which is why I'm really writing a few words about it right now. The book deals with real issues, things that cannot be dealt with in a day, but must be learned through a lifetime of wisdom. In this case, these are the issues regarding the conflict between the success and triumph of the ego, the materialistic, lustful, and worldly life, and the actual baselessness which we all know tends to fracture and eventually destroy the sense of success that we acquire in that way.

But what I think is really special about this book is not its philosophical, allegorical, or descriptive content. I think it's more the tone, which is so soft, gentle, and appreciative of human life, sadness and pain, but at the same time so charged with the joy of infidelity, or lust between a man and a woman, any woman, or the little petty enjoyment of dinner side gossip. Solving a little puzzle can at times be the most miraculous cure for one's boredom; and yet aren't these puzzles so trivial?

This tone is carried perhaps most vitally through the narrator's eyes, Yasha the magician (not a Tolkienian wizard, but a worker of card tricks, circus tricks, and the like). He sees the world in its soft tones, and also in its hard tones, and he is always questioning, understanding his ignorance, living the constant battle between skepticism and a need for conviction to sustain a societal life. There is so much beauty in this character that is so competent, fallible, intelligent, hopeless, and eventually, broken.

I recommend this book. It touches on Judaism and Polish peasant culture in a way which is also quite striking and illuminating.

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Panda: I read the Swedish translation by Caj Lundgren. Mostly I liked the book loads, the writing (and the translation) was pleasant and easy to follow, the epilogue was good for once, but the main story ended so very abruptly and oddly. I almost felt like maybe Singer fell out of love with his protagonist. I'd like to re-read this at some point, possibly in English.

Adam Cherson: I expense this publication a 4.16 on a scale of one to five with five being best. I examine Singer to be one of many maximum spiritual novelists of all time. His books are quite often approximately religion within the face of the hugely unnerving alterations and cataclysms of the 19th-20th centuries. by some means Singer manages to verify the potential of religion regardless of the horrors of this epoch in human history. In so much cases, one leaves the worlds he creates with a sense of 'Yes, i will make it.'

S@aP: Risente, nel bene e nel male, della stesura originale in yiddish. Il pregio è quello di una lingua energica, evocativa, piacevole al gusto. Il limite, che talvolta il sentore della didascalia è un po' troppo forte. Vi si narra di una discesa rovinosa negli inferi dell'esistenza e di una successiva, volitiva, catarsi. los angeles vicenda sembra però lo spunto in step with creare una cassa di risonanza al Dogma, e questo fatto mi lascia un po' perplesso. I. a. grande forza narrativa di cui Singer è dotato ne resta in qualche modo condizionata. Alla wonderful il racconto risuona un po' troppo come 'parabola' biblica. Cosa che, a mio avviso, gli fa perdere spessore letterario.

Ursula: A slender volume, The Magician of Lublin packs loads of moralizing into few pages. Yasha Mazur is the name magician, and even if he is wonderful at determining locks and making escapes, he can not seem to get away the situations of his lifestyles last in on him. he is acquired a wife, an assistant who's additionally his lover, one other lover, and one more lover, the final of whom he's making plans to run away with. yet issues are form of a mess, that's excellent to Yasha, if to not the reader. Yasha's strategies flip to the character of the world, and fate, and the position of religion. He contemplates what course he's being interested in take and why. He wonders if issues that occur to him are signs, and even if to withstand them or supply in to them. Morality stories should not particularly my thing, and this e-book isn't any exception. I desire colors of grey to the black and white offerings Yasha sees in his world. i discovered the ebook effortless reading, yet now not solely pleasant. Recommended for: rabbis, non secular humans in general, prisoners, humans pain an existential crisis. Quote: "The entire global acts out a farce simply because everyone seems to be ashamed to say: i don't know."

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