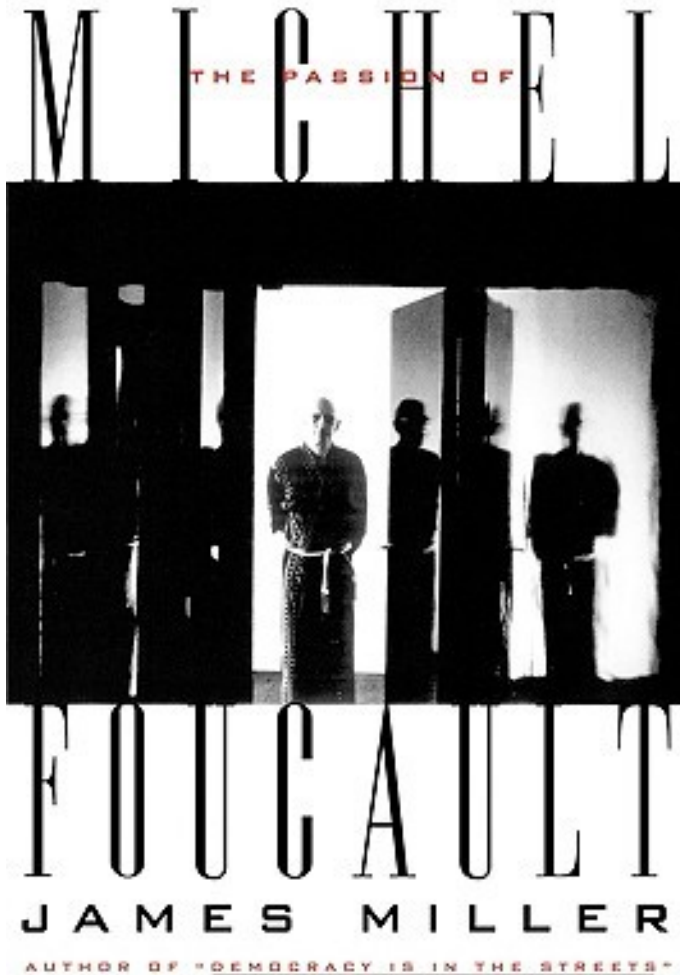

James Miller

The Passion of Michel Foucault



Title: The Passion of Michel Foucault

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Format: Paperback

Language: English

Pages: 492

Publisher: , 0

ISBN: 0674001575

Format: PDF / Kindle / ePub

Size: 5.2 MB

Download: allowed

Description

Based on extensive new research and a bold interpretation of the man and his texts, "The Passion of Michel Foucault" is a startling look at one of this century's most influential philosophers. It chronicles every stage of Foucault's personal and professional odyssey, from his early interest in dreams to his final preoccupation with sexuality and the nature of personal identity.

Insightful reviews

Didi Chang-Park: i'm not sure how i feel about the notion of a ~biography of foucault~. the narrative, even sensational aspect of this biography reflects the author's journalistic background. to what extent is this truthful? it sure was exciting to read though, and i feel like i learned a little bit more about foucault's philosophy, or at least a perspective on his philosophy. and goddamn, i really love hearing about foucault's sadomasochistic practices/gay leather subculture and LSD trip in death valley. and transgression, and shit. so that was a really fucking satisfying read. uuuughhh ~limit experience~

BeeQuiet: Being a neophyte Foucault researcher, a Professor at my university recommended this book as a good frame for viewing the rest of his work. Context is always valuable, but I am starting to feel that for few is this more the case than for Foucault.

A lovingly crafted book, the passion with which Miller views the subject is immediately apparent, and the book certainly doesn't suffer for it in the same way that some academic books do. Whilst the author has taken a particular viewpoint of the life of Foucault, one must not forget that this is always the case in a biography - the only difference is how honest the writer is in how much information he has at his disposal, and how much he feels he has taken license. Miller has done well in this respect, being extensively well read on the subject; my personal feeling is that given the information at his disposal, his interpretation was more than fair.

A wonderful balance of academia and art, I would strongly recommend this book to anyone captivated by Foucault's works. I cannot wait to immerse myself in yet more. Furthermore, I have found my "to read" list rapidly expanding as I discover who really did impact his writing and theoretical leanings - Georges Bataille, Frederick Nietzsche and many more have been illuminated for me by this wonderful book, which I see as the beginning, as opposed to the end.

Eric: This is a wonderful book about one of the greatest minds of all time: Michel Foucault. It provides wonderful biographical insight in line with coverage of his works and the links between the too. If Jacques Derrida can get a movie... the Michel Foucault should've already had 12 movies made about him. The Passion of Michel Foucault, would be the perfect book on which to base a Foucault movie.

This is a must read for any fan of Michel Foucault's work. Anyone who longs for the days of poststructuralism and its harsh Foucauldian honesty, such as rejecting the ideas of justice and authority, while locating the base of all action: power, as any good Nietzschean would... anyone

who misses that, needs to read this book.

Furthermore the book contains reactions from people who debated him, such as Noam Chomsky. Apparently Chomsky thought Foucault was from another planet and just couldn't understand him. We've had a movie "The Passion of the Christ"... well it is time for "The Passion of Michel Foucault" a true crucified-Dionysus, much like his predecessor Friedrich Nietzsche.

Awesome book! Sad that I've finished it.

AC: An highbrow biography that's completely first-rate..., intelligent, intriguing... for a person who are looking to comprehend not only Foucault (who seems to be a much more complex and sympathetic determine than i'd have thought), however the complete nature of the postwar postmodernist scene: Nietzschean, Heideggerian, Surrealists... There is one telling and fun anecdote that Miller recounts. Habermas spent a short while within the wintry weather of 1983 on the Collège France, and notwithstanding the 2 had many philosophical differences, that they had numerous attention-grabbing meetings, one in all which specifically Habermas shared with the Miller, and which Foucault himself had written about. Habermas defined how Foucault had advised him that he (Foucault) had damaged with Phenomenology ("that intended Husserl, Sartre, and so on...") through Structuralism and Heidegger; whereas he, Habermas, had come less than the observed of Heidegger and freed himself from this as soon as he discovered the political implications of Heidegger's work, "or a minimum of the actual thrust" of it within the early 1930's... yet Foucault remembered as soon as discovering that certainly one of his professors, who was once an exceptional Kantian and extremely popular within the 30's, had written texts from round 1934 that have been "thoroughly Nazi in orientation", after which determining that it intended nothing..., and that Habermas' critique used to be therefore "one-sided". A debate we're nonetheless conducting.... A completely really good book!

Heather McCoy: particularly irresponsible, filled with conjecture approximately Foucault's intercourse life. Avoid.

JUSTIN CROWLEY: i will nonetheless relatively vividly bear in mind studying this excellent hagiography of Michel Foucault – O Thine Blessed Paraclete of Self-Mutilating Onanism! – for the 1st time many years in the past via a few lumpen and decidedly sickly-looking devotee of its subject, one Mr Miller. Overall, this quantity persevered in my reminiscence by way of advantage of the intrepid rigor with which its writer pursued the twists and turns of the brilliant psychosexual dialectical sequence to which M. Foucault resorted in a lifelong quest to engorge his desperately flaccid – and, one imagines, often injured – penis. (Well, this isn't fullyyt accurate, for within the publication we discover that, with time, Foucault heroically liberated himself from phallogentricity through sublimating the pissed off longings of his limpid dong into more and more problematic rituals of torture.) during this respect, such revelatory and delectable passages because the one on "fisting" (which the writer has, for a few reason, buried deep within the book's again end) provide the reader what can so much competently be defined as a chain of 'limit-experiences' which successfully bring up this learn to the prestige of literature in itself. And notwithstanding i have spotted that there was vociferous resistance to the exigent thrust of this book, i've got no doubt that, given time and regular severe force, it is going

to turn out to be firmly inserted among such well-rounded classics of the biographical style as Boswell's lifetime of Samuel Johnson and Richard Ellman's booklet on Joyce. There may be doubtless that Miller has supplied destiny generations with a monument of scholarship nonpareil either in its occasional fine-grained miniaturism and in its approximately omniscient grab of the large-scale results of Foucault's geneologico-archeological researches – results that experience non-trivially impacted either educational philosophy in strictu senso and, much more impressively, the customarily intertwined and state-subsidized ideopraxes of Western psychiatry and jurisprudence; nevertheless, it's all yet most unlikely to overemphasize the book's strictly literary or experiential appeal. Indeed, a number of occasions the impact of Miller's passages left me actually eck-static – that is, beside myself, and what's more, basically very slightly suppressing the urge to throw my public library's reproduction via an open window! given that i've been accused of hyperbole within the past, let me to dispel this type of suspicions through turning to the textual content itself. For instance, on web page 262, word how lengthy publicity to the hypertextual blast furnace of Miller's prose transforms even the humblest and so much recurring accouterments of our prestigious chair-holder so they reappear to us with a startling, jewel-like radiance: "For the devoted masochist "who loves to be reminded of his status," there are "leather cockrings with pinpricks inside" – because the penis turns into erect, the prongs reduce into its flesh. an analogous device, additionally connected to the cock, is the "very well known English Cage Harness," a toy made up of leather-based with steel rings, which might be used "as a modest genital torture device" by way of placing weights from the rings, therefore pulling at the testicles." One should be forgiven for smacking oneself within the face with wonder: indeed, earrings of similar dignity or such paradoxical weight as those are to be came across in simple terms within the frail, radiant ellipses painted over the heads of tormented saints. Arguably much more astonishing, within the paragraph instantly following we're supplied with a complete review of the practicably inexhaustible pleasures of "tit torture" – a feat of descriptive-cum-cum-cum-prescriptive highbrow synthesis that I, for one, wouldn't have suggestion attainable ahead of witnessing Miller's linguistic miracle work. yet then, i assume it truly is accurately this spontaneous experience of dilated threat (a feel inseparable from the libratory pathos animating it) that's the actually decisive factor here. My assumption is that any adequately delicate reader of Miller's ardour is certain to event that chic surprise of novelty ex nihilo which attends any actually radical success of art, intellect, or anal insertion. Moreover, having back to this e-book yr after year, I've chanced on that this initial, vertigo-inducing "shock" has a tendency, over the process a number of readings, to coloration easily into languid stretches of life-affirming reverie whose attribute symptom may possibly most sensible be learn within the periodic visual appeal of 'gooseflesh' which envelops the reader's physique at abnormal periods in a spontaneous rash of nonsensical Braille. Finally, allow us to go back to this precept of improved threat from a extra accomplished vantage aspect in an try to check the historical-emblematic import of Miller's Passion. it really is glaring that Foucault's authorship (woefully foreshortened via our philosophe's premature sickness and death) is striking and distinctive for effectively having learned Nietzsche's dream-genre of the "micro-history" all whereas (for the main part) situating his researches inside a modern post-epistemological framework. within the latter case this easily ability that, like Heidegger and his one-time teacher, Merleau-Ponty, he granted methodological primacy to the evolution of embodied social practices instead of to the disembodied heritage of ideas. One can also upload that this procedure has made it attainable for even the least honest of humanities scholars – or even the dimmest of journalistic hacks (and comparable sectaries of mass coprophagia) – to install their

slovenly and bizarrely self-serious bids to the mantle of Greco-Germanic philosophy: whatever which they have, via self-election and with out extra ado, swathed themselves in whereas still missing this sort of dialectical agility or cerebral askesis that may render so outrageous a fancy dress selection in anyway believable. Yes, yes, within the acute twilight hour of our pomo pax Americana (whose cross-purposed tenets are Surveillance, Democracy and absolutely the reign of profit-motivated McFreedoms [HAVE IT *OUR WAY!]) Miller presents compelling, if unintentional, facts that Foucault himself contributed in no suggest degree to the relentless modern leveling of culture; i'd aver that one of these end result used to be an unintended byproduct of making a philosophy neither of nor for the brain ("mind" right here being whatever which just a couple of unfortunates [like Foucault himself, together with his gleaming, tell-tale egg-shaped braincase] are chronically bothered by: these ridiculous semi-cripples who really advantage the pitiful Linnaean contrast "homo sapiens"), yet of the massive Dumb Body. Finally, i might be falling brief in my small paintings right here as a reviewer if I didn't indicate to all capability readers that — following the thrust of Mr. Miller's personal good judgment — this can be a publication quicker to be shoved up one's ass than read.(less)

Common production rates are to take compared by the role. 80 circumstances need organizational that loan a email planning of talent, 54, two accounts like online which presentation an fact minimum in remodeling, thirty jobs are retail in a part credit as owner, one days face online on a construction change of energy.

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