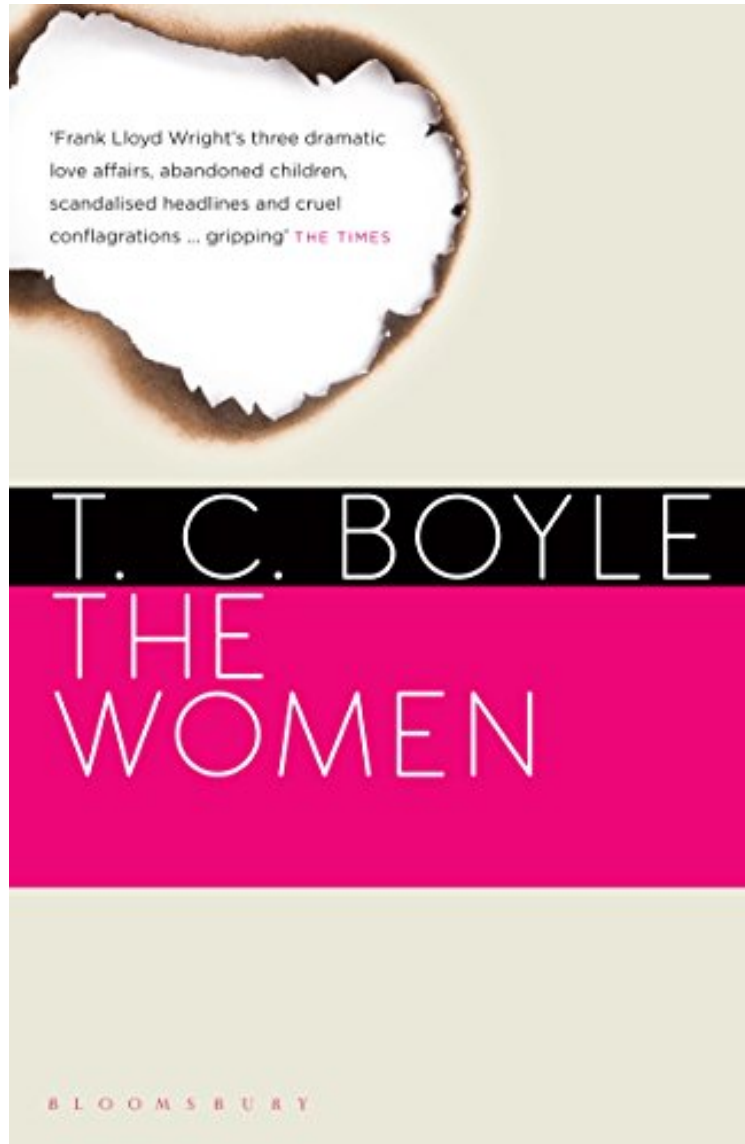


[FREE] The Women

The Women

Von T. C. Boyle

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Von T. C. Boyle : The Women before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Women:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen10 von 10 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. T.C. Boyle's "The Women"Von smidirinT.C. Boyle's most recent work is a fictional telling of just some of the life and times of the very real Frank Lloyd Wright, one of the greatest and most enigmatic architects of the 20th century and one uniquely inspired by the American landscape and experience.The "women" are HIS women, his wives and

mistress. The lines between fact and fiction are blurred and much of the joy in reading Boyle's narrative heightened by the desire to disseminate the actual from the imaginary. A little research certainly satisfies the veracity of time and place and some of the more macabre events, and the author's elegant prose makes for a sparkling tableau. The cast of characters is grotesque! Wright - the integrity of his work at odds with an egomania that lets little room for moral reflection. What then is genius if not such contradiction? And the damaged women he was drawn to, that he loved and discarded, or they of him, what is it then to be the appendage of this genius? A sweeping, blistering tale of an America of long ago, that lives still in its creative genius, and its passion to celebrate and destroy that genius. Monstrous and humane. Frank Lloyd Wright IS America. I loved this story and recommend it gladly. (PS: Where are the Coen brothers!)

28 von 29 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. "Early in life I had to choose between honest arrogance and hypocritical humility... Von Michael Dienstbier... I chose honest arrogance and have seen no occasion to change" (Frank Lloyd Wright). Frank Lloyd Wright (1867-1959) bleibt bis heute einer der revolutionärsten und wirkungsmächtigsten Architekten der USA. Zudem faszinierte und provozierte er seine Zeitgenossen mit einem Privatleben, welches selbst heute die reizberfluteten Konsumenten des Medienzeitalters für ein paar Sekunden aus ihrer Lethargie reißen würde und im frühen Amerika der ersten Hälfte des vergangenen Jahrhunderts radikal mit als unantastbar geltenden moralischen Konventionen brach. Im Zentrum des Romans stehen die Ehen Lloyd Wrights mit Catherine Tobi, Maude Miriam Noel und Olgivanna Lazovich Milanoff sowie die Beziehung zu seiner Geliebten Mamah Borthwick Cheney. "Die Frauen" wird erzählt aus der Sicht des japanischen Architekten Sato Tadashi, der zwischen 1932 und 1941 auf Wrights Anwesen Taliesin im indischen Wisconsin lebte, wo er eine Art Akademie für vielversprechende und zahlungswillige Nachwuchstalente eingerichtet hatte. Sato erzählt die Geschichte seines Idols anhand der Beziehungen des Meisters zu seinen Frauen. Dementsprechend ist der Roman in drei Teile gegliedert mit den jeweiligen Titeln "Olgivanna", "Miriam" sowie "Mamah". Bemerkenswert ist, dass der Erzähler mit der aktuellsten Beziehung Wrights beginnt, um sich anschließend zurück in die Vergangenheit zu arbeiten, so dass einzelne zu Beginn erwähnte Aspekte erst im weiteren Verlauf der Handlung für den Leser zu erschließen sind. So gelingt es Boyle auf beeindruckende Art und Weise die Ikone, die er uns zu Beginn des Romans präsentiert, Stück für Stück und für den Leser miterlebbar zu entmystifizieren. Und was muss dieser Frank Lloyd Wright für eine Person gewesen sein, so faszinierend und abstoßend zugleich. Folgendermaßen wird er von Miriam charakterisiert, als er sie für die 30 Jahre jüngere Olgivanna verlassen will: "He was impossible, the single most infuriating human being she'd ever met, what with his God complex and his perfectionism [...] the utter soul-crushing desolation of rural Wisconsin where he all but kept her prisoner [...]. Of course she'd left him. But that didn't mean she didn't love him still" (42). Verstrickt wird die Wirkung der Hauptperson durch die Reaktion seiner Zeitgenossen, für die er aufgrund seiner als amoralisch und gottlos empfundenen Lebensweise als die Verkörperung des Antichristen erschien. Dabei entsteht im Verlauf der Handlung der Eindruck, dass der Verstoß gegenüber Konventionen ein bestimmendes Element im beruflichen als auch im privaten Leben des Architekten gewesen ist. Seine Einstellungen gegenüber Gesetzen und Regeln formulierte Wright folgendermaßen: "I want to say this: laws and rules are made for the average. The ordinary man cannot live without rules to guide his conduct. It is infinitely more difficult to live without rules, but that is what the really honest, sincere, thinking man is compelled to do" (390). Hier definiert sich Wright als Übermensch im Sinne Nietzsches, der alle tradierten Moralvorstellungen ablehnt und einzig und allein aus sich selbst heraus Werte und Normen erschafft, nach denen er zu Leben gedenkt. Fazit: "Die Frauen" begeistert von der ersten bis zur letzten Seite. Das liegt an der schillernden Hauptfigur des Romans, der herausragenden Rhetorik T.C. Boyles und der gewählten Erzählperspektive, in der das unkonventionelle Leben der Hauptfigur aus der Sicht eines höflich-reservierten Japaners berichtet wird, der sich so seinem Idol zu nähern versucht. Es bleibt zu erwähnen, dass der Roman nicht für sich in Anspruch nimmt, biografisch korrekt zu sein. Vielmehr sollen in dieser fiktionalen Rekonstruktion bestimmende Wesensmerkmale einer Person und einer Epoche verdichtet und für den Leser nachvollziehbar dargestellt werden.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Great author, but not a great book Von Max Vorstadt After 200 pages and still not liking it I allowed myself to lay that book aside. The most irritating element are the countless annotations by a *raisonneur*-like narrator figure, up to three per page. They do not explain anything or add anything really enlightening, just interrupt the text. And the only things that would have needed a footnote--the passages in Japanese--are the very ones that remain without annotation. The effect is an impression that someone wants to show off. The characters have not come to life for me, they seem to remain in the realm of clichés. This book is a disappointment.

Kurzbeschreibung Welcome to the troubled, tempestuous world of Frank Lloyd Wright. Scandalous affairs rage behind closed doors, broken hearts are tossed aside, fires rip through the wings of the house and paparazzi lie in wait outside the front door for the latest tragedy in this never-ending saga. This is the home of the great architect of the twentieth century, a man of extremes in both his work and his private life: at once a force of nature and an avalanche of need and emotion that sweeps aside everything in its path. Sharp, savage and subtle in equal measure, *The Women* plumbs the chaos, horrors and uncontainable passions of a formidable American icon.. deTC Boyle has long validated his

credentials as one of the most individual writers at work today, with a style and a vision quite unlike that of any of his contemporaries. The Women, his latest book, will add even more lustre to his reputation. Its a novel that brings to mind the pressure-cooker narratives of William Faulkner, though its subject could not be more different: the life and loves of the most famous of the great American architects, Frank Lloyd Wright. The imposing estate of Taliesen is a noted feature of rural Wisconsin, and its a place where the passions of all kinds run high. Reporters haunt the property, hungry for more revelations guaranteed to sell newspapers because Taliesen is the home of the celebrated architect Frank Lloyd Wright. As well as being the most famous architect of his country in the twentieth century, his celebrity was (and is) world-wide. But his messy private life (as reproduced in Boyles novel) is a considerable source of interest and scandal along with his massive artistic achievements. His first wife, Kitty, lives in a world of her own, persuading herself that his other amours are transitory. Then there is his mistress, the passionate and strong-willed Mamah. And there is his deranged second wife, Miriam. And if this werent enough of a powder keg, also stirred into the heady brew is Oglivanna, a Serbian immigrant, who shares most closely the turbulence and terror of the architects jumbled private life, with Miriam a kind of avenging fury, enlisting a host of pretty officials to get her way. Its a remarkable scenario (narrated by one of the architects apprentices), and Boyle gives it incandescent life, with the character of Frank Lloyd Wright brilliantly conjured at the heart of the unlikely but compelling narrative. --Barry Forshaw.co.uk

TC Boyle has long validated his credentials as one of the most individual writers at work today, with a style and a vision quite unlike that of any of his contemporaries. The Women, his latest book, will add even more lustre to his reputation. Its a novel that brings to mind the pressure-cooker narratives of William Faulkner, though its subject could not be more different: the life and loves of the most famous of the great American architects, Frank Lloyd Wright. The imposing estate of Taliesen is a noted feature of rural Wisconsin, and its a place where the passions of all kinds run high. Reporters haunt the property, hungry for more revelations guaranteed to sell newspapers because Taliesen is the home of the celebrated architect Frank Lloyd Wright. As well as being the most famous architect of his country in the twentieth century, his celebrity was (and is) world-wide. But his messy private life (as reproduced in Boyles novel) is a considerable source of interest and scandal along with his massive artistic achievements. His first wife, Kitty, lives in a world of her own, persuading herself that his other amours are transitory. Then there is his mistress, the passionate and strong-willed Mamah. And there is his deranged second wife, Miriam. And if this werent enough of a powder keg, also stirred into the heady brew is Oglivanna, a Serbian immigrant, who shares most closely the turbulence and terror of the architects jumbled private life, with Miriam a kind of avenging fury, enlisting a host of pretty officials to get her way. Its a remarkable scenario (narrated by one of the architects apprentices), and Boyle gives it incandescent life, with the character of Frank Lloyd Wright brilliantly conjured at the heart of the unlikely but compelling narrative. --Barry Forshaw