



The White Dominican

Gustav Meyrink

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The White Dominican is Meyrink's most esoteric novel, and draws on the wisdom of a number of mystical traditions, the most important of which is Tao. It is set in a mystical version of the Bavarian town of Wasserburg, which sits on a promontory surrounded on three sides by the River Inn. The novel describes the spiritual journey of the simple hero, who, guided by a number of figures, (his eccentric father, the spirit of a distant ancestor, the protecting presence of his dead lover and the mysterious figure of the White Dominican), escapes the 'Medusa's head' of the world to a transfiguration, through which he joins the 'living chain that stretches to infinity.'

The White Dominican Details

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Author : Gustav Meyrink

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From Reader Review The White Dominican for online ebook

Pedro Garrido says

Me agrado esta obra de Meyrink para ser el primer trabajo que abordo de este escritor, es un texto facil y la lectura de dicha novela es fluida ademas de entretenida. Sin duda tomare en cuenta otros titulos de G.Meyrink para leer.

Aras says

<http://electric-pages.livejournal.com...>

Eddie Watkins says

Gone the dense urban menace of his first two novels, replaced by a bucolic-seeming small city setting (I kept thinking Bavaria) with a river winding through, and the river by some weird twist passing between the houses of the two principle characters, Christopher & Ophelia, who will throughout the novel enact, consciously and unconsciously, a transcendent union. Yes, Ophelia drowns, but that's no obstacle to Christopher's continuing relationship with her as Meyrink here is concerned almost entirely with his bricolage of esoteric theories of soul growth and ultimate Gnostic-like surmounting of gross predatory physicality, with most action taking place internally (as related by his typically didactic characters, though the talkiness is much more tolerable and fitting here). Reviews/synopses/squibs of the book invariably mention the "Medusa's head" of the world as the foe/antagonist in this book, but this Medusa's head is not only the gross predatory physicality of the world but also the whole spiritualist subculture that brings unsavory spirits into contact with the living. Meyrink clearly aspired to some sort of complicated purity as a path to self-realization, and in *The White Dominican* he offers his clearest description of his spiritual/philosophical monstrosity yet. Apparently there are people who treat him as a teacher, but I'd like to see them actually put into practice his weirdness, which involves long dead ancestors speaking to you through your "root" to complete the circle, simultaneous with an inner reunion with your dead feminine half paving the way for a hermaphroditic apotheosis.

Beatriz Chavarri says

No sé si es que sea demasiado occidental y mi desconocimiento casi absoluto de las filosofías orientales influyó, pero tenía tiempo sin aburrirme tanto con un libro. Herman Hesse también tiene novelas profundamente metafísicas, pero no son tan soporíferas como *El dominico blanco*. Ya ni ganas tengo de leer *El Golem*, que es un eterno pendiente tras haber visto la película muda y haberla disfrutado tanto.

Bettie? says

From the Diary of an Invisible Man

It is quite simple: he has used his imagination to portray people who do not really exist, has invented experiences for them and woven it all together.

Me costó horrores (los mismos que sufre el protagonista, por momentos) terminar esta soporífera historia. Creo que ya no estoy para este tipo de literatura. Me pasó con Lovecraft y me sucedió nuevamente con Meyrink, de quien esperaba otra cosa.

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