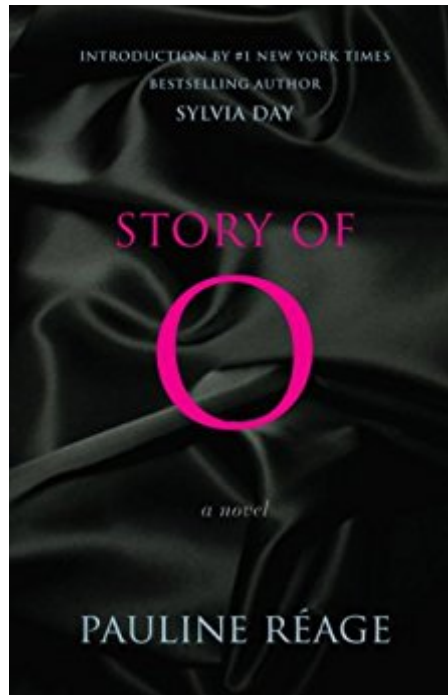


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Story Of O: A Novel



Synopsis

The notorious novel of dark obsession – How far will a woman go to express her love? In this exquisite novel of passion and desire, the answer emerges through a daring exploration of the deepest bonds of sensual domination. *“O”* is a beautiful Parisian fashion photographer, determined to understand and prove her consuming devotion to her lover, Renée, through complete submission to his every whim, his every desire. It is a journey of forbidden, dangerous choices that sweeps her through the secret gardens of the sexual underground. From the inner sanctum of a private club where willing women are schooled in the art of subjugation to the excruciating embraces of Renée’s friend Sir Stephen, O tests the outermost limits of pleasure. For as O discovers, true freedom lies in her pure and complete willingness to do anything for love. From the Trade Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Read this book years ago. It is still a winner .. If you liked the Fifty Shades movies this will satisfy your taste.

This book gives a graphic description of the dark side of a BDSM relationship. It is well written and doesn't dwell on the violence. The point of the story isn't to focus on the sex, isn't to focus on the violence, but is to illuminate the metamorphosis that the main character goes through.

I can see how the author was trying to write an intense sex and violence happy hour without it sounding smutty and crude, as so many others have done in the past. This was a good attempt, and it was one of the better erotic novels I've read. But I still found it to be very dark and depressing - the sex seemed more cruel rather than arousing. It was too much punishment and not enough pleasure. It didn't do a thing for me but it was well written and I'm sure enjoyable to other readers.

I read this book as a teenager, and for a young man this was "HOT" reading. I guess after "Fifty Shades of Grey", Bondage and Discipline is now in vogue. For those so inclined, this is a much better read, as the author of "Shades" only scratched the surface. To those others, that consider restraining a woman as vulgar, consider this, it was originally written in the fifties, by a French woman.

This was recommended by a friend. He thought I would like it. It was a good book, but I was hoping it would be a bit more graphic.

Maybe I should say waiting for that Aha Moment; I like my books like I like my women, full of ideas but sometimes just say what you need to say or as the song goes "more than words". Story of O is missing quite a few including an important two "The End" that is the biggest spoiler than you'll get from me, that there isn't one. On one hand you learn this up front but you just don't expect to be taken somewhere and just be left to fend for yourself. This is exactly what happens to O, the author takes her hand and says here, you'll find exactly what you seek. Isn't this the promise of every book, from author to reader and from reader to book but what exactly is O seeking? (Begins crooning Backstreet Boys "As Long as You Love Me") Love, now if I were to try and define this well, I've already wasted a sizable portion of my life. I wasted plenty trying to love this book and fall in love with O but despite it all, while I don't hate her it just wasn't enough for me. Constantly teasing, constantly waiting, it keeps you going page after page but like any porn

sometimes you just want to get there. In the Story of O she never does, not physically from what I read but she gets the general idea but you want to feel it, you want to know it, where's that O face? She never shows it to you, especially at the ending when you feel like you just been caught doing something and honestly if you're going to get caught you might as well finish but the story doesn't, it leaves you waiting.

Skipping ahead of the yeah I suck at French portion, and should have been my first warning pages, a nice essay on slavery, and the introduction the story begins making you want it.

It's time at Roissy. I found quite thrilling but that's more or less left to the imagination, men are quite visual creatures as I see highlighting every detail of O's beauty. The depictions of sex leave much to be desired but as I said, quite the imagination and the ideas in general of what O becomes all in the name of love. The Marquis de Sade might be proud of the ideas instilled in O and I think both men and women might jump at the chance to become Renée, Sir Stephen, even O herself or just to become one the lovers of Roissy. Men are so often taught what they must do to attain the favors of women and women often mention the sacrifice of being themselves but this is not the typical love story when it comes to O. How O changes from one experience to the next, from one master to the next begs the question of why, when she learns the true nature of her servitude. You are actually left feeling smarter as you follow along since the book is translated and you're encouraged to stretch your mind from what is happening to O, how would someone get away with being her, and the fact that people in general have no clue what they want in regards to love and what they are willing to do to keep it. I find the concepts somewhat reminiscent of a softcore porn called "The Passion Network" whoever directed that must have read the Story of O. As for my favorite part personally, it's the fact that O never says no despite her circumstances and I'm sure women aren't reading this saying to themselves "O should be stronger she was as strong as they come, but she didn't and neither did I which is a pity. The language is quite beautiful though somebody is probably saying it sounded better before it was translated. I would have quit reading if the opening ideas hadn't been engaging but for all of this they still left out any real ending. That's the thing with a good book, you shouldn't want it to end or maybe you just want to be satisfied, even O herself was looking for the end since she apparently wasn't being satisfied with her lot in life, I can't blame her. Remember the book does make you feel smarter but eventually you get a headache and when

you finally want to "Marvin Gaye" and get it on your lover is just gone. That's exactly how it felt, you're not saying love me, love me, more like well that happened *zips up pants* moving on and the thing is you don't even get off. The book has a few passages explaining but why bother explaining just give me this rest of the book, it worked for Gary Paulsen; he wrote a full follow up just because he liked one ending better than another, in the Story of O they just gave up. We're all adults here, after everything O went through you're telling me this ending or that ending would be too disturbing, maybe for that day and time but then how has a book like this survived so long and helped usher in several others. Honestly I only read the Story of O because I was inspired by another book that gave mention to it "No Safe Word" Claire Thompson. If it hadn't been the absence of an ending I could have rated Story of O higher and anyone looking for a vocabulary lesson, how to enhance their fashion sense, or is looking for the classiest porn they'll ever hope to read, Story of O will get you there. Still it might be my own fault I just didn't expect it to leave me so abruptly; they tell you at the start there are several endings but I'm still looking for just one. I wanted to love her, I did, I really did, there was such potential, such promise but maybe I'm just like Renée. If I learned anything from this story, it's what is beauty if you have no sense of it, I wanted to see it, hear it, touch it honestly.

I read the book a LONG time ago, in hardcover; have now put it on my Kindle. I am truly amazed at the amount of spelling errors, sentence structure errors and just plain mistakes made.....I'd almost like to have my \$ back, but not worth fighting over.

No matter what the orientation, no matter what the idea of right or wrong, or the feeling for what's fun or distasteful--there's no denying the yin and yang of every relationship. And the psychology of that giving and taking of control and connection and how control can both end and deepen the connection---that's the main idea explored in this classic. Before 50 Shades of Grey, there was the Story of O. Reading this story will tell you much about yourself, watch the story, watch the people, but more importantly...watch yourself as you read...because this book will reveal yourself to yourself. Reportedly written as a love letter to her lover, you can debate about whether this represents a parable, a fantasy, or a way of life. But, no matter what it becomes to you as a book, if you muster the courage to read it, it will become a revealer of who you are. Peace & health, Charles

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