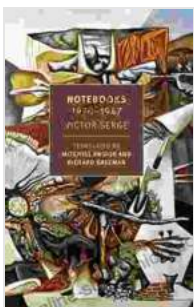


Notebooks 1936–1947: A New York Review Classics Original

by David Shulman

Walter Benjamin's *Arcades Project* is one of the most ambitious and enigmatic works of the twentieth century. Begun in 1927, it was conceived as a vast and sprawling meditation on the history and culture of Paris, particularly its arcades, those covered shopping passages that were a defining feature of the city's nineteenth-century cityscape. Benjamin worked on the project for over a decade, filling thousands of pages with notes, quotations, and fragments of prose. But he never completed it, and the *Arcades Project* remained unfinished at his death in 1940.

In recent years, there has been a renewed interest in Benjamin's work, and the *Arcades Project* has been the subject of much scholarly attention. A new translation of the first half of the project, *Notebooks 1936–1947*, has just been published by New York Review Classics. This volume, translated by David Shulman, offers a groundbreaking look at Benjamin's profound and idiosyncratic reflections on modernity, urban life, and the nature of experience.



Notebooks: 1936-1947 (New York Review Books Classics) by Victor Serge

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1892 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
X-Ray : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 731 pages



The *Notebooks* are a fascinating and challenging work. Benjamin's writing is dense and allusive, and he often jumps from one topic to another with bewildering speed. But there is also a great deal of beauty and insight to be found in these pages. Benjamin's observations on the city are particularly striking, and he has a keen eye for the details of everyday life that most people overlook.

In one passage, Benjamin describes the experience of walking through the arcades of Paris. He notes the way that the light filters through the glass roof, creating a strange and dreamlike atmosphere. He also describes the people who frequent the arcades, from the shoppers to the prostitutes. Benjamin sees the arcades as a microcosm of the modern city, a place where all the contradictions and tensions of urban life are on display.

The *Notebooks* also contain Benjamin's reflections on history, philosophy, and art. He was particularly interested in the way that the past and present are intertwined, and he believed that the present could only be understood in light of the past. Benjamin was also a keen observer of the ways in which technology was transforming the modern world. He saw the potential for both good and evil in technology, and he warned against the dangers of allowing it to dominate our lives.

The *Notebooks 1936–1947* is a major work of twentieth-century thought. It is a challenging and rewarding book that offers a unique perspective on the

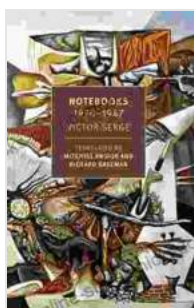
modern world. Benjamin's insights are still relevant today, and his work continues to inspire and provoke new generations of readers.

About the Author

David Shulman is Professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Literature at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is the author of numerous books and articles on Indian literature, religion, and thought. He is also a translator of classical Sanskrit literature, including the *Ramayana* and the *Upanishads*.

Further Reading

- Notebooks 1936–1947 by Walter Benjamin, translated by David Shulman
- The Arcades Project by Walter Benjamin, translated by Howard Eiland and Kevin McLaughlin
- Walter Benjamin on History by Michael Löwy



Notebooks: 1936-1947 (New York Review Books Classics) by Victor Serge

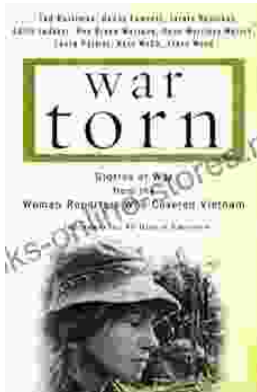
★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1892 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 731 pages

FREE

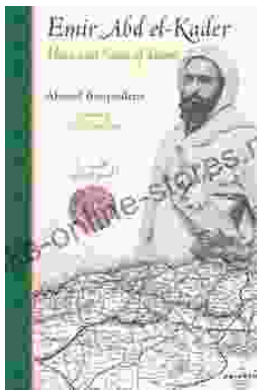
DOWNLOAD E-BOOK





Stories of War from the Women Reporters Who Covered Vietnam

The Vietnam War was one of the most significant events of the 20th century. It was a complex and controversial conflict that had a profound impact on both the United States...



The Hero and Saint of Islam: A Perennial Philosophy

Ali ibn Abi Talib, the fourth caliph of Islam, is a figure of great significance in the Muslim world. He is revered as a hero and a saint, and his...