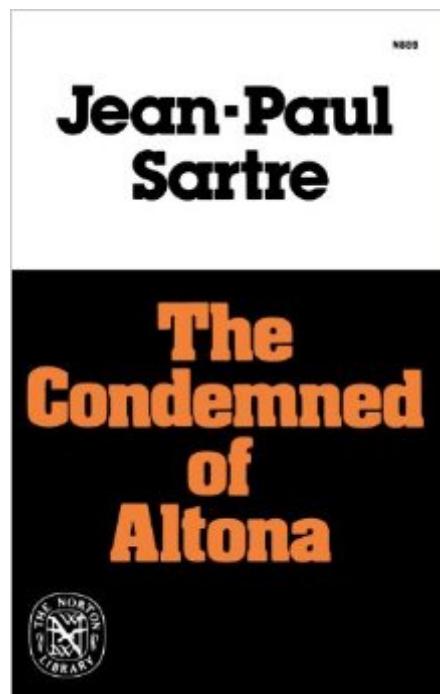


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The Condemned Of Altona: A Play In Five Acts (Norton Library; N889)



Synopsis

â œThe Condemned of Altona is a reminder that moral problems are real, irreducible and vital even when they are insoluble. It is, therefore, an event of first-rate importance. It is the work of one who is both a moral philosopher and a dramatist, of a writer who can present philosophical questions in the flesh and bones of concrete human situations.â • Heinz Lubasz, The New Leader

The Condemned of Altona is an act of judgment on the twentieth century, which might have been an admirable era (the closing lines tell us) if man had not been threatened by â ^the cruel enemy who had sworn to destroy him, that hairless, evil, flesh-eating beastâ •man himself. â ^All the characters in the play are defendants, trapped inside the frame of the proscenium as securely as Eichmann within his glass cage in Jerusalem; their judge is the past, and its verdict is without mercy. Two death penalties are imposed, and one sentence of solitary confinement for life. The stage, as so often in M. Sartreâ ™s hands, becomes a place of moral inquisition, at once a courtroom and a prison.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am amazed that I have never heard of this play by Sartre, as I grew up in France it is just a marvel and typical Sartre-existentialist depicting a group that is struggling to coexist while there is a battle of dominance and control or lack of secrets and manipulations. I strongly recommend this wonderfully presented play by Sartre as it just flows and keep your interest by introducing life unlearnt lessons, the search for identity, right and wrong, the myth of love, the survival instincts, the need of presence of other human around us and egotistical human behaviour...If you want to read

only one book of Sartre I would recommend this one. Chapeau Mr J.P. Sartre.

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