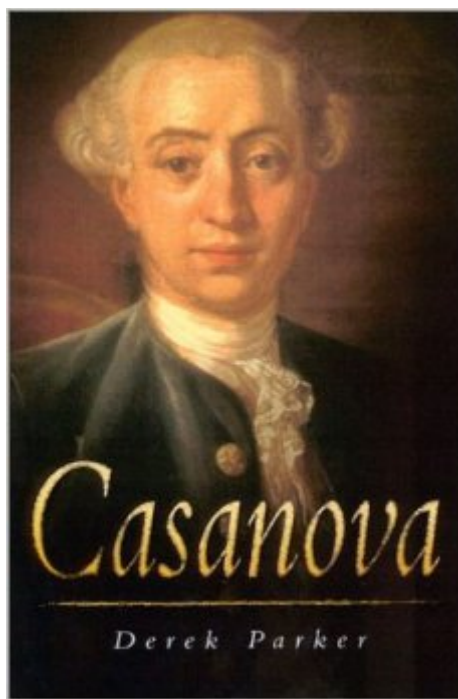


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Casanova



Synopsis

For more than 200 years, Giacomo Casanova has been infamous as the archetypal elegant libertine. He gained considerable fortune by living on just his wits, luck and charm, but this same decadent lifestyle almost left him destitute. Uncontrollably ruled by an insatiable desire for sex, he attracted women with his seductive charm and endless generosity, and was irresistible as a lover. He believed himself to be in love with many of the beautiful women he pursued, and unusually for his time, he often treated them as equals and remained dear friends with them long after the affairs ended. For this account of Casanova's life, Derek Parker has studied Casanova's memoirs along with other sources on his life and 18th-century European society. He reveals the true motivations and complex nature of an extraordinarily adventurous man, a legend in both his own time and ours.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A sympathetic biography of a highly complex and intelligent man, who was arguably the most famous libertine of all time. As well as being known to history as a profligate lover, Casanova was also, among other things, a writer, a playwright, a mathematician, a librarian, a diplomat, a spy, a generous friend. More than just a biography of an adventurous man of varied interests, this book is also a revealing sociological look at 18th century European life, especially in regards to sexual attitudes and practices. The reader will, by turns, be fascinated, amused, shocked, appalled, and saddened while reading this book. I recommend this book for anyone interested in Casanova or 18th century sexual mores.

Fascinating book. So much more to Casanova than his legendary love life. What an incredible, adventurous and daring life. Few people have lived a life so remarkable and eventful...and all on his wits. Read and be astounded.

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