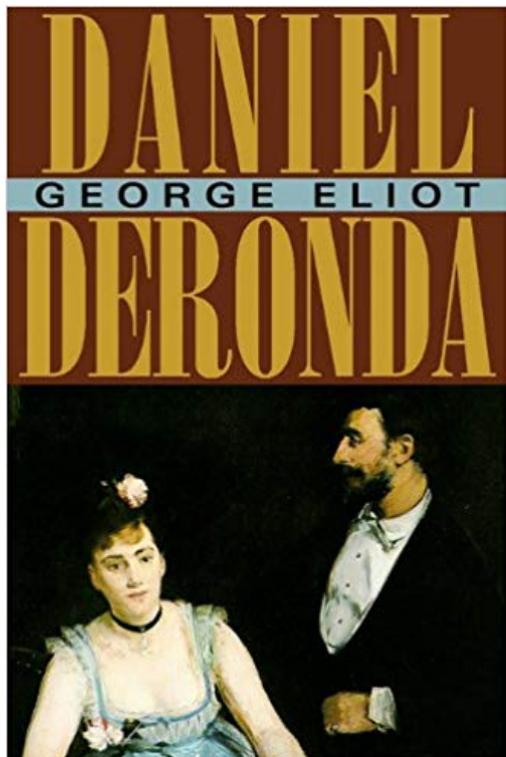


Daniel Deronda Part 2 by George Eliot, Nadia May



ISBN: 0786113286

ISBN13: 978-0786113286

Author: George Eliot, Nadia May

Book title: Daniel Deronda Part 2

Publisher: Blackstone Pub; Unabridged edition
(December 1, 1997)

Language: English

Size PDF version: 1683 kb

Size ePUB version: 1122 kb

Size FB2 version: 1169 kb

Other formats: docx txt lrf lit

0786113286



Reviews of the Daniel Deronda Part 2 by George Eliot, Nadia May

Kifer

"Daniel Deronda" was the last novel George Eliot wrote, and it's an appropriate finale to her career - a lushly-written, heartfelt story about a young man searching for his past (and clues to his future), as well as a vibrant strong-willed young lady who discovers that life doesn't always go your way. Even better, Eliot deftly avoided the cliches and caricatures of the Jewish people, portraying them with love and respect.

Daniel Deronda is the ward (and rumored illegitimate son) of a nobleman, who is unsure of his past (particularly of his mother) catching a glimpse of pretty, reckless, arrogant Gwendolyn Harleth at a casino. Gwendolyn (who boasts that she gets everything she wants) is interested in Daniel, but when her family loses all their money, she marries a rich suitor, a relative of Daniel's -- knowing that his mistress and illegitimate children will be disinherited. But she soon finds that her new husband is a

sadistic brute, and sees Daniel as her only help.

Meanwhile, Daniel rescues the despairing Mirah Lapidoth from a suicide attempt in the river, and he helps the young Jewish singer find a home and friends to care for her. As he helps her find her family, he becomes passionately attached to the Jewish population and their plight, embodied by a dying young visionary and a kindly shopkeeping family. Then he receives an important message -- one that will illuminate his roots, and give him a course for the future.

When Eliot published her final novel, it caused a massive stir -- not many novelists tackled the plight of the Jewish population, or how it compared to the gilded upper classes. In a way, "Daniel Deronda" is both a love triangle and an allegory -- Daniel must choose between the pretty, shallow English life (Gwendolyn) or a rich Jewish heritage (Mirah) with a background of tragedy.

The biggest problem with Eliot's writing is that it becomes a little too lush and dense at times, and the narrative moves a bit slowly (in the Victorian manner). But that flaw doesn't rob her writing of its power or beauty -- she describes every feeling, gesture and emotion in detail, as well as the sumptuous balls, exquisitely gilded mansions, and every shadowy tree or rich expanse of land ("a grassy court enclosed on three sides by a gothic cloister").

Yet the greatest power is in the stories that twine like ivy over the main plot -- a young Jewish girl's search for her family, a sadistic man's search for a wild lovely girl he can break, and especially of the composer Herr Klesmer and his sweet, atypical love story with Miss Arrowpoint. And the last quarter of the book is wrapped in Daniel's search for his own family, culminating in a quietly tense encounter with someone from his long-ago past.

Daniel almost seems like a character too good to be true -- unselfish, kind, universally kindly and very intelligent, though possessed of a vaguely searching quality. Gwendolyn is his complete opposite: she has been raised to be selfish, disdainful and immature, but as the book goes on she learns that selfishness doesn't pay -- marriage to the despicable Grandcourt changes her from a selfish little girl into a scarred but stronger woman.

The third leg of the triangle is Mirah, who is not given the loving attention that Gwendolyn is, but who is still a compelling figure -- her father tried to sell her, and now she wanders through England searching for her family. And the book is littered with many other striking characters: the sadistic Grandcourt and his creepy servant Lush, the crotchety but kindly Klesmer, the spirited artist Hans, the kindly Sir Hugo and the doomed, strong-willed Mordecai.

"Daniel Deronda" is a beautiful portrait of a young man's search for his past, and a young woman's struggle with the fruits of her own selfishness. What's more, George Eliot's last novel is a loving, powerful portrait of the Jewish people, in a time when they were caricatured at best.

Shakataxe

This is a sleeper of a classic in my opinion. Anyone into classics should give it a read. Of course there are references that you either have to overlook or look up, that have to do with things that were popular at the time. It's Eliot's contemporary novel, her others were set in the past. Her breadth of vocabulary alone takes your breath away, as well as her writing ability and style. I learned more new words in Daniel Deronda than I've learned reading any other single book in the last 10 years. This is really a psychological, philosophical and even political novel, with intense and indelible characters whose inner lives are brought to vivid life. Every character is intricately developed, in all their complexity and contradictions. What I particularly love is author's ability to capture the maturation process, the growth of the characters over the course of events and time. She reveals how even one conversation with a person can cause a change in an individual.

Thetalen

Elliot writes a long, slow-moving drama of character study, tragic marriage, Judaism, family misfortunes with themes of women's liberation and subjection, and personal identity.

The novel has two separate stories joined together by Daniel Deronda. Each of them features a compelling woman who is involved with Daniel.

I found this much less compelling than Middlemarch, and horribly slow. Most novels this static I would have put down, but this is Elliot and her characters are very well drawn.

The novel highlights the repression of women in Victorian society - both of Gwendolen, and Daniel's mother who rebelled. And Mirah herself has been used like a puppet by her father.

I'm glad I read it. But it took some time.

MrRipper

Victorian novels are not to everyone's taste with a very leisurely pace, lots of extraneous characters and scenes and endless social interaction, but if you have the patience this is a great book with a couple of great characters, an interesting plot, an author with a great eye for detail, and an eye opening treatment of the place of women and Jews in mid-nineteenth century England. Probably the best defense of Zionism in all of literature and many years before the horrors of Europe's efforts to exterminate the Jews a compelling argument for a Jewish state in the Jews' historical homeland.

JoJosho

Don't buy this horrible book, or maybe I should say "book". It is a cheap, unreadable digitized version of an 1876 edition. At 11 lines of text per inch, the blurry 6 point type is too densely packed to be read comfortably without a magnifying glass. Some of the pages came out printed at a slant. BiblioLife must know what a poor product this is. If you had the book in front of you and could look at the pages you would never buy it. Of course when you see it online it looks like a normal book. In reality it is useless.

Sarin

I love George Eliot's ability to portray the motives of her characters. Readers will love to hate - or at least to soundly disapprove - some of the villains in Daniel Deronda. George Eliot is generally sympathetic to the foibles of human character and often rather humorous in the way she presents them. This novel has some "speechifying" during which some characters become rather didactic. Several characters have quite an active inner life which is revealed in long paragraphs that seem to be a bit more about the overarching milieu than real human thought patterns. It's quite interesting to read about the very early seeds of Zionism from a vantage point over 100 years later with the perspective of the Holocaust and the found of the State of Israel.

Lemana

My mom is loving this book. I had to coach her through the first hundred pages -- I haven't read it, but knew it was up her street -- and then it was like a strong train on the straightest track. Emails every day for a week. 'You must read,' etc. She's on the last scenes now, and raving. And of the opinion (post MMarch and the Floss-based Mill) that Eliot is the greatest of the English novelists.

Related PDF to [Daniel Deronda Part 2](#) by George Eliot, Nadia May

[Daniel Powter by Daniel Powter](#)

[hi, jim. by Ryan Staples](#)

[Daniel Deronda \(Modern Library Classics\) by Edmund White, George Eliot](#)

[The Works Of Daniel Webster - Volume IV by Daniel Webster](#)
[Samuel Daniel: Selected Poetry and a Defense of Rhyme by Geoffrey G. Hiller, Peter L. Groves, Samuel Daniel](#)
[Professional conduct by Daniel A Taylor](#)
[Life and Adventures of Colonel Daniel Boon: The First White Settler of the State of Kentucky \(1823\) by Daniel Boon](#)
[Select Speeches of Daniel Webster, 1817-1845 by Daniel Webster](#)
[Sources of Information in Transportation, Part 8: Highways \(Public Administration Series: Bibliography\) by Daniel C. Krummes, Ann L. Poole, Edie Darknell](#)
[This is Daniel Cook at the Fire Station by Yvette Ghione, Celeste Gagnon](#)