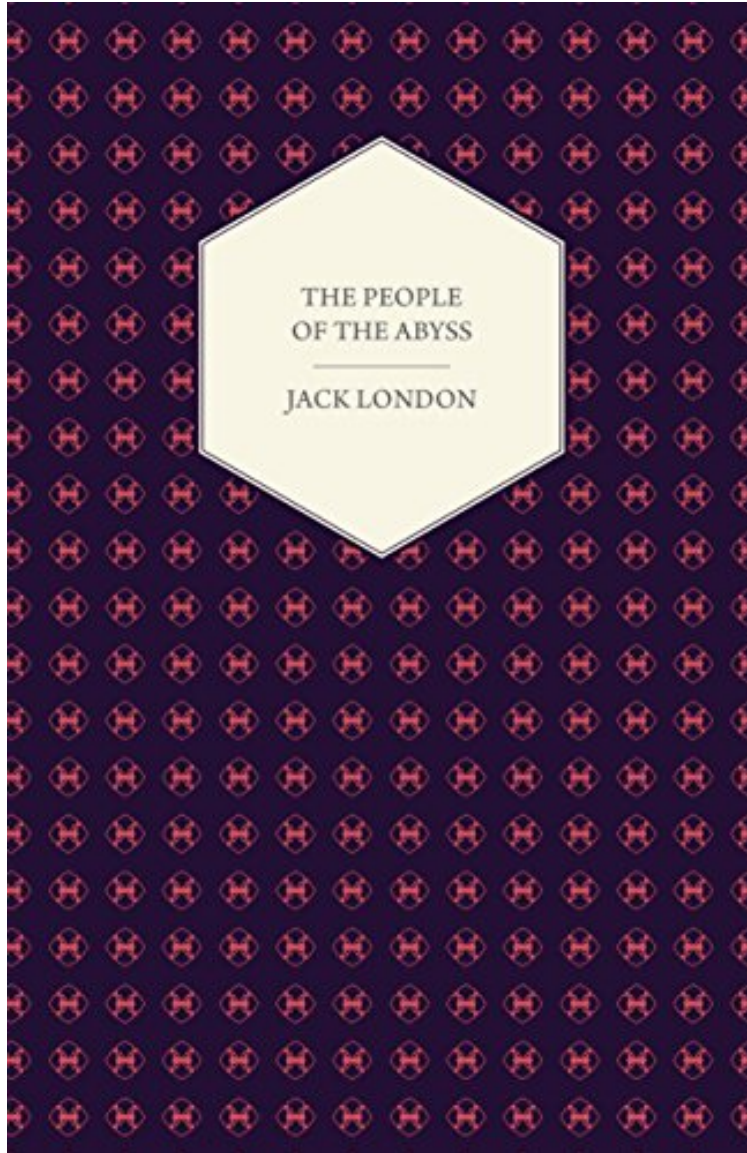


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The People of the Abyss

Von Jack London

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Von Jack London : The People of the Abyss before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The People of the Abyss:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Buchdruck schlecht Von Panarina Das Buch ist natrlich toll. Jack London eben. Aber die Qualitt des Buches ist echt mies. Viele Druckfehler. Zeichensatz, Druck. 5 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. In

Vergessenheit geratenes Meisterwerk Von Polygraph Jack Londons literarisches Erbe beinhaltet in erster Linie das Leben am Klondike, den berlebenskampf am See, und die Sichtweise von Wlfen und Schlittenhunden; gerade wegen dieses engen Themengebiets wird er gerne als zweitklassiger Abenteuererschreiberling belchelt: Nur die wenigsten wissen, dass er ein intelligenter und vielseitiger Mann und vor allem ein begabter Journalist war. Die Tatsache, dass seine brillante Sozialreportage "The People from the Abyss" nicht in deutscher bersetzung vorliegt, ist dafr ein hinreichender Beweis. London verbrachte im Jahr 1902 mehrere Monate als Dockarbeiter in den Slums des Londoner East End: Diesen Stadtteil einen Abgrund" zu nennen, wre untertrieben, "Moloch" trifft es besser. Achtkpfige Familien teilen sich eine winzige Kammer; bereits frhmorgens formt sich die lange Schlange vor dem Obdachlosenasyl, das jeden Abend eine gewisse Anzahl von Betten zur Verfugung stellt; Menschen erzhlen die Geschichte ihres Lebens vor dem Knick: Ein Dockarbeiter der eines schen Tages eine zu schwere Kiste heben wollte - irgendetwas in seinem Krper zerriss, und seitdem wandert er als invalider Obdachloser durch die Straen Londons. Mit scharfer Beobachtungsgabe und einer entwaffnend einfachen Berechnung schafft es Jack London eine radikale Zivilisationskritik zu formulieren. Es flt schwer immer noch an den Nutzen jedweder organisierten Gesellschaft zu glauben, wenn Verarmung und Verelendung scheinbar eine willkommene und vollkommen einkalkulierte Lsung des berbevölkerungsproblems darstellt; und dass, wenn man ersteinmal abgerutscht ist, es kaum mehr einen Weg aus dem Slum gibt: Der Obdachlose will sich ausschlafen, um Kraft fr die Arbeitssuche des nchsten Tages zu sammeln, aber die Polizei vertreibt ihn immer wieder von den Parkbnken, oder ffentlichen Nischen; durch unzureichende Nachtruhe schwinden seine Krfte und er wird fr die einfachsten Arbeiten untauglich - und schon nach einer Woche auf der Strae hat er nie wieder eine Chance auf eine Rckkehr in ein normales Leben; ist nur noch eine unbrauchbare Absonderung der Gesellschaft dem nur noch der Sprung in die Themse bleibt. London moralisiert niemals und bietet auch keine Lsungsvorschge; sein Buch liest sich mindestens genauso packend wie all seine Abenteuergeschichten, und ist auch sprachlich ein Genuss (der Autor hat bei Dialogen den Londoner Cockney-Dialekt phonetisch perfekt imitiert). Gerade weil sich die Situation in den westlichen Stdten inzwischen deutlich verbessert hat, ist dieses Buch fr beide sozialen Extreme interessant: Grounternehmer und Politiker knnen lernen, wie man Sozialpolitik NICHT betreiben sollte, und Hartz-4-Empfner knnen nachlesen wie gut sie es eigentlich haben, sich zumindest monatlich auf eine Geldspritze verlassen zu knnen, die wenigstens die menschlichen Grundbedrfnisse sicher abdeckt. Ein brillanter und bersehener Meilenstein des investigativen Journalismus. 3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. capitalism eating its children Von Glenn Horvath A great book. I recommend it. Jack London goes to London and conduct an 'experiment' by dressing as a commoner, a poor man. He is himself a wealthy American. Written at the turn of the 20th century, the writing is modern and clear. The poor Londoner's he describes are heartbreaking and his contempt for England does seep through. He describes normal people who with a broken leg can no longer work and are literally thrown out on the streets; man, woman or child. For those against welfare please read this.

Kurzbeschreibung This antiquarian book contains an account of Jack London's time spent in the underworld of London in the late nineteenth-century. This thought-provoking and insightful account of life in London's underbelly highlights the chronic starvation and lack of shelter causing so much misery for so many city-dwellers. This text is recommended for those with an interest in nineteenth-century English life, and it is not to be missed by fans and collectors of London's seminal work. John Griffith "Jack" London (1876 - 1916) was an American writer and activist. Many antiquarian books such as this are increasingly scarce and expensive, and it is with this in mind that we are republishing this volume now in an affordable, high-quality, modern edition. It comes complete with a specially commissioned biography of the author. Pressestimmen "It is written with the smoldering anger of turn-of-the-century revolutionary socialism. There are no gray shadings in London's economic world. There is only the evil of capitalism and the saintly suffering of the poor. The rich had had their stories told in mass periodicals, and London felt it was time to let the ignored speak. He thus wrote the biographies of the people who have been exploited by imperialism and capitalism. This is the book that counters the Horatio Alger story. For every Alger, for every Rockefeller, there is a mass of sufferers whose plight enabled the speedy rise to wealth of a few. In its sociological and journalistic documentation of poverty is a call for direct action. Wealth blinds, and London makes us see. With this reprinting of London's incredibly important and readable book, Pluto Press and London remind us of how economic exploitation must always be fought, that we must always be educated in the lives of the unfortunate." --James Williams, editor and publisher of the Jack London Journal, USA "The People of the Abyss" was written at the beginning of the twentieth century and yet it speaks just as vividly of the conditions at end of the century. We are seeing the erosion and deterioration of all that was won through hard-fought labor battles: the end of the 8 hour work day; people working two jobs and still not being able to make ends meet; children left to their own devices as parents are stretched to the breaking point; the rise of infectious diseases, especially tuberculosis, as people are forced to live in more crowded, unsanitary conditions; the lack of healthcare; increasing numbers of people living on the street; and hunger. These were the conditions Jack London saw and described in East London at the turn of the century; but they could as easily

have been New York City or any large American city; and they could be any large American city today." -- .com reader in San Francisco "No other book of mine took so much of my young heart and tears as that study of the economic degradation of the poor." --Jack London Pressestimmen 'No other book of mine took so much of my young heart and tears as that study of the economic degradation of the poor.' Jack London; 'At a time of heightened concern about the poor and homeless on the streets of London, the re-appearance of *The People of the Abyss* is to be welcomed. It is a complex text combining awkwardly a passionate critique of modern civilisation with a rhetoric of racial degeneration, but it is one that resonates disturbingly with much contemporary comment on the problem.' John Marriott, University of East London 'It is written with the smoldering anger of turn-of-the-century revolutionary socialism. There are no gray shadings in London's economic world. There is only the evil of capitalism and the saintly suffering of the poor. The rich had had their stories told in mass periodicals, and London felt it was time to let the ignored speak. He thus wrote the biographies of the people who have been exploited by imperialism and capitalism. This is the book that counters the Horatio Alger story. For every Alger, for every Rockefeller, there is a mass of sufferers whose plight enabled the speedy rise to wealth of a few. In its sociological and journalistic documentation of poverty is a call for direct action. Wealth blinds, and London makes us see. With this reprinting of London's incredibly important and readable book, Pluto Press and London remind us of how economic exploitation must always be fought, that we must always be educated in the lives of the unfortunate.' James Williams, editor and publisher of the Jack London Journal 'During my youth I walked the streets of East London, following in the footsteps of Jack London. He brought back, so movingly to this young reader, the poverty and suffering as well as the laughter and tears manifest in the outcasts and dispossessed of our locale at that time. Together with the revelations of Charles Booth, G.R. Sims et al, that book helped shatter the smug composure of Edwardian England, as well as providing a transatlantic best seller.' Professor William J. Fishman, Queen Mary and Westfield College 'In 1902, Jack London, posing as an out-of-work sailor, went underground into the belly of the beast: the slums of London's East End. With passion and vision, he used his skill as a journalist to expose the horrors of the Abyss to the world. Because of his ability to blend in with working people and put them at their ease, because he donned their clothing, and spent nights on the street--working odd jobs, sleeping in the homeless shelters--he gained an insight into the slum life which remains unique. By interweaving the personal stories of the people he encountered with political analysis, he produced a vibrant work of nonfiction, which remains relevant to this day. Consider the following: about one in five children in the U.S. live in poverty. Poverty is war, and it rages on with no end in sight, and the management is still guilty of mismanaging the wealth. Beyond a shadow of a doubt, the People of the Abyss are among us today.' Tarnel Abbott, Great-granddaughter of Jack London, Contributing Editor, Jack London International (www.jack.london.org)