



Simone Weil

By Palle Yourgrau

Reaktion Books, United Kingdom, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New.. 198 x 130 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Simone Weil, legendary French philosopher, mystic and political activist who died in England in 1943 at the age of thirty-four, belongs to a select group of thinkers: as with St Augustine, Pascal and Nietzsche, so with Weil a single phrase can permanently change one's life. In this book, Palle Yourgrau follows Weil on her life's journey, from her philosophical studies at the Ecole Normale Supérieure, to her years as a Marxist labour organizer, her explosive encounter with Leon Trotsky, her abortive attempt to fight against Franco in the Spanish Civil War, her mystical experience in the town of Assisi. We see how Weil's struggle to make sense of a world consumed by despotism and war culminated in her monumental attempt, following St Augustine, to re-imagine Christianity along Platonistic lines, to find a bridge between human suffering and divine perfection. How seriously, however, should Weil's ideas be taken? They were admired by Albert Camus and T. S. Eliot, yet Susan Sontag wrote famously that I can't imagine more than a handful of the tens of thousands...



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