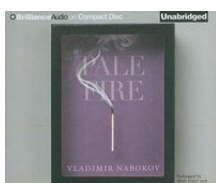


PALE FIRE

In Pale Fire, Nabokov offers a cornucopia of deceptive pleasures: a 999-line poem by the reclusive genius John Shade; an adoring foreword and commentary by Shade's self-styled Boswell, Dr. Charles Kinbote; a darkly comic novel of suspense, literary idolatry, one-upmanship, and political intrigue. "This centaur work, half poem, half prose...is a creation of perfect beauty, symmetry, strangeness, originality and moral truth. Pretending to be a curio, it cannot disguise the fact that it is one of the great works of art of this century." —Mary McCarthy



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The sun is a thief: she lures the sea and robs it. The moon is a thief: he steals his silvery light from the sun. The sea is a thief: it dissolves the moon. Vladimir Nabokov, Pale Fire //

do what only a true artist can do ... pounce upon the forgotten butterfly of revelation Vladimir Nabokov, Pale Fire //

Reader's Opinions

Lovers of stories in poetic form

Well, how lucky to start another year with a rare 5-star rating. I'm dying to write some sort of review for this, but it won't be coming any time soon. The prose (and the poem) was delightful, and it's expanded my notions of what...