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Benito Cereno

By Herman Melville

CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 98 pages. Dimensions: 8.0in. x 5.0in. x 0.2in. Benito Cereno contains some of Herman Melville's most vivid action writing, though the action is all suspense and premonition until the climax. Why this story hasn't been more widely acclaimed remains a mystery, as it captures the imagination of a young reader in a tighter grip than Billy Budd. Joseph Conrad's famous story of the Congo was written decades after Melville's story of a mutiny, and it's extremely unlikely that Conrad was thinking of Benito Cereno when he wrote Heart of Darkness, but the two extended stories have a lot in common: scenes of human depravity, ambiguities about good and evil, nightmarish descriptions, an atmosphere of suspended horror. More historically-informed readers will surely guess the mystery of Captain Cereno's behavior on his ghastly ship long before the good-natured American Captain Delano. Readers of Melville's era, recalling the news of the ship Amistad, would have guessed even quicker and more certainly. In fact, the tension between the readers' aroused suspicions and the benevolent opacity of Captain Delano is at the core of the reading experience. The Good seldom have...



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