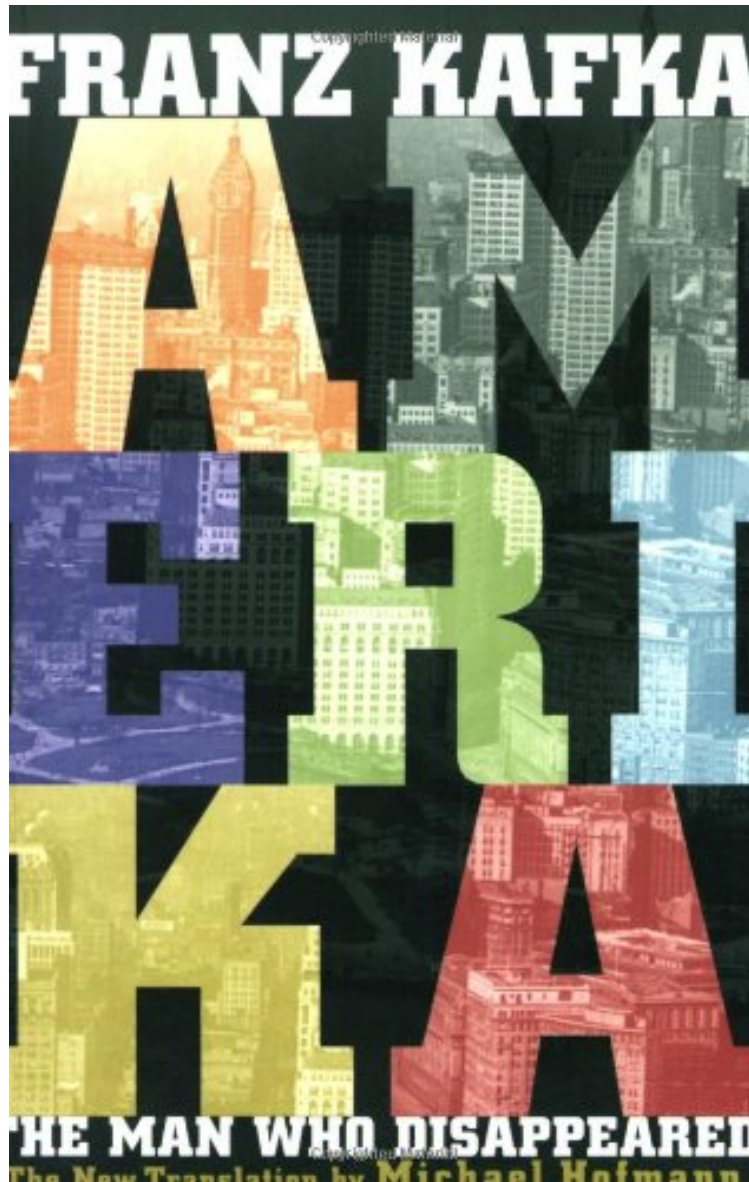


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Amerika: The Man Who Disappeared (New Restored Text Translation)

Franz Kafka

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#1032960 in Books New Directions 2004-05Original language:GermanPDF # 1 8.00 x .70 x 5.20l, .50 #File Name: 0811215695240 pages | File size: 36.Mb

Franz Kafka : Amerika: The Man Who Disappeared (New Restored Text Translation) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Amerika: The Man Who Disappeared (New Restored Text Translation):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Amerika The Man Who DisappearedBy madel mirabalConsidering

that Kafka never visited America, this book provides a very descriptive scenario of what it was like during the twentieth century; from the social classes to the humanistic senses. Kafka was able to capture in his writings, what America felt like taking it in for the first time as an immigrant. The luxuries cities, with its advanced technological capacities such as: sky scrapers, elevators....etc. Never the less some irony's comes into play through the development of Amerika's characters, by finding ways to deceive the "poor and innocent Karl Rossmann" (main character) such mood tends to be the main feeling of the plot throughout the book. Kafka did an excellent job with his main character, by giving us (the audience) feelings of pity, for the misfortunate and misfit teenager Karl Rossmann, who never finds a peaceful nor happy place to be. Amerika's plot, can still be related to the perceptions some immigrants have (including myself) when first arriving to the U.S. The sophistication and technologies observable in the major cities, along with the notion of a new start or better opportunities, is one of the main reasons why people all over the world still immigrate to the U.S. In addition, one can easily associate Karl's naiveté's; with those people who are first confronted with the American culture, best defined as "cultural shock". I enjoyed reading Amerika because it offers a simple, and to the point wording, making it artless to understand, and I even like the notion it gives as incomplete, because it leaves the reader longing for more .Ultimately endings tend to be clashes that ruins the good plot.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. but I would not recommend this book as an introduction to Kafka's worksBy CustomerClearly early Kafka. This unfinished novel is worth reading if you're already a fan of Kafka, but I would not recommend this book as an introduction to Kafka's works.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. amerika lifeBy lingThis is an interesting book. It is about the main character Karl's American life after he was banished by his parent. In the novel, he experienced many different kind the tortuous things. From the beginning he lived in his uncle's house to he became an Elevator Attendant in the hotel, he had known so many different people and know their life. Every day he was living in between of rich people and poor people. The elevator took him to wherever the other people want, but he can't control it. From the novel, it tells that American life is not as great as other countries people think it is. I think it is a common that other countries people think that if they come to American their life will be better. Like my relative, in their mind, it is like the money grows on trees in American. They thought that when I worked for eight dollars per hour it is a lot because they were thinking that eight dollars change to Chinese money is twelve, so of course that a lot. This book is very true reflection to the American people and out coming people. Life is not living in the way that you willing for. The stories in the book maybe ridiculous, but those are true. Life is hard in everywhere, like the student in the novel, he worked so hard for his school works, and he doesn't even have time to sleep. It is just like the Chinese student. I very like this book. I think the people that dreams about to come to American and become riches, they should read it and realized American life just like other countries, and the money is not growing on the trees. However, the book didn't finish, I think it is just the way it supposed to be because the life is still continue, you shouldn't set in a stable model for the end of the life. There are still hopes.

Newly restored to the original text: for this new translation, Hofmann returned to Kafka's manuscripts, restoring matters of substance and detail, and even the book's original ending. Michael Hofmann's startlingly visceral and immediate translation revives Kafka's great comedy, and captures a new Kafka, free from Prague and loose in the new world, a Kafka shot through with light in this highly charged and enormously nuanced translation. Kafka began the first of his three novels in 1911, but like the others, Amerika remained unfinished, and perhaps, as Klaus Mann suggested, "necessarily endless." Karl Rossmann, the youthful hero of the novel, "a poor boy of seventeen," has been banished by his parents to America, following a scandal. There, with unquenchable optimism, he throws himself into adventure after misadventure, and experiences multiply as he makes his way into the heart of the country, to The Great Nature Theater of Oklahoma. In creating this new translation, Hofmann, as he explains in his introduction, returned to the manuscript version of the book, restoring matters of substance and detail. Fragments which have never before been presented in English are now reinstated including the book's original "ending."The San Francisco Chronicle said Hofmann's "sleek translation does a wonderful job" and The New York Times concurred: "Anything by Kafka is worth reading again, especially in the hands of such a gifted translator as Hofmann."

"Anything by Kafka is worth reading again, especially in the hands of such a gifted translator as Hofmann." - The New York Times Book "[Hofmann's] new translation is more successful in conveying ... a sense of Kafka's unfinished work." - Veronika Tuckerova, Harvard Book "One can hardly fail to welcome Michael Hofmann's more accurate English text." - Washington Post Book World"Hofmann's translation is invaluable....It achieves what translations are supposedly unable to do: it is at once 'loyal' and 'beautiful.'" - John Zilcosky, New Republic"Hofmann's slick, sleek translation does a wonderful job of keeping those competing forces in balance." - The San Francisco Chronicle"Unpredictable and funny, as close to a Buster Keaton comedy as you can get." - Jim Krusoe, Los Angeles Times Book "A stirring, singular work, now restored to its original beauty." - John Ashbery"Michael Hofmann's magnificent new translation restores its rightful place as one of Kafka's most delightful and most memorable works." - Charles Simic"Of all the recent re-translations of Kafka into English, this volume is the most noteworthy. It achieves what translations are supposedly unable to do; it is at once 'loyal' and 'beautiful'?beautifully disorienting, beautifully

confusing, beautifully cruel.” - John Zilcosky, *The New Republic*“Hofmann’s ability to overcome the obstacles presented by this particular work from Kafka marks this as the best translation.” - Kirkus sAbout the AuthorFranz Kafka (1883–1924) was one of the most important writers of the twentieth century. His major novels include *The Trial*, *The Castle*, and *Amerika*.For his translations, acclaimed poet Michael Hofmann has won the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize, the Dublin International IMPAC Award, the PEN/Book-of-the-Month Club Prize, the Helen and Kurt Wolff Translator’s Prize, the Oxford-Weidenfeld Translation Prize, and The Schlegel-Tieck Prize (four times). He is the highly acclaimed translator of, among others, Kafka, Brecht, and Joseph Roth.Horace Gregory was born and grew up in Milwaukee. He was a poet, critic, essayist, translator and biographer, who taught at Sarah Lawrence College for 26 years. He was a member of the National Academy-Institute of Arts and Letters and received the Bollingen Prize for poetry in 1965.