

(Library ebook) Penguin Classics Down and Out in Paris and London

Penguin Classics Down and Out in Paris and London

George Orwell

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George Orwell : Penguin Classics Down and Out in Paris and London before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Penguin Classics Down and Out in Paris and London:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is a great work of Orwell By AZForLife This is a great work of Orwell, that was essentially "Lost", until recently. I really enjoyed reading about his experience fighting for the

republic in the Spanish civil war. Orwell was a Socialist who really believed in equality. He lived among the working classes of England, and unlike modern Socialist elites who live like the "one percenters" that they say they loathe, Orwell actually practiced what he preached. "The Road to Wigan Pier" is another great book written in the early 1930's for those Orwell fans who want to know more about his time living with coal miners. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Easy and pleasant to read book about the sociological consequences of poverty. By Patrick Thibaut This is George Orwell's first book and it already shows his writing talent. It's an incredibly lifelike testimony of what it's like to be very poor, and how the poverty in itself keeps you from improving your situation, thus becoming a vicious circle. The protagonist loses his job in the late 1920's, goes hungry, goes to work as a dishwasher in Paris and so on. Orwell writes page upon page about the details of the job of a dishwasher. You'd think it would be boring, but it's not! Really entertaining and easy to read. Later he moves to London for a better job, as the title suggests, but he will be hired later than agreed, pushing him back in poverty and forcing him to sleep in homeless shelters. Between chapters Orwell takes time to do a philosophical analysis of his situation, demonstrating great sociological insight and sharp-witted criticism. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good read By Pupeluv I just grabbed this book used, cheap, because I read that a famous chef liked it. It's an easy, pleasant read about Orwell's time working in the underbelly of the hospitality industry. I enjoyed it way more than I thought I would.

George Orwell's vivid memoir of his time living among the desperately poor and destitute, *Down and Out in Paris and London* is a moving tour of the underworld of society. 'You have talked so often of going to the dogs - and well, here are the dogs, and you have reached them.' Written when Orwell was a struggling writer in his twenties, it documents his 'first contact with poverty'. Here, he painstakingly documents a world of unrelenting drudgery and squalor - sleeping in bug-infested hostels and doss houses of last resort, working as a dishwasher in Paris's vile 'Hôtel X', surviving on scraps and cigarette butts, living alongside tramps, a star-gazing pavement artist and a starving Russian ex-army captain. Exposing a shocking, previously-hidden world to his readers, Orwell gave a human face to the statistics of poverty for the first time - and in doing so, found his voice as a writer.

.com What was a nice Eton boy like Eric Blair doing in scummy slums instead of being upwardly mobile at Oxford or Cambridge? Living *Down and Out in Paris and London*, repudiating respectable imperialist society, and reinventing himself as George Orwell. His 1933 debut book (ostensibly a novel, but overwhelmingly autobiographical) was rejected by that elitist publisher T.S. Eliot, perhaps because its close-up portrait of lowlife was too pungent for comfort. In Paris, Orwell lived in verminous rooms and washed dishes at the overpriced "Hotel X," in a remarkably filthy, 110-degree kitchen. He met "eccentric people--people who have fallen into solitary, half-mad grooves of life and given up trying to be normal or decent." Though Orwell's tone is that of an outraged reformer, it's surprising how entertaining many of his adventures are: gnawing poverty only enlivens the imagination, and the wild characters he met often swindled each other and themselves. The wackiest tale involves a miser who ate cats, wore newspapers for underwear, invested 6,000 francs in cocaine, and hid it in a face-powder tin when the cops raided. They had to free him, because the apparently controlled substance turned out to be face powder instead of cocaine. In London, Orwell studied begging with a crippled expert named Bozo, a great storyteller and philosopher. Orwell devotes a chapter to the fine points of London guttersnipe slang. Years later, he would put his lexical bent to work by inventing Newspeak, and draw on his down-and-out experience to evoke the plight of the Proles in 1984. Though marred by hints of unexamined anti-Semitism, Orwell's debut remains, as *The Nation* put it, "the most lucid portrait of poverty in the English language." --Tim Appelo The white-hot reaction of a sensitive, observant, compassionate young man to poverty -- Dervla Murphy Orwell was the great moral force of his age * *Spectator* *From the Publisher 7 1-hour cassettes