

The Charioteer Mary Renault

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REYES HARRELL

Lexicon Random House

Born Eileen Mary Challans in London in 1905, Mary Renault wrote six successful contemporary novels before turning to the historical fiction about ancient Greece for which she is best known. While Renault's novels are still highly regarded, her life and work have never been completely examined. Caroline Zilboorg seeks to remedy this in *The Masks of Mary Renault* by exploring Renault's identity as a gifted writer and a sexual woman in a society in which neither of these identities was clear or easy. Although Renault's life was anything but ordinary, this fact has often been obscured by her writing. The daughter of a doctor, she grew up comfortably and attended a boarding school in Bristol. She received a degree in English from St. Hugh's College in Oxford in 1928, but she chose not to pursue an academic career. Instead, she decided to attend the Radcliffe Infirmary in Oxford, where she trained to be a nurse. With the outbreak of the Second World War, she was assigned to the Winford Emergency Hospital in Bristol and briefly worked with Dunkirk evacuees. She went on to work in the Radcliffe Infirmary's brain surgery ward and was there until 1945. It was during her nurse's training that Renault met Julie Mullard, who became her lifelong companion. This important lesbian relationship both resolved and posed many problems for Renault, not the least of which was how she was to write about issues at once intensely personal and socially challenging. In 1939, Renault published her first novel under a pseudonym in order to mask her identity. It was a time when she was struggling not only with her vocation (nursing and writing), but also with her sexual identity in the social and moral context of English life during the war. In 1948, Renault left England with Mullard for South Africa and never returned. It was in South Africa that she made the shift from her early contemporary novels of manners to the mature historical novels of Hellenic life. The classical settings allowed Renault to mask material too explosive to deal with directly while simultaneously giving her an "academic" freedom to write about subjects vital to her—among them war, peace, career, women's roles, female and male homosexuality, and bisexuality. Renault's reception complicates an understanding of her achievement, for she has a special status within the academic community, where she is both widely read and little written about. Her interest in sexuality and specifically in homosexuality and bisexuality, in fluid gender roles and identities, warrants a rereading and reevaluation of her work. Eloquently written and extensively researched, *The Masks of Mary Renault* will be of special value to anyone interested in women's studies or English literature.

Strange Meeting Anchor Books

A sensational tale of obsession and murder from a wonderful writer. 'An outstanding novel, fresh and unusual [with] all the dirt, stink, rasp and flavour of the time.' Daily Telegraph
Promise of Love Little, Brown Books for Young Readers
New York Times Bestseller and Man Booker Prize Finalist: A novel of ancient Greece by the author Hilary Mantel calls "a shining light." Alexander the Great stands alone as a leader and strategist, and *Fire from Heaven* is Mary Renault's unsurpassed dramatization of the formative years of his life. His parents fight for their precocious son's love: On one side, his volatile father, Philip, and on the other, his overbearing mother, Olympias. The story tells of the conqueror's two great bonds—to his horse, Oxhead, and to his dearest friend and eventual lover, Hephaestion—and of the army he commands when he is barely an adult. Coming of age during the battles for southern Greece, Alexander the Great appears in all of his colors—as the man who first takes someone's life at age twelve and who swiftly eliminates his rivals as soon as he comes to power—and emerges as a captivating, complex, larger-than-life figure. *Fire from Heaven* is the first volume of the *Novels of Alexander the Great* trilogy, which continues with *The Persian Boy* and *Funeral Games*. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Mary Renault including rare images of the author. "Mary Renault is a shining light to both historical novelists and their readers. She does not pretend the past is like the present, or that the people of ancient Greece were just like us. She shows us their strangeness; discerning, sure-footed, challenging our values, piquing our curiosity, she leads us through an alien landscape that moves and delights us." —Hilary Mantel

Fire from Heaven Vintage

In the story of the great lyric poet Simonides, Mary Renault brings alive a time in Greece when tyrants kept an unsteady rule and

poetry, music, and royal patronage combined to produce a flowering of the arts. Born into a stern farming family on the island of Keos, Simonides escapes his harsh childhood through a lucky apprenticeship with a renowned Ionian singer. As they travel through 5th century B.C. Greece, Simonides learns not only how to play the kithara and compose poetry, but also how to navigate the shifting alliances surrounding his rich patrons. He is witness to the Persian invasion of Ionia, to the decadent reign of the Samian pirate king Polykrates, and to the fall of the Pisistratids in the Athenian court. Along the way, he encounters artists, statesmen, athletes, thinkers, and lovers, including the likes of Pythagoras and Aeschylus. Using the singer's unique perspective, Renault combines her vibrant imagination and her formidable knowledge of history to establish a sweeping, resilient vision of a golden century.

THE LAST OF THE WINE Open Road Media

In her novels *The Last of the Wine*, *The Bull from the Sea* and *The Persian Boy*, Mary Renault wrote so frankly about homosexuality that some readers thought she must be a man. In fact Renault was the pseudonym for Mary Challans, a remarkable and private woman. Born in London, she spent most of her life in South Africa. *The Lord Won't Mind* HarperCollins

"A shockingly good debut novel about what happens when one world brutally ends and a new world begins. self-consciously elbows its way into the company of J.G. Ballard's *Empire of the Sun* and Cormac McCarthy's *The Road* - and like those great books, it will stay with you for long after you have read the final page. A cracking good read that has at its black heart hope, humanity and a dream of escape. Tony Parsons, International Bestselling Author of *Man and Boy* Michael's life is good. He's in love and about to leave home for university. Things couldn't be better. Then a natural disaster hits Britain. With his family and friends dead, and no help forthcoming from the government, Michael sets off, alone, aiming to reach the potential safety of the continent. Along the way, he forges a new family amongst the ruins of England when he is joined by former teacher, David, parish council head, Judith, and Zanna, a student. As the group travels south, what remains of society deteriorates around them, revealing the darkest aspects of human desire. Amongst so much darkness, Michael must fight to uphold his own ideals. A tale of coming of age on a road where rules no longer apply.

The War-Workers New York Review of Books

This is the FoxTales edition of the book previously published by Samhain Publishing. Other than the cover art and description, the book is the same. Hundreds of years ago, on a wild sea coast, two bold-hearted men met in combat and love... This is the story of Caius, a Christian monk struggling to reconcile his sensual nature with his newfound faith, and of Fenrir, a ferocious Viking raider abandoned by his comrades and left for dead. When Caius takes pity on the wounded man, his brethren are horrified: what kind of wolf has Cai brought into the fold? But only when Cai and Fen join forces can the monastery of Fara be saved from the raiders from the east. And Fara holds a secret worth guarding, a legendary amulet with the power to bind even the might of the Vikings. Fen, his heart divided between old loyalties and a new love, must make a decision which could shatter his own heart and Cai's into the bargain. Will there ever be peace and a future for these brothers of the wild North Sea?

Return to night Open Road Media

Nancy Mitford's most controversial novel, unavailable for decades, is a hilarious satirical send-up of the fascist political enthusiasms of her sisters Unity and Diana, and of her notorious brother-in-law, Sir Oswald Mosley. Written in 1934, early in Hitler's rise, *Wigs on the Green* lightheartedly skewers the devoted followers of British fascism. The sheltered and unworldly Eugenia Malmain is one of the richest girls in England and an ardent supporter of General Jack and his Union Jackshirts. World-weary Noel Foster and his scheming friend Jasper Aspect are in search of wealthy heiresses to marry; Lady Marjorie, disguised as a commoner, is on the run from the Duke she has just jilted at the altar; and her friend Poppy is considering whether to divorce her rich husband. When these characters converge with the colorful locals at a grandly misconceived costume pageant that turns into a brawl between Pacifists and Jackshirts, madcap farce ensues. Long suppressed by the author out of sensitivity to family feelings, *Wigs on the Green* can now be enjoyed by fans of Mitford's superbly comic novels.

The Novels of Alexander the Great Virago

Alexias, taught by Socrates, tells about his life as a wealthy Athenian.

The Launching of Roger Brook e-arnow

A WWII soldier embarks on affairs with two very different men in a

landmark novel that "transcends categorizations" (The Telegraph). After being wounded at Dunkirk in World War II, Laurie Odell is sent back home to a rural British hospital. Standing out among the orderlies is Andrew, a bright conscientious objector raised as a Quaker. The unspoken romance between the two men is tested when Ralph, a friend of Laurie's from school, re-enters his life, introducing him into a milieu of jaded, experienced gay men. Will Laurie reconcile himself to Ralph's embrace, or can he offer Andrew the idealized, Platonic intimacy he yearns for? This novel has been called one of the foundation stones of gay literary fiction, ranking alongside James Baldwin's *Giovanni's Room* and Gore Vidal's *The City and the Pillar*. Celebrated for its literary brilliance and sincere depiction of complex human emotions, *The Charioteer* is a stirring and beautifully rendered portrayal of love. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Mary Renault including rare images of the author.

The Charioteer Vintage

A powerful story of sexual awakening during the Second World War, *My Queer War*, from the noted memoirist and critic James Lord tells the story of a young man's exposure to the terrors, dislocations, and horrors of armed conflict. In 1942, a timid, inexperienced twenty-one-year-old Lord reports to Atlantic City, New Jersey, to enlist in the U.S. Army. His career in the armed forces takes him to Nevada, California, Boston, England, and, eventually, France and Germany, where he witnesses firsthand the ravages of total war on Europe's land and on its people. Along the way he comes to terms with his own sexuality, experiences the thrill of first love and the chill of disillusionment with his fellow man, and in a moment of great rashness makes the acquaintance of the world's most renowned artist, who will show him the way to a new life. *My Queer War* is a rich and moving record of one man's maturation in the crucible of the greatest war the world has known. If his war is queer, it is because each man's experience is strange in its own way. His is a story of universal significance and appeal, told by a wry and eloquent observer of the world and of himself.

Wingmen Hachette UK

A New York Times–bestselling novel of the ancient king of Macedon and his lover by the author Hilary Mantel calls "a shining light." *The Persian Boy* centers on the most tempestuous years of Alexander the Great's life, as seen through the eyes of his lover and most faithful attendant, Bagoas. When Bagoas is very young, his father is murdered and he is sold as a slave to King Darius of Persia. Then, when Alexander conquers the land, he is given Bagoas as a gift, and the boy is besotted. This passion comes at a time when much is at stake—Alexander has two wives, conflicts are ablaze, and plots on the Macedon king's life abound. The result is a riveting account of a great conqueror's years of triumph and, ultimately, heartbreak. *The Persian Boy* is the second volume of the *Novels of Alexander the Great* trilogy, which also includes *Fire from Heaven* and *Funeral Games*. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Mary Renault including rare images of the author. "Mary Renault is a shining light to both historical novelists and their readers. She does not pretend the past is like the present, or that the people of ancient Greece were just like us. She shows us their strangeness; discerning, sure-footed, challenging our values, piquing our curiosity, she leads us through an alien landscape that moves and delights us." —Hilary Mantel

The Charioteer HarperCollins UK

Bertram Pollard is a former soldier who comes back home after the Great War. His home, as his country, is deeply divided by war and politics. One of his sisters is married to a German, the other fancies left-wing Irish republican wanted by the police, and his brother is a member of Black and Tans, Royal Irish Reserve. His wife on the other hand is an upper-class lady who cares very little for left wing elements of the society. Bertram is, however, painfully aware of the issues on the both sides and that causes tension and distance between him and his loved ones.

Wigs on the Green Foxtales Publications

"Although it is set in the present day, this novel borrows its passion from Plato's *Phaedrus*. The charioteer is the self, the winged horses which draw him are the flesh and spirit, or perhaps more accurately, desire and hope. The conflict implied by Plato's myth is the theme of this remarkable novel of homosexual love"—Page 4 of cover.

Funeral Games Open Road Media

Mystery, Murder and Magic... When his nemesis from schoolboy days hires metaphysician Ned Mathey to investigate his father's murder, Ned turns to his friend and sometime lover, detective Julian Lynes, for help. Together, they must navigate a magical maze of deceit, danger, the pain of their past and, perhaps, a

chance at a future together, in an Edwardian London as full of peril as it is with magic. Can they solve the mystery at the heart of the murders that follow on the heels of the first to forge a new kind of partnership or will the pain of the past and society's disapproval send them off on separate paths? Winner of a Lambda Literary Award for LGBTQ SF/F/Horror.

My Queer War Macmillan

Twelve short stories about Jewish life in Poland.

Dark Reflections Open Road Media

An "intriguing and invaluable" biography of Alexander the Great by the novelist whose fiction redefined Ancient Greece (The New York Times). Acclaimed writer Mary Renault is widely known for her provocative historical novels of Alexander the Great and his lovers. But she also authored this nonfiction classic, a fresh, illuminating look at a man whose legend has remained larger than life for more than two thousand years. From his dysfunctional family dynamics to his molding under Aristotle, from his shocking rise to power at age twenty to the staggering violence of his military campaigns, Renault is clear-eyed about Alexander's accomplishments and his flaws. Infectious in its enthusiasm, this

is a penetrating study of an unrivaled conqueror, enduring icon, and fascinating man. Hailed as both "a splendid achievement in nonfiction" (The Plain Dealer) and "the perfect companion to her Alexander novels" (The Wall Street Journal), Renault's engrossing and accessible biography stands alone in the pantheon of Alexander the Great literature. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Mary Renault including rare images of the author.

The Lion in the Gateway DigiCat

Features the original jacket art by John Minton.

The Masks of Mary Renault Macmillan + ORM

'The Alexander Trilogy contains some of Renault's finest writing. Lyrical, wise, compelling: the novels are a wonderful imaginative feat' SARAH WATERS In the final novel of her stunning trilogy, Mary Renault vividly imagines the life of Alexander the Great, the charismatic leader whose drive and ambition created a legend. Alexander the Great died at the age of thirty-three, leaving behind an empire that stretched from Greece and Egypt to India. After Alexander's death in 323 B.C. his only direct heirs were two unborn sons and a simpleton half-brother. Every long-simmering faction exploded into the vacuum of power. Wives, distant

relatives and generals all vied for the loyalty of the increasingly undisciplined Macedonian army. Most failed and were killed in the attempt. For no one possessed the leadership to keep the great empire from crumbling. But Alexander's legend endured to spread into worlds he had seen only in dreams. 'Mary Renault is a shining light to both historical novelists and their readers. She does not pretend the past is like the present, or that the people of ancient Greece were just like us. She shows us their strangeness; discerning, sure-footed, challenging our values, piquing our curiosity, she leads us through an alien landscape that moves and delights us' - HILARY MANTEL 'The Alexander Trilogy stands as one of the most important works of fiction in the 20th century . . . it represents the pinnacle of [Renault's] career . . . Renault's skill is in immersing us in their world, drawing us into its strangeness, its violence and beauty. It's a literary conjuring trick like all historical fiction - it can only ever be an approximation of the truth. But in Renault's hands, the trick is so convincing and passionately conjured' Antonia Senior, The Times
The Nature of Alexander Courier Dover Publications
Jim has never outgrown his crush on his childhood friend.