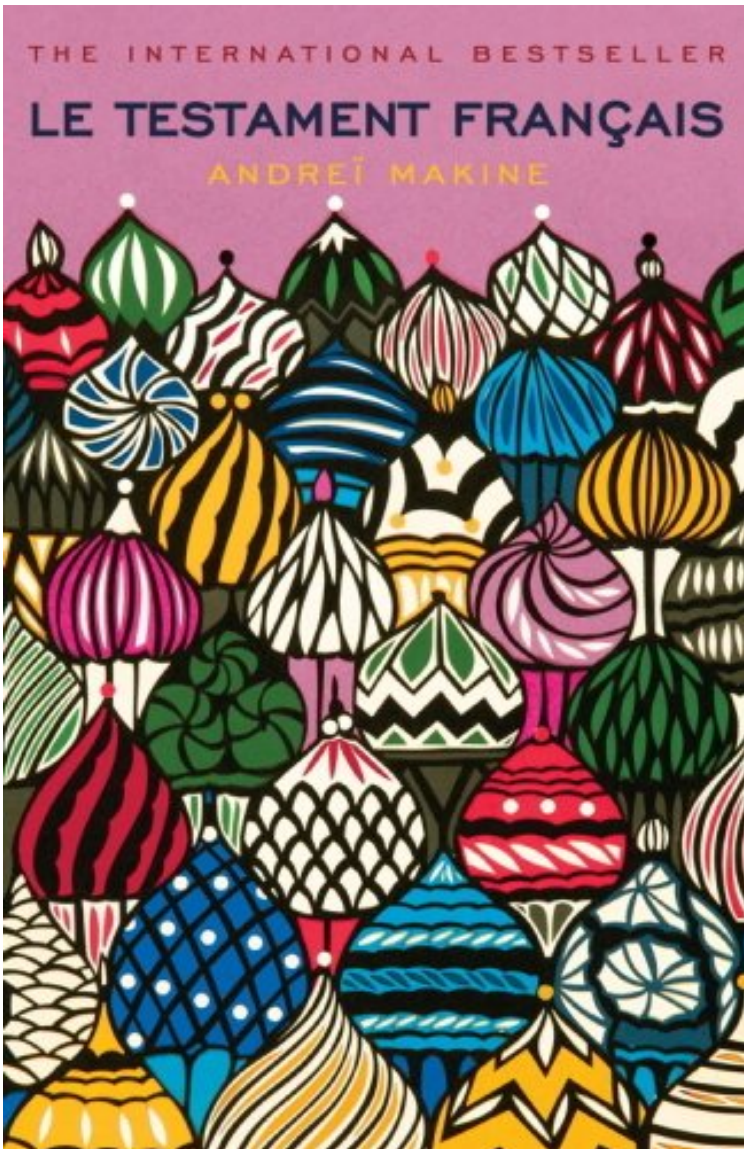


[Free and download] File size: 79.Mb

# Le Testament Francais (Sceptre 21's) (English Edition)



*Par Andre Makine, Andrei Makine  
ePub | \*DOC | audiobook | ebooks |  
Download PDF*

Dtails sur le produit Rang parmi les ventes : #182762 dans eBooksPubli le: 2009-12-07Sorti le: 2009-12-07Format: Ebook Kindle

[Free and download] Le Testament Francais (Sceptre 21's) (English Edition)

**Par Andre Makine, Andrei Makine : Le Testament Francais (Sceptre 21's) (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Le Testament Francais (Sceptre 21's) (English Edition):

Download

Read Online

## Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurLocked behind the Iron Curtain, a young boy grows up bewitched by his French grandmothers memories of Paris before the Great War. On her balcony overlooking the Siberian steppes, Charlotte Lemonnier fires her grandsons imagination with tales of the great flood in 1910, of Proust playing tennis in Neuilly and the President dying in the arms of his mistress, of avenues lined with chestnut trees and elegant cafes.Charlottes vision of a paradise lost, though, is overlaid by her subsequent experience. As her grandson grows older, he learns how this remarkable woman survived the Russian revolutions aftermath,

Stalins purges and the horrors of the Second World War, gaining from her a portrait of the country drawn with an outsiders eye. Yet for all the monstrosities of his native land, he realises he is proud to be Russian. Torn between two cultures, as an adolescent he turns his back on all things French. Then in his twenties he abandons the Soviet Union and eventually reaches Paris where a startling revelation awaits him. This luminous, haunting novel traces a sentimental and intellectual journey that embraces the dramatic history of this century..com Each summer, Andrei Makine's narrator and his sister leave the Soviet Union for the mythical land of France-Atlantis. That this country is a beautiful confabulation, a consolation existing only in his maternal grandmother's mind, makes it no less real. Though Charlotte Lemonnier lives in a town on the edge of the steppe, each night she journeys to a long-ago Paris, telling tales that the children then translate with their more Russian minds: "The president of the Republic was bound to have something Stalinesque about him in the portrait sketched by our imagination. Neuilly was peopled with kolkhozniks. And the slow emergence of Paris from the waters evoked a very Russian emotion--that of fleeting relief after one more historic cataclysm ..." Makine's first novel is a singing tribute to the alchemy of inspiration, but it is no less familiar with the sorrows of reality. And it is only as he gets older that the narrator begins to piece together his grandmother's far more tragic past--her experiences in the Great War, the October Revolution, and after. *Dreams of My Russian Summers* is a love letter to an extraordinary woman (it's hard not to see the book as autobiographical) as well as to language and literature, which the boy turns to in avoidance of history's manipulations. It has all the marks of an instant classic. From *Library Journal* The first of Makine's four novels to appear in English, this autobiographical novel won the 1995 Prix Medicis for Best Foreign Fiction as well as France's prestigious Prix Goncourt, never before awarded to a non-Frenchman. Its coming-of-age story describes young Andrei's summers with his French grandmother Charlotte in the remote Russian village of Saranza. She came to Russia as a Red Cross nurse during World War I and fell in love with a Russian lawyer who went off to the front and later died a premature death from his war wounds. Charlotte and Andrei spend many summer evenings sharing her memories of turn-of-the-century Paris. As the adolescent Andrei struggles with his identity?is he Russian or French?he discovers that it was possible for Charlotte to live in such a foreign land and retain her "Frenchness" because of her love for her husband. Andrei finally reconciles these contrasting facets of his identity and eventually emigrates to France. Makine has fashioned a deeply felt, lyrically told tale. For all general library collections. ?Lisa Rohrbaugh, East Palestine Memorial P.L., Ohio Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.