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The Witch of Portobello



Par Paulo Coelho
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Par Paulo Coelho : The Witch of Portobello before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Witch of Portobello:

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Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurFrom one of the world's best loved storytellers, Paulo Coelho, comes a riveting novel tracing the mysterious life and disappearance of Athena dubbed the Witch of Portobello.This is the story of Athena, or Sherine, to give her the name she was baptised with. Her life is pieced together through a series of recorded interviews with those people who knew her well or hardly at all parents, colleagues, teachers, friends, acquaintances, her ex-husband.The novel unravels Athena's mysterious beginnings, via an orphanage in Romania, to a childhood in Beirut. When war breaks out, her adoptive family move with her to London, where a dramatic turn of events occursAthena, who has been dubbed 'the Witch of Portobello' for her seeming powers of prophecy, disappears dramatically, leaving those who knew her to solve the mystery of her life and abrupt departure.Like The Alchemist, The Witch of Portobello is the kind of story that will

transform the way readers think about love, passion, joy and sacrifice. From Publishers Weekly Multimillion-seller Coelho (The Devil and Miss Prym, etc.) returns with another uncanny fusion of philosophy, religious miracle and moral parable. The Portobello of the title is London's Portobello Road, where Sherine Khalil, aka Athena, finds the worship meeting she's leading?where she becomes an omniscient goddess named Hagia Sophia?disrupted by a Protestant protest. Framed as a set of interviews conducted with those who knew Athena, who is dead as the book opens, the story recounts her birth in Transylvania to a Gypsy mother, her adoption by wealthy Lebanese Christians; her short, early marriage to a man she meets at a London college (one of the interviewees); her son Viorel's birth; and her stint selling real estate in Dubai. Back in London in the book's second half, Athena learns to harness the powers that have been present but inchoate within her, and the story picks up as she acquires a teacher (Deidre O'Neill, aka Edda, another interviewee), then disciples (also interviewed), and speeds toward a spectacular end. Coelho veers between his signature criticism of modern life and the hydra-headed alternative that Athena taps into. Athena's earliest years don't end up having much plot, but the second half's intrigue sustains the book. (May) Copyright c Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Revue de presse Another uncanny fusion of philosophy, religious miracle and moral parable. (Publishers Weekly) Spiritualists and wanderlusts will eagerly devour The Alchemist author's fiery diatribes about love, fear and the search for all things meaningful. (Washington Post)