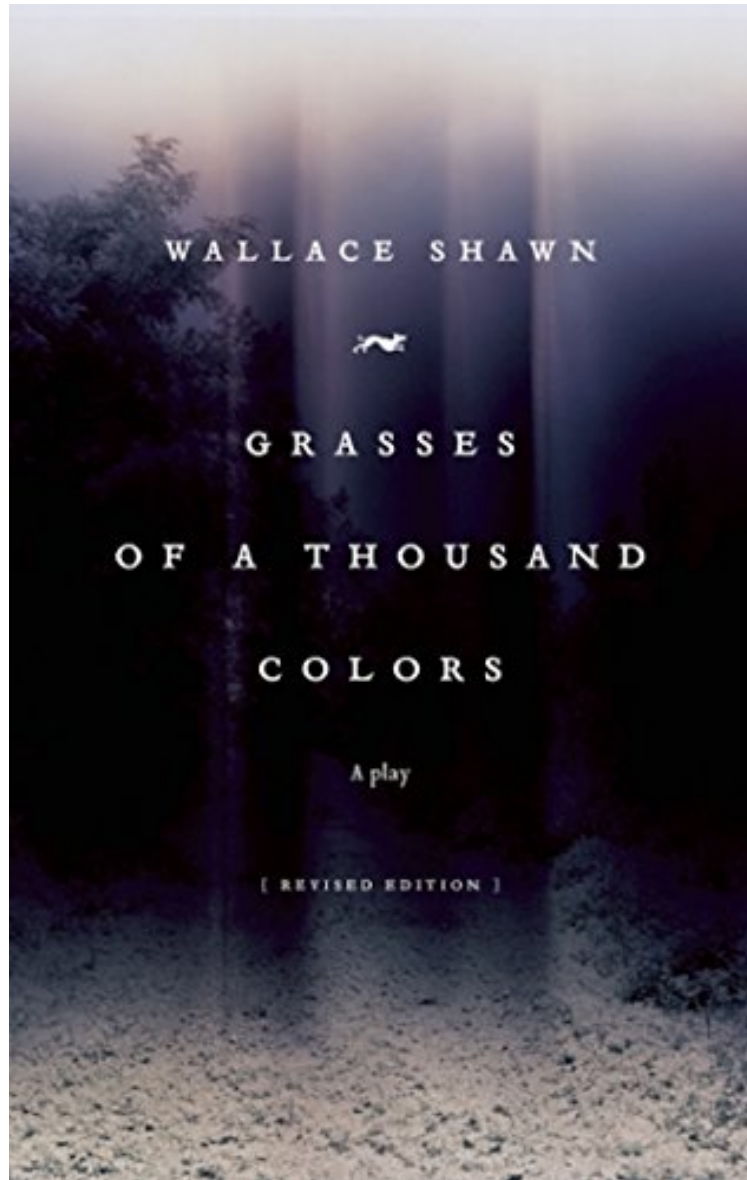


(Download ebook) Grasses of a Thousand Colors

Grasses of a Thousand Colors

Wallace Shawn

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Wallace Shawn : Grasses of a Thousand Colors before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Grasses of a Thousand Colors:

0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. mehBy Christie BeckhamThis was probably a really great show to see in person, but it's really hard to get into it on paper. I'd pass.9 of 16 people found the following review helpful. A wee too self-indulgentBy CustomerSo: prominent scientist and global entrepreneur begins talking through his memoir,

explaining how he "solved the problem of food." Reminiscences get derailed, though, and soon he's discussing his relationship to his penis and the torrid affair he had with a pet cat. Cannibalism, animal-murder, and weird sex abound, though only described, not shown. Basically Shawn sat down and started writing a play straight out of his subconscious. And while there are some very funny bits, and the whole thing leaves you with a kind of amazement at where he's willing to go, on the page at least it doesn't add up to a satisfying whole. It feels instead like a throwaway, kind of a throat-clearing, maybe, for something more substantial to come. But on the other hand, it's a throat-clearing that was 10 years in the making, so maybe, hmmm... maybe he just choked? 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. AN ODD AND QUIRKY RIDE By David Keymer I have only read two of Wallace Shawn's previous playwriting efforts, *Aunt Dan and Lemon* (1985) and the amazing script if it was written rather than wholly improvised on the spot of the movie, *My Dinner with Andre* (1981). Neither prepared me for this startling work. It has not so much a sequential plot (although there sequence of events of sorts occurs across it) as a phantasmagoria, a surreal fantasy, a stream of sometimes scary, sometimes revolting happenings, as in a nightmare dream. Sex is a preoccupation in it more often deviant than straight, and unceasing at times in place of intermittent. Brutality intervenes too, as do the normal/abnormal relations of marriage and lover-and-mistress relationship, and there is a weird, not quite clear love and sex relationship that involves a cat. Behind it all lurks Shawn's idiosyncratic but powerful sense of humor, a one-off kidding approach not to be found elsewhere on today's stage. Two names came to my mind in reading it: the absurdist playwright Alfred Jarry and the surrealist painter Max Ernst. In its way, this play drops a bomb on the theater much like Jarry's *Ubu Roi* did when it first was performed 119 years ago to a startled and uncomprehending audience in Paris and the mood of the play is like what a surrealist painting might look like if Ernst had taken a walk with Kraft-Ebbing before sitting down to paint. Does it tell a story? Yes, but not one you can recapitulate easily.

"Brilliantly upsetting and endearing . . . riveting." *Newsday* This poetic epic about a scientist, his wife, and his two mistresses as they fend for their lives in a world savagely close to extinction raises issues of redemption, forgiveness, and responsibility. *Grasses of a Thousand Colors* is a troubling, erotic adventure that received high critical praise for its first New York City revival in 2013, starring Wallace Shawn. Wallace Shawn is a noted actor and writer. His often politically charged and controversial plays include *The Fever*, *Aunt Dan and Lemon*, *Marie and Bruce*, and *The Designated Mourner*. With Andre Gregory, he co-wrote *My Dinner with Andre*, in which he also starred.