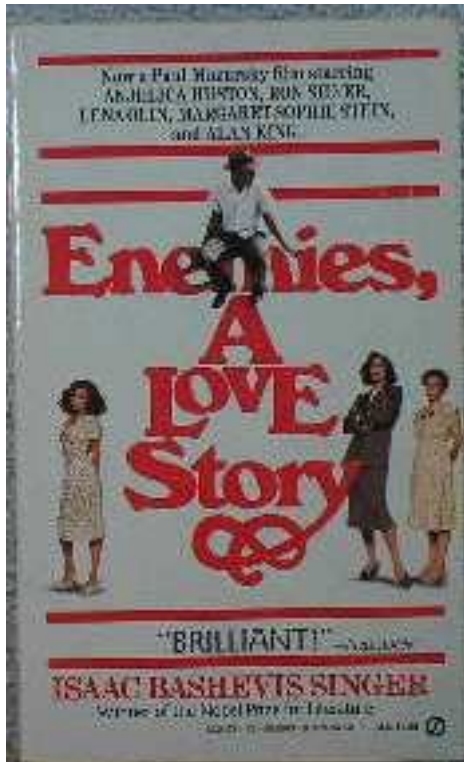

Isaac Bashevis Singer

Enemies: A Love Story



Title: Enemies: A Love Story

Author: Isaac Bashevis Singer

Format: Paperback

Language: English

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Description

Almost before he knows it, Herman Broder, refugee and survivor of World War II, has three wives; Yadwiga, the Polish peasant who hid him from the Nazis; Masha, his beautiful and neurotic true love; and Tamara, his first wife, miraculously returned from the dead. Astonished by each new complication, and yet resigned to a life of evasion, Herman navigates a crowded, Yiddish New York with a sense of perpetually impending doom.

Insightful reviews

Laura: This is a story about Herman Broder and the 3 women in his life.

Herman was hidden by a Polish peasant during the Holocaust and he later marries her. He has an affair with a Jewish refugee. Meanwhile his first wife, believed to be dead, is found alive.

I found this to be a very engrossing tale of people who are all flawed in some way and haunted by their holocaust experience.

This book was made into a movie.

Agnes Mack: The story was that of a man who'd survived the holocaust in Poland. Believing that his wife had been killed, he eventually emigrated to New York and married a Polish woman, who'd been his mother's servant and was eventually responsible for hiding him during the Nazi occupation.

The story begins several years after he'd moved to New York and in those ensuing years, he'd taken a mistress. His life is complicated, as he's in love with his mistress but feels beholden to his wife. To add further confusion for him, his first wife turns up alive and living in Brooklyn. Only when he is reunited with her does he realize that the idealized version of her he remembered was very much fiction. In fact, he openly despised her and left her and his two children well before the holocaust would have separated them.

The writing is tight, and funny. There are a ton of secondary characters that add humor and complications to the tale. I felt both pity and disgust with the main character, and these feelings only increased as he refused to make a choice between the women, even as they gradually learned more about his situation.

In summation : I found this book to be complex, at both times funny and incredibly moving. I would recommend it to anyone who likes challenging writing coupled with a complex storyline.

rmn: Singer should be read by more people than he seems to be. He writes about post-holocaust families in the US in the 1940s trying to assimilate to a new country while dealing with the past.

A few bizarre twists to this novel, and not the most cheery, but Singer is a fantastic writer.

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Eva Leger: i'd have never, ever, ever picked this ebook up had I now not needed to discover a e-book through an writer who received an immense literary prize within the 12 months i used to be born. I checked out the record and wasn't very enthused. I checked out a few titles through a number of the authors and was once even much less enthused. How i made a decision on Singer i do not remember, specially for the reason that this can be purported to be a 'love story' and people are excessive on my checklist of 'don't reads' yet someway I did. And boy, am I chuffed approximately it! :) Singer's writing is fantastic! An extra bonus for me, simply because I learn loads of non-fiction in regards to the Holocaust, is that the characters lives in Enemies revolve round the Holocaust. Most, if now not all, are survivors in a single manner or another. I in general do not learn non-fiction approximately that point and if I had identified that performed an element during this it rather well can have stopped me from interpreting it. In a manner i believe like "making up" issues that occurred them cheapens the stories of the victims, if that makes any sense. (I comprehend it has been performed and performed good yet i have not stumble upon whatever to alter my brain in this yet.) Enemies follows poor, bad Herman who concealed in a hayloft for years to flee the ghetto and camps. His servant concealed him, saved him alive, got here to the US after the warfare and swiftly married him. Herman has a mistress, a truly complex mistress to place it lightly. His existence is stuffed with issues with either girls and together with his personal techniques and activities whilst all of the sudden his "dead" spouse exhibits up in America. Now Herman is stuck in a tougher spot, with now not one, no longer two, yet 3 women. all the major characters have been "perfect" within the manner that i would not have sought after any of them to be any different. i'd inform somebody who could cease themselves from examining this to head forward and check out it. do not concentrate on the 'love story' within the title- it isn't what you think that at all. do not be aware of the cover- my reproduction if from years and years in the past and appears like anything you would pull out of a persons' attic- yet do not permit any of that cease you!

Jamie: this is often an strange story. i discovered it attention-grabbing extra for its mental exploration of its characters than for the tale itself. The characters are all survivors of the Holocaust who've moved to America, yet all of them have concerns to paintings via when it comes to their experiences, and such a lot refuse to. this isn't a narrative approximately polygamy lots as a narrative a few guy who finally ends up with 3 other halves simply because he hasn't been capable of care for his past.

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