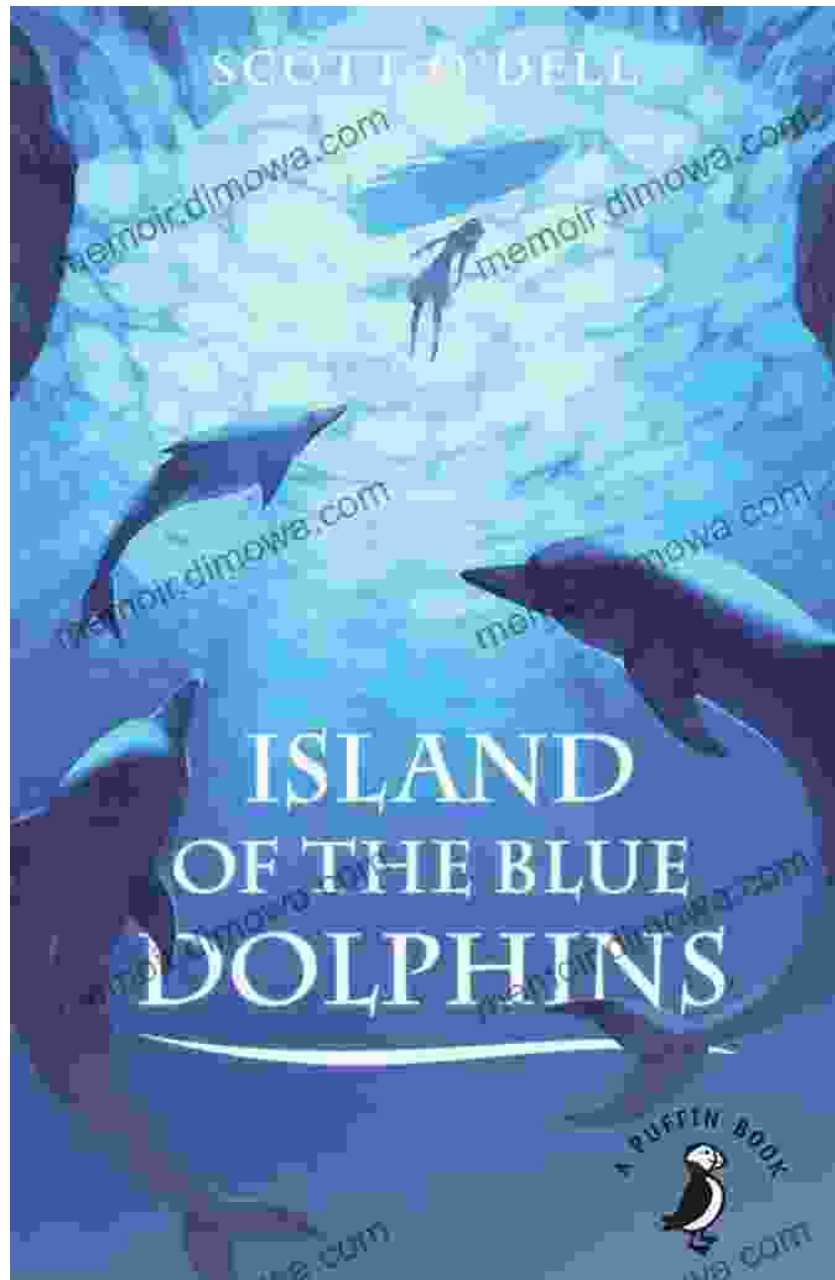
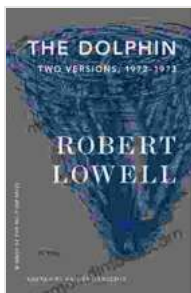


Unveiling the Enigma: Explore the Two Captivating Versions of "The Dolphin"



Robert Merle's "The Dolphin" is a masterpiece that has captivated readers for decades. Originally published in French in 1969, it tells the unforgettable story of the Jewish resistance movement in Nazi-occupied France. The

novel was an instant success, winning the prestigious Prix Goncourt in France and becoming a bestseller around the world.



The Dolphin: Two Versions, 1972-1973 by Robert Lowell

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 86283 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 209 pages



In 1972, the first English translation of "The Dolphin" was published by Simon & Schuster. However, a revised version was released the following year, in 1973, by Pocket Books. These two versions differ in several significant ways, creating a fascinating puzzle for readers and scholars alike.

Exploring the 1972 Version

The 1972 version of "The Dolphin" is the first English translation of the novel, and it remains the most widely available edition today. It is faithful to the original French text and captures Merle's powerful storytelling and vivid characters.

Key Features:

- Closer to the original French text
- Preserves the novel's historical accuracy

- Captures the raw emotions of the Jewish resistance

One of the strengths of the 1972 version is its historical accuracy. Merle meticulously researched the Jewish resistance movement in France, and the novel reflects the complex reality of the time. The characters are based on real individuals, and the events portrayed are based on actual incidents.

Unveiling the 1973 Version

The 1973 version of "The Dolphin" is a revised edition that was published by Pocket Books shortly after the first English translation. It contains several significant changes from the original, including a different ending.

Key Features:

- Revised and expanded text
- Alternate ending
- Focus on the psychological impact of the Holocaust

The most striking difference between the two versions of "The Dolphin" is the ending. In the 1972 version, the main character, Johnny Wu, is captured by the Nazis and executed. In the 1973 version, however, Wu escapes and survives the war.

The revised ending in the 1973 version reflects Merle's changing views on the Holocaust and its aftermath. In the 1970s, Merle became increasingly critical of the traditional narrative of the Holocaust, which focused on the suffering of the victims. He believed that it was equally important to explore the psychological impact of the Holocaust on the perpetrators and bystanders.

Comparative Analysis

The two versions of "The Dolphin" offer different perspectives on the Holocaust and its aftermath. The 1972 version is a more traditional narrative, focusing on the resistance and persecution of the Jewish people. The 1973 version, on the other hand, explores the moral and psychological complexities of the Holocaust from a broader perspective.

Similarities:

- Based on the same historical events
- Compelling characters and vivid storytelling
- Exploration of the themes of resistance, persecution, and morality

Differences:

- Ending
- Emphasis on different aspects of the Holocaust
- Revised and expanded text in the 1973 version

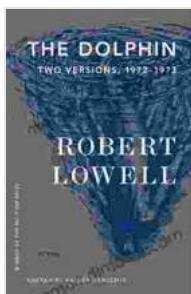
Robert Merle's "The Dolphin" is a powerful and thought-provoking novel that explores the complexities of the Holocaust and its aftermath. The two versions of the novel, published in 1972 and 1973, offer different perspectives on these weighty themes.

The 1972 version is a more straightforward narrative, focusing on the resistance and persecution of the Jewish people. The 1973 version, however, explores the moral and psychological complexities of the Holocaust from a broader perspective, examining the impact on both victims and perpetrators.

Both versions of "The Dolphin" are valuable contributions to the literature of the Holocaust, and they offer readers a unique opportunity to explore this important chapter in human history from different perspectives.

Merle, Robert. *The Dolphin*. Translated by Peter Green. Simon & Schuster, 1972.

Merle, Robert. *The Dolphin*. Revised and expanded edition. Pocket Books, 1973.



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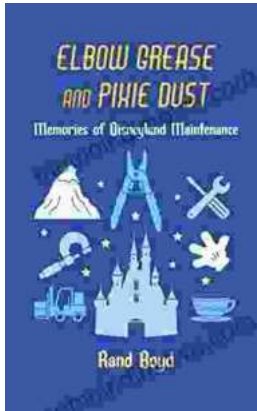
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