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Norman Douglas
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2009-11-17Original language:English 8.75 x .66 x 5.75l, #File Name: 1116684713290 pages | File size: 71.Mb

Norman Douglas : Alone before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Alone:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A great example of old-school travel writing.By DoctorJoeEI never cared much for Douglas's fiction -- particularly "South Wind" -- but his travel books are wonderful, and well worth your time if you're a fan of that genre. He wrote three books about his travels in Italy; critics seemed to prefer "Siren Land", and "Old Calabria" was the most popular, but "Alone" was reportedly Douglas's favorite -- and it's mine, too. It

was written while he lived in Florence -- between the World Wars, and before his troubles with Mussolini and the Fascists over his erotic poetry -- and encompasses his wanderings in the northern half of the peninsula, including Rome, Pisa, Sorrento, Siena, and the seaside villages of what is now called the Italian Riviera. His vivid descriptions of beautiful Mediterranean regions are on full display, as is his remarkable ability to verbalize the flavor of the country before Lira became Euros and Rome/Florence/Venice became a hackneyed tourist cliché. "The reader of a good travel book," he wrote, "is entitled not only to an exterior voyage, to a description of scenery and so forth, but to an interior, a sentimental or temperamental voyage, which takes place side by side with the outer one." Too many travel books are little more than glorified personal diaries; "Alone" is anything but that. If you like Evelyn Waugh, you'll love Norman Douglas -- and "Alone" is a great place to get acquainted with a once-famous author who is now, sadly, all but forgotten.

Travelogues Collection offers readers a unique glimpse into the diverse landscape, culture and wildlife of the world from the perspective of late 19th and early 20th century esteemed travelers. From the exotic islands of Fiji to the lush jungles of Africa to the bustling streets of New York City, these picturesque backdrops set the scene for amusing, and at times prejudiced, anecdotes of adventure, survival and camaraderie. Photographs and whimsical illustrations complement the descriptive text, bringing to life the colorful characters encountered along the way. The Shelf2Life Travelogues Collection allows readers to embark on a voyage into the past to experience the world as it once was and meet the people who inhabited it.

About the Author Norman Douglas lived a long and scandalous life. Born in 1868, the son of a Scottish father and Austrian mother, he was a lifelong hedonist, and spent much of his time 'hopping it' across borders to avoid arrest. Douglas was at once the most irascible, intolerant and kindest of men. He was also a writer of near-genius. He died in 1952.