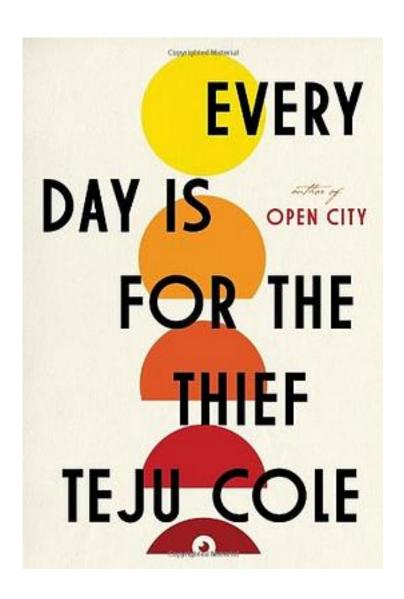
Every Day is for the Thief



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著者:Teju Cole

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Visiting Lagos after many years away, Teju Cole's unnamed narrator rediscovers his hometown as both a foreigner and a local. A young writer uncertain of what he wants to say, the man moves through tableaus of life in one of the most dynamic cities in the world: he hears the muezzin's call to prayer in the early morning light, and listens to John Coltrane during the late afternoon heat. He witnesses teenagers diligently perpetrating e-mail frauds from internet cafes, longs after a woman reading Michael Ondaatje on a public bus, and visits the impoverished National Museum. Along the way, he reconnects with old school friends and his family, who force him to ask himself profound questions of personal and national history. Over long, wandering days, the narrator compares present-day Lagos to the Lagos of his memory, and in doing so reveals changes that have taken place in himself. Just as Open City uses New York to reveal layers of the narrator's soul, in Every Day is for the Thief the complex, beautiful, generous, and corrupt city of Lagos exposes truths about our protagonist, and ourselves.

作者介绍:

Teju Cole (born June 27, 1975) is a Nigerian-American writer, photographer, and art historian.

目录:

Every Day is for the Thief_下载链接1_

标签

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"...I was destined to put photos in Every Day Is for the Thief." -- "known and strange things"

读完Teju Cole的第二本书后,我的favorites list又多了一位作者。这本书的创作其实早于Open City,只是之前只在尼日利亚出版,最近才有了美国版。故事写一个从纽约回尼日利亚探亲的青年,前五十页让人感觉这根本就是作者在写自己的见闻感受,可进入后半部分后慢慢发现这不是作者的自传/回忆录/游记散文,这是小说,里面的"我"是一个塑造出来的人物,而不是作者本人,虽然他可能有作者的一些影子。而最妙的是,Cole在书里加入了若干幅他所拍摄的照片,关于照片,我们通常联想到的是客观的记录,是与Documentary而非与Imagination/Fiction联系在一起的,于是这形成了一种耐人寻味的冲突,如果照片是documentary的,那书里的文字呢?如果小说是想象是虚构,那照片呢?

High times: the best cure for history Why is history uncontested here? There is no sight of that dispute over words, that battle over versions of stories that marks the creative inner life of a society. Where are the contradictory voices?

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书评

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