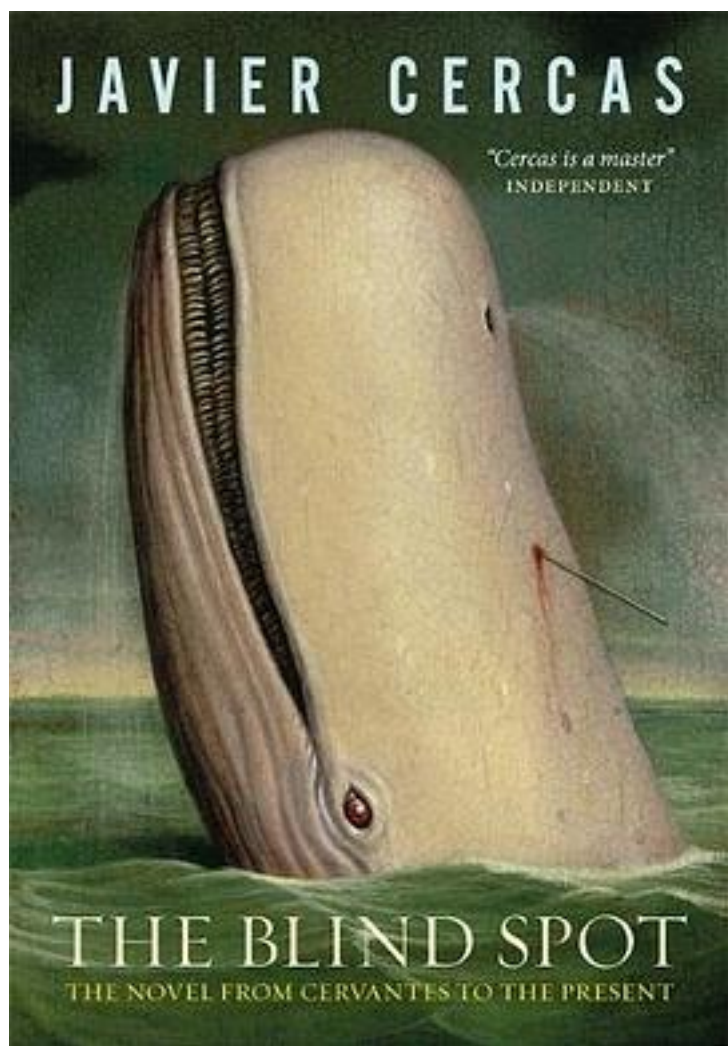


The Blind Spot



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著者:Javier Cercas

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Javier Cercas is one of the most enjoyable and innovative novelists at work today. Well known among English-language readers as the author of *Soldiers of Salamis* (winner of the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize), *The Anatomy of a Moment* and *The Impostor*, Cercas is also Professor of Spanish Literature at the University of Girona. In 2015, following in the footsteps of George Steiner, Mario Vargas Llosa and Umberto Eco, as Weidenfeld Visiting Professor in Comparative European Literature at St Anne's College, Oxford, Cercas gave a series of five lectures on the novel today, which have since been revised and are now published in English for the first time as *The Blind Spot*.

Starting with *Don Quixote* and his own experience as a writer, Cercas launches out into a consideration of the most challenging fiction of the last hundred years, from Kafka, Borges, Perec, Calvino and Kundera, to Sebald, Coetzee, Barnes, Foster Wallace and Knausgård. First, he defines and celebrates certain aspects of the novel in the twenty-first century which are also features of Cervantes' masterpiece: its essential irony and ambiguity, its total commitment to innovation, its natural, joyful and omnivorous desire to cram the whole world within its pages, and its intricate concern with fiction and reality. Then he moves on to consider the actual meaning of the novel, the uncertain and discredited role of the writer as intellectual, and the role of the reader in the creation of a form whose aim is to tell the truth by telling lies.

The result is a dazzling short book which provides a new interpretation of novel from Cervantes and Melville to the present, and which will be as stimulating for readers and writers of literature in the twenty-first century as E. M. Forster's *Aspects of the Novel* or Milan Kundera's *The Art of the Novel* were in the last.

作者介绍:

Javier Cercas was born in 1962. He is a novelist, short-story writer and columnist, whose books include *Soldiers of Salamis* (which sold more than a million copies worldwide, won six literary awards in Spain and was filmed by David Trueba), *The Tenant* and *The Motive*, *The Speed of Light* and *The Anatomy of a Moment*. His books have been translated into more than twenty languages. He lives in Barcelona.

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