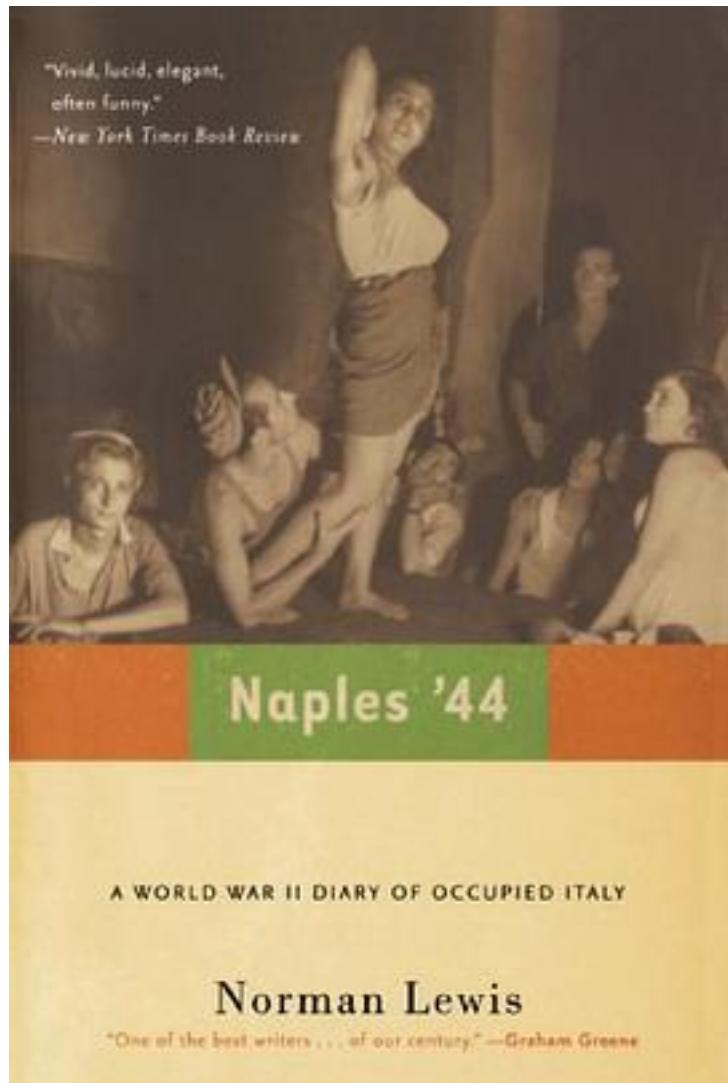


Naples '44



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著者:Norman Lewis

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As a young intelligence officer stationed in Naples following its liberation from Nazi forces, Norman Lewis recorded the lives of a proud and vibrant people forced to survive on prostitution, thievery, and a desperate belief in miracles and cures. The most popular of Lewis' twenty-seven books, *Naples '44* is a landmark poetic study of the agony of wartime occupation and its ability to bring out the worst, and often the best, in human nature. In prose both heartrending and comic, Lewis describes an era of disillusionment, escapism, and hysteria in which the Allied occupiers mete out justice unfairly and fail to provide basic necessities to the populace while Neapolitan citizens accuse each other of being Nazi spies, women offer their bodies to the same Allied soldiers whose supplies they steal for sale on the black market, and angry young men organize militias to oppose "temporary" foreign rule. Yet over the chaotic din, Lewis sings intimately of the essential dignity of the Neapolitan people, whose traditions of civility, courage, and generosity of spirit shine through daily. This essential World War II book is as timely a read as ever.

作者介绍:

Norman Lewis's early childhood, as recalled in *Jackdaw Cake* (1985), was spent partly with his Welsh spiritualist parents in Enfield, North London, and partly with his eccentric aunts in Wales. Forgoing a place at university for lack of funds, he used the income from wedding photography and various petty trading to finance travels to Spain, Italy and the Balkans, before being approached by the Colonial Office to spy for them with his camera in Yemen. He moved to Cuba in 1939, but was recalled for duty in the Intelligence Corps during the Second World War. It was from this that Norman Lewis's masterpiece, *Naples '44*, emerged, a resurrection of his wartime diary only finally published in 1978. Before that came a number of novels and travel books, notably *A Dragon Apparent* (1951) and *Golden Earth* (1952), both of which were best sellers in their day. His novel *The Volcanoes Above Us*, based on personal experiences in Central America, sold six million copies in paperback in Russia and *The Honoured Society* (1964), a non-fiction study of the Sicilian Mafia, was serialised in six instalments by the *New Yorker*.

Norman Lewis wrote thirteen novels and thirteen works of non-fiction, mostly travel books, but he regarded his life's major achievement to be the reaction to an article written by him entitled *Genocide in Brazil*, published in *The Sunday Times* in 1968. This led to a change in the Brazilian law relating to the treatment of Indians, and to the formation of *Survival International*, the influential international organisation which campaigns for the rights of tribal peoples. He later published a very successful book called *The Missionaries* (1988) which is set amongst the Indians of Central and Latin America.

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