

Madame De



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著者:Louise de Vilморin

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From Publishers Weekly A pair of costly, heart-shaped diamond earrings entangles an aristocratic Parisian family in a destructive chain of deceit in this 1951 drawing-room bagatelle best known for the Max Ophuls film it inspired. The fashionable Madame de-- sets the plot in motion when she sells the wedding gift her husband gave her in order to pay her debts and then announces that the jewels have been stolen or lost. The jeweler who purchased them informs the husband, who buys back the jewels and promptly gives them to his Spanish mistress as a send-off. She, in turn, sells them, and they make their way back to Madame de__ in the form of a gift from an admirer. De Vilморin (1902-1969), a jet-setter best known for her literary lovers (Saint Exup ry, Andr Malraux and the translator herself), writes very much in the tradition of cultured ladies of letters entertaining their upper-class audience

("Elegance rather than beauty was accounted the mark of merit in the circle of society to which Madame de-- belonged"); this genre has included major works of fiction (stretching back to The Princess de Cl ves), but de Vilmorin's contribution to it is decidedly superficial. This repackaging of a hard-to-find translation may nevertheless attract a new generation of readers to de Vilmorin's stylish ways. Illustrations not seen by PW. Copyright 1998 Cahners Business Information, Inc. About the Author Louise de Vilmorin lived from 1902 to 1969. She lived in France until she married Henry Leigh-Hunt in 1925 and lived for a time in Las Vegas. Returning to Paris in 1929, she divorced in 1931. She was famous for her wit and had many lovers. Her first novel was published in 1943, Sainte Unefois. She continued all her life to write.

作者介绍:

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评论

对Madame de的心理描写令人印象深刻，但没超越通俗爱情小说的层次。Ophüls的电影版挪了个大致框架，更深刻地探讨了爱情与伤痛、社会规则与自由，虽然Louise de Vilmorin本人不喜欢他的改编。

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书评

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