



Other Colors

By Orhan Pamuk

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In the three decades that Nobel prize-winning author Orhan Pamuk has devoted himself to writing fiction, he has also produced scores of witty, moving, and provocative essays and articles. He engages the work of Nabokov, Kundera, Rushdie, and Vargas Llosa, among others, and he discusses his own books and writing process. We also learn how he lives, as he recounts his successful struggle to quit smoking, describes his relationship with his daughter, and reflects on the controversy he has attracted in recent years. Here is a thoughtful compilation of a brilliant novelist's best nonfiction, offering different perspectives on his lifelong obsessions with loneliness, contentment, and the books and cities that have shaped his experience.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Though the latest book from Nobel Prize-winning Pamuk (Istanbul, Snow) is a standard late-career essay collection, it makes clear the reasons behind the Turkish author's acclaim. Eschewing flash and flourish, Pamuk's style is plain, simple and persuasive—but therein lies its subtle power, well represented over more than 75 pieces divided into sections like "Living and Worrying" and "Politics, Europe, and Other Problems of Being Oneself." Self-reflection and cultural evolution emerge often as twin themes, as in his consideration of the Thousand and One Nights: "In those days, young Turks like me who considered themselves modern viewed the classics of eastern literature as one might a dark and impenetrable forest." These concerns lead naturally to political considerations, such as his conclusion that "the lies about the war in Iraq and... secret CIA prisons have so damaged the West's credibility in Turkey... it is more and more difficult for people like me to make the case for true western democracy in my part of the world." There's humor as well; in "Giving Up Smoking," a smoking cab driver begs Pamuk's pardon: "He was opening the window. 'No,' I said, 'keep it closed. I've given up smoking.'" Also included are musings on his own books and a short story, "To Look Out the Window." Disarmingly honest, Pamuk refuses to give in to melodrama or stylistic quirks, giving his feeling and frustration crystalline clarity and lasting weight.

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

The *Baltimore Sun* describes 2006 Nobel Prize winner Orhan Pamuk's latest work as "part diary, part travelogue, part confession, part writer's guide to the galaxy, part political tract, part spiritual journey, part paean to the beauty of language and the configuration of words." Though critics agreed that the pieces were uneven, they were completely divided over which essays were the best. They also differed over Maureen Freely's translation: some praised her smooth, conversational rendering, while others considered it too loose. *Other Colors* is not intended as an introduction to Pamuk's work. Readers who have appreciated his brilliant, powerful fiction will enjoy peeking behind the curtain, but those unfamiliar with his work should start with one of his novels.

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Review

"Lyrical, vulnerable, deeply human and engaging. . . . [Pamuk] has become one of the essential writers that both East and West can gratefully claim as their own." —Pico Iyer, *The New York Times Book Review*
"Lyrical and reportorial. . . . Forms a remarkably cohesive picture of a literary man." —*The Washington Post Book World*
"Striking and valuable. . . . A triumph." —*The New York Review of Books*
"Reading these pieces one is infused with the sheer joy that exudes from each tale. . . . An autobiography in essays and tales, a book for writers and readers that is never less than captivating." —*The Baltimore Sun*

From the Trade Paperback edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Heather Bencomo:

Book is to be different for every single grade. Book for children right up until adult are different content. As we know that book is very important usually. The book Other Colors has been making you to know about other understanding and of course you can take more information. It is rather advantages for you. The reserve Other Colors is not only giving you more new information but also to be your friend when you truly feel bored. You can spend your spend time to read your publication. Try to make relationship with the book Other Colors. You never experience lose out for everything in case you read some books.

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Gregory Throop:

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Judith Bradshaw:

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