

THE PILLARS OF HERCULES: A GRAND TOUR OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

PAUL THEROUX

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PAUL THEROUX : THE PILLARS OF HERCULES: A GRAND TOUR OF THE MEDITERRANEAN before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised THE PILLARS OF HERCULES: A GRAND TOUR OF THE MEDITERRANEAN:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. If you like non-tourist travel lit, get itBy GreenyThe Mediterranean coast can be personally explored endlessly. Paul Theroux does it in a way that is authentic, or more precisely as authentic as one can be when one if free enough to tour around and around.Theroux wins high marks for this particular book because he gives concise, vivid analyses throughout. This is in my mind not the same writing genre as those that inform the tourist crowd about the better restaurants.Theroux's travel literature, as opposed to his novels, put him in the same class as Bill Bryson; William Least Heat-Moon; Jan Morris and Eric Newby. To me, Theroux seems like a man that could become cantankerous if not sufficiently challenged by being in challenging travel situations. He's at his best when things don't seem to be working for him, when he can't immediately get what he wants. And when he's at his best, he gives brilliant commentary on what he observes.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. TerrificBy FensterPaul Theroux's travel books are a unique delight, and "Pillars of Hercules" is one of his best. In it, he travels from Gibraltar to Tangier, the long way, around the Med Sea. It's compelling reading: The places he visits and the people he meets; his 'take' on things. I had never even considered wanting to travel to Croatia or Albania or Syria or Tunisia, but now I'd like to go. But it's PT's take on places I've been to - Spain, France, Italy - that were most enjoyable, for he usually travels to out of the way places. I was pleased that he also noticed how much dog crap is on

the sidewalks in France. His conversations with famed writers Naguib Mahfouz (after being stabbed by a fanatical Muslim) in Cairo and with Paul Bowles in Tangier are two of the book's best parts. I highly recommend this book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ... read almost all of Theroux's travel books and have loved them all. By S. Tom Baker I have read almost all of Theroux's travel books and have loved them all. This one was no exception~