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(Mobile library) Erewhon Revisited

Erewhon Revisited

S Butler : Erewhon Revisited before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Erewhon Revisited:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Crawford HarrisAfter all these years, I had to reread it. Delightful.3 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Not as good as 'The Iliad...' (ok, that's a bit unfair.)By Richard L. LundeI must say, when I picked up 'Erewhon' at the public library two and a half months ago, I thought 'hmm, I vaguely recall this title' and 'Well, I laughed out loud at some parts of Butler's translation of 'The Iliad.' Should be a great read!'To be fair, Butler's own 1901 preface to the combined edition apologizes for his youthful errors. I don't know what age he was when he translated Homer, but he must have been much older, and much more confident. His prose creaks with the layers of dried horse-glue that he's applied in polishing his extensive sentences. He is trying to satirize 19th Cent. English churchmen, Oxbridge dons and so forth, which is interesting academically, but... rather dry. Dry, dry, dry!I did jot down one quote, which deals with the tendency of people to more jealously guard their purses than their ideas (or something like that) which made me smile. But that's one in 300 pages.This work smells of youth. It's overthought and under-felt. Not one of the characters (including the narrator) inspires even a moment's empathy. And I'm a guy who cried at the 'Lavender blue, dilly-dilly' passage in 'London' a few years back. It doesn't take much to touch my outwardly stern, inwardly caramel-coated Norwegian-American psyche!I agree with the other reviewer who said other 'dystopian' works have been done better. I might add, Orwell gets more laughs.Does he get away with Arowhena? Yes, because he tells us several times through the work that he does. (Yawn.) How does he escape Erewhon? Who cares? I'll never find out, I stopped after 280 pages.Back to the joys of Homer for me.9 of 12 people found the following review helpful. very good and still relevant bookBy Alek0The book deals with Higgs' return to Erewhon. Some unpleasant surprises are in store for him, place is entirely unrecognizable due to new religion -

sunchildism. Higgs, the Sunchild, finds it hard to believe how his sayings got so corrupted and is unable to do anything about it. Declaration that he is the Sunchild only brings his life in danger, since professors of Music Banks are not going to let go new lucrative businesses just like that. Fascinating book, dealing with rise of new religion out of one "miracle" (i.e. unexplainable event such as Higgs escape in a balloon) account of which grew out of proportion every year.

Vintage hardbound book.