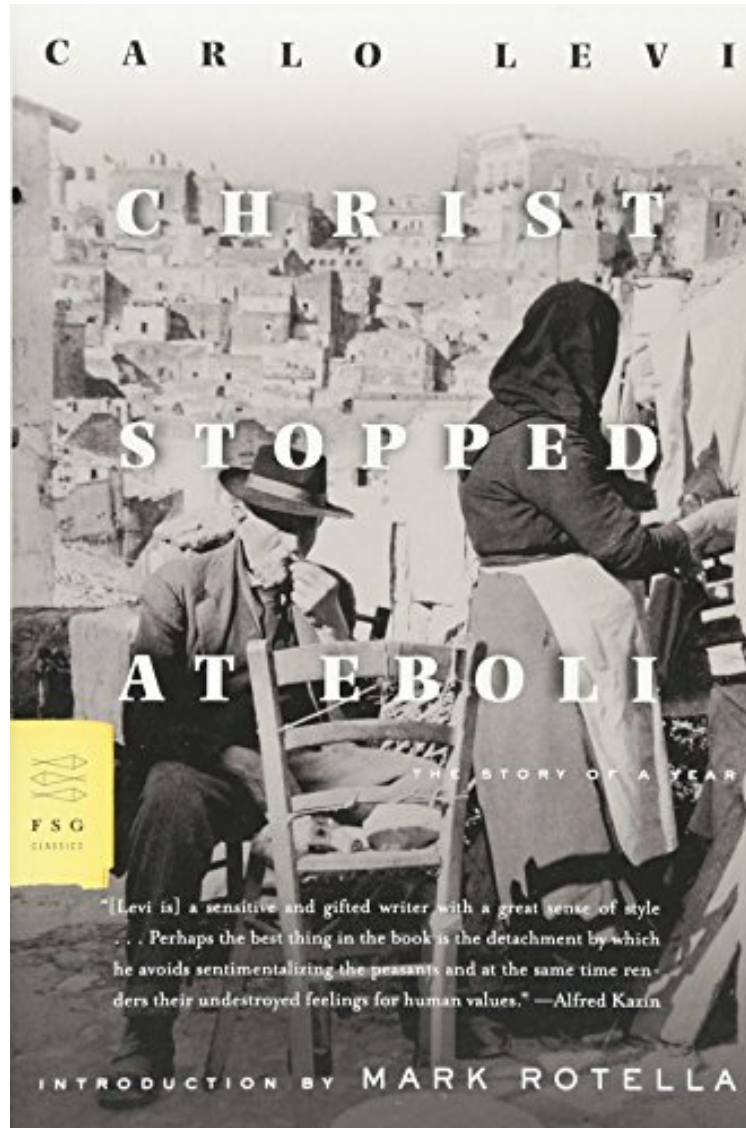


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## Christ Stopped at Eboli: The Story of a Year (FSG Classics)

Carlo Levi

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#42075 in Books Farrar, Straus and Giroux 2006-01-10 2006-01-10 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.21 x .79 x 5.511, .57 #File Name: 0374530092304 pages Great product! | File size: 74.Mb

**Carlo Levi : Christ Stopped at Eboli: The Story of a Year (FSG Classics)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Christ Stopped at Eboli: The Story of a Year (FSG Classics):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Glimpse Into The Lives Of A Forgotten People By Lucy M. Haunting and beautifully written Carlo Levi gives us a glimpse of a part of Italy that was forgotten and neglected and tells of the daily life of an impoverished, superstitious people who had resigned to their lot. Banished to a small town in Lucania (now the region known as Basilicata) because of his anti-fascist activity, Levi, a doctor, writer and

artist, spent one year in captivity internalizing his experiences. A few years later during WWII, while hiding out in a room in Florence because he was a Jew, he wrote the book, *Christ Stopped at Eboli*. The book is poetry, prose, and a scathing condemnation of the Italian government who shamefully neglected southern Italy after the Risorgimento and subsequent unification of Italy. Christ did not literally stop at Eboli. The title infers that the peasants of Lucania felt they were less than human...that the term "Christian" was synonymous with the word human and humanity stopped north of them. Centuries of oppression led them to consider themselves not much more than mules. Levi's lucid description helped begin the conversation of the "Problem of the South" after the war ended. As a descendant of grandparents who emigrated from this Italian region, the book touched me on a personal level. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This Book Answers The Question: Why Did Christ Stop At Eboli By Ikiru This book was a major surprise. I was looking for something to read about Basilicata, the region in southern Italy between Puglia and Campania. I had heard of the title but no idea what it was about. The author, Carlo Levi, was a northern Italian anti-fascist, when in 1935 he was exiled by Mussolini to a small village in the south. He writes feelingly and poetically about the people and place, the daily struggle of the peasants, and what life was like in a region so remote and out of the way, it was considered a good alternative to prison for Mussolini's political enemies. When the book was published in the late 1940's, many Italians felt shamed by the description of inhuman conditions, eventually leading to a nationwide movement to improve the lives of people who had been disregarded for so long. It may not sound that compelling, but the book's great surprise is that you are totally drawn into Levi's growing empathy and solidarity with his downtrodden neighbors. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I really enjoyed the writing (or the translation) By Susan SI did not finish this book in time for my book group as it wasn't a page turner (I did later.) However, I really enjoyed the writing (or the translation?) which was excellent. Really interesting character studies and instant transportation to a specific time and place. The book did generate a good discussion about the people and the state of poverty. I'm not sure I liked the book as much as really appreciated it. An escapist novel it is not.

It was to Lucania, a desolate land in southern Italy, that Carlo Levi a doctor, painter, philosopher, and man of letters was confined as a political prisoner because of his opposition to Italy's Fascist government at the start of the Ethiopian war in 1935. While there, Levi reflected on the harsh landscape and its inhabitants, peasants who lived the same lives their ancestors had, constantly fearing black magic and the near presence of death. In so doing, Levi offered a starkly beautiful and moving account of a place and a people living outside the boundaries of progress and time.

[Levi is] a sensitive and gifted writer with a great sense of style. Alfred Kazin Language Notes Text: English, Italian (translation) From the Back Cover A sensitive and gifted writer with a great sense of style.... Perhaps the best thing in his book is the detachment by which he avoids sentimentalizing the peasants and at the same time renders their undestroyed feelings for human values. --Alfred Kazin, New York Herald Tribune Book The present translation by Frances Frenaye suggests that Levi is a great prose stylist, as well as brilliant observer of human life and a wise and patient diagnostician of our condition. --New Republic A kind of gray El Greco beauty.... It is a long time since any book has come out of Italy with such an individual accent, such a richness of texture. --Lewis Gannett, New York Herald Tribune Levi writes with sympathy and insight.... Hailed by Italian critics as one of their most promising contemporary writers, he has proved his competence by making a readable and interesting book out of grim and forbidding material. --Saturday of Literature Has been called in turn a diary, an album of sketches, a novelette, a sociological study and a political essay. It has more than a trait of each genre; yet it remains as hard to classify as every beautiful book, or as the man who wrote this one. --New York Times Book