

The Last Weynfeldt

Martin Suter

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Martin Suter : The Last Weynfeldt before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Last Weynfeldt:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. An "unreliable character"?...By Jill MeyerSwiss author Martin Suter's novel, "The Last Weynfeldt" is a bit of a mystery caper and a fair amount of a character study. Set in Zurich and the art world, the book moves slowly as middle-aged Adrian Weynfeldt, an important member of the market, finds love. Or so he thinks. The problem of the book centers on the main character, Weynfeldt, who, for such a brilliant man, makes a number of very stupid decisions. If the term "unreliable narrator" is used about a character, I suppose the term "unreliable character" can be used. And Adrian Weynfeldt is not a character that the reader can trust to act as he should. He trusts the wrong people and falls in with a woman whose mysterious ways would alert another, smarter man. Weynfeldt is so smart in business, the reader can't quite believe he'd be so gullible and naive in his personal life. But Adrian Weynfeldt is in love and love can knock the smarts out of anybody. Martin Suter's book, though, is a good

read, despite the unreliability of the lead character. The supporting characters are well drawn, making the plot more possible than it would normally be. I enjoyed "The Last Weynfeldt", despite its quirks. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. This Author doesn't get enough love in the States...By Living the Grand LifeI very much want to start my review by thanking Jill Meyer, who wrote one of the first two reviews of this novel. It was her review that caused me to closely examine the actions of the protagonist. It is evident from her review that Ms Meyer put forth her review of this novel in an honest, clear and very thoughtful manner. Her review is entitled "an unreliable character". But I must say, although I find her review very helpful and very thoughtful, I vehemently disagree with the main critical point of her review, which is that it is not plausible that the novels' protagonist, Adrian Weynfeldt, AKA "The Last Weynfeldt", as intelligent as he is portrayed to be, would make the poor decisions that he makes and take those unwise actions that he takes in this novel. What would any of us not do to achieve and gain love, especially if we were living a totally loveless life? I know that I have made many unwise decisions, took seemingly silly actions, because of the childlike trust so many of us place in those they have loved. And I, unlike Adrian, had many who loved me. That being said; Adrian is desperately looking for love anywhere in his life. Simply because he is leading an unloved life. Additionally, he was raised in cold family and experiences terrible abandonment issues as a result of his mother's actions and threats. Moreover most of those of whom who act to betray him, are those of a circle of people whom he trusts, they are long term friends--one a life long friend. What kind of life is it if one does not trust a life long friend. Are we animals? And to top it all off, the female protagonist is a much younger, alluring redhead who strongly resembles the great and ONLY love of his life. Adrian's great love of his life, the person for whom he risked his only familial relationship, that with his parents and whom he, with even after decades, still regrets having let go, without a word, met a terrible tragic death. The poor bastard never had a chance.--especially with another gorgeous redhead. As a background to my review, I purchased the hard copy of this novel, as I was so graciously invited to a reading which included the author Martin Suter, the the books' translation publishing team The New Vessel's Press and the NY Times columnist Eva M. Kahn. As a side note. the hard copy is beautiful constructed and a tactile pleasure to hold--Kudos to the US publisher. "New Vessel Press, founded in New York City in 2012 us an independent publishing house specializing in the translation of foreign literature into English." I checked out their web site and the selection is varied and impressive. GO LOOK! I will make another purchase. I found the author, Mr. Suter, to be fiercely intelligent, very amusing. charming and seemingly so very kind and gentle. extremely well mannered, very witty--in a very dry way, handsome and well loved by his lovely wife and sweet child. When asked if he had a favorite character amongst his many novels he indicated that he thought he would enjoy the company of Adrian the best. He also responded in a very puckish manner to the question of how pleased he was of this translation, indicating that perhaps the translation was superior to the original, thereby cleverly tying in the forgery theme in the novel. The author is a VERY well known and very respected author in Europe--I am sure this translation will bring him much success on this "side of the pond". His previous books have been made into screen plays and movies. I plan to invest in more Back to Adrian's reawakened "lust for love"-- wouldn't many of us take similar rash and poorly thought out actions our protagonist took in his efforts order to be loved by his young and old friends--or just to be loved for perhaps a second chance by a "dangerous" red head. This book is everything that you read in reviews. It is a:--page tuner--precisely written--edgy--well crafted novel--contains beautiful prose.--excellently translated--In the spirit of this novel--As the author inferred is the translation better than the original? Regards. In reviews-- a clear 5 star choice PS: All of us sentient creatures want to be loved and cherished. For those of us who may have a dearth of that beloved emotion and that gentle kindness, we make poor decisions--when we seek to be loved--As Gloria Vanderbilt said in her recent book "life is about love" or did she say Life is about a good pair of Jeans? Go figure--or perhaps read her recent novel. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By reader Terrific read, especially for people interested in the art world.

"The Last Weynfeldt is a must-read. . . . Once started, you will not stop reading until the end. You will probably forget to eat, not answer text messages and miss your stop on the bus."mdash;Suuml;ddeutsche Zeitung"Set in the midst of that vibrant and bizarre organism known as the art world. A captivating read about a memorable protagonist."mdash;Noah Charney, author of The Art of Forgery and The Art Thief"A brilliant talent!"mdash;Basler Zeitung Adrian Weynfeldt is an art expert in an international auction house, a bachelor in his mid-fifties living in a grand Zurich apartment filled with costly paintings and antiques. Always correct and well-mannered, he's given up on love until one nightmdash;entirely out of character for himmdash;Weynfeldt decides to take home a ravishing but unaccountable young woman. The next morning, he finds her outside on his balcony threatening to jump. Weynfeldt talks her down and soon finds himself falling for this damaged but alluring beauty and his buttoned up existence comes unraveled. As their two lives become entangled, Weynfeldt gets embroiled in an art forgery scheme that threatens to destroy everything he and his prominent family have stood for. This refined page-turner moves behind elegant bourgeois facades into darker recesses of the heart. Martin Suter, born in Zurich in 1948, is a novelist and screenwriter. He has written a dozen novels, many of them bestsellers in Europe and translated into thirty-two languages. Suter lives with his family in Zurich.

"A sophisticated and urbane novel with a swanky, dapper European setting that is as much Poe and Chandler as Hitchcock and Truffaut. This is a page-turner all its own, one that asks you to rethink what you thought was too obvious to be true and to reconsider the obvious in case you were wrong. You'll want to reread it as soon as you get to the last page." — *André Aciman*, author of *Out of Egypt* and *Call Me by Your Name* "Fans of sensitive, slightly aloof Euro-thrillers? think Stefan Zweig or filmmaker Claude Chabrol? will recognize the metier of Swiss writer Suter, who here leavens the sensationalism of crime fiction with psychological insight and melancholy ... Comfort food for readers who crave memorable characters, romance, and touching, drawn-from-life scenes." — *Publishers Weekly* "Swift, edgy ... What distinguishes this work is the air of slightly faded existential elegance, which sets off the modern setting splendidly ... Great for sophisticated suspense fans." — *Library Journal* (Starred review) "Suter manages to cleverly intertwine the public world of art with the private world of love." — *Public Books* "Fine art, fine wine, and old money collide with forgery and extortion in Zurich ... Subtly wrought." — *Kirkus* "In this scintillating send-up of the international art market, crisp dialogue propels the action while spotlighting quirks of character ... The plot purrs along like the wheels of a Patek Philippe watch." — *The Arts Fuse* "Stylish, well-crafted and precisely engineered ... like joyously discovering a long-buried treasure ... As it ticks along resolutely from one surprising development to the next, this book touches on themes of mortality and redemption, the age-old question of finding the formula for living a good life." — *Winnipeg Free Press* "A wonderful novel about the international art market whose inventive cast includes the super-rich, a faker, a con man, an auction expert and beautiful women." — *Milton Esterow*, former editor and publisher of *ARTnews* and author of *The Art Stealers* "Set in the midst of that vibrant and bizarre organism known as the art world. A captivating read about a memorable protagonist." — *Noah Charney*, author of *The Art of Forgery* and *The Art Thief* "An impressive work of intrigue and beauty." — *Cleaver Magazine* "The Last Weynfeldt is a must-read. . . . Once started, you will not stop reading until the end. You will probably forget to eat, not answer text messages and miss your stop on the bus." — *Süddeutsche Zeitung* "Prose as calculated as a Swiss watch, impeccably drawn characters, first-class intrigues, the eye of a moralist and a clear sense of satire." — *L'Express* "A brilliant talent!" — *Basler Zeitung*