

Youth Without Youth Univ. of Chicago



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(Duane Fadel)

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University Of Chicago Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 140 pages. Dimensions: 7.8in. x 5.2in. x 0.6in. Bucharest, 1938: while Hitler gains power in Germany, the Romanian police start arresting students they suspect of belonging to the Iron Guard. Meanwhile, a man who has spent his life studying languages, poetry, and history a man who thought his life was over lies in a hospital bed, inexplicably alive and miraculously healthy, trying to figure out how to conceal his identity. At the intersection of the natural and supernatural, myth and history, dream and science, lies Mircea Eliades novella. Now in its first paperback edition, the psychological thriller features Dominic Matei, an elderly academic who experiences a cataclysmic event that allows him to live a new life with startling intellectual capacity. Sought by the Nazis for their medical experiments on the potentially life-prolonging power of electric shocks, Matei is helped to flee through Romania, Switzerland, Malta and India. Newly endowed with prodigious powers of memory and comprehension, he finds himself face to face with the glory and terror of the supernatural. In this surreal, philosophy-driven fantasy, Eliade tests the boundaries of literary genre as well as the readers imagination. Suspenseful, witty, and poignant, Youth Without Youth illuminates Eliades longing for past loves and new texts, his erotic imagination, and his love of a thrilling mystery. It was adapted for the screen in 2007 as Francis Ford Coppolas first feature film in over ten years. A wonderful blend of realism, surrealism, and fantasy, Eliades novellas suggest the importance of the mythic and the supernatural to finding meaning in the everyday. Highly recommended. Library Journal Youth Without Youth reads like a surreal collaboration by Jorge Luis Borges, Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. , and Carl Jung. Mircea Eliade left me with the rare sense that I had been entertained by a genius....



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