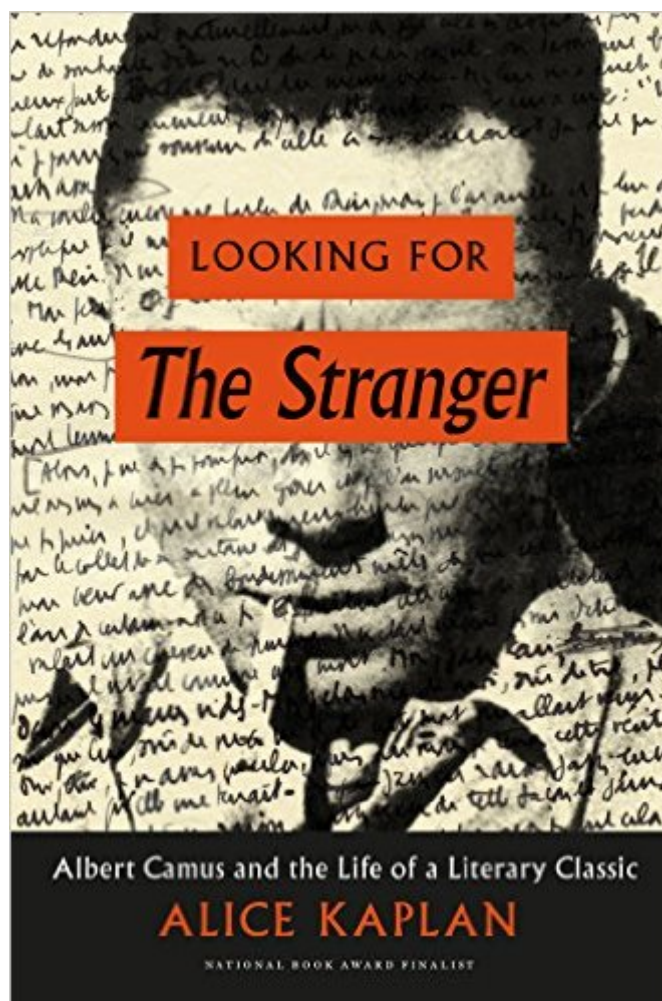


The book was found

# Looking For The Stranger: Albert Camus And The Life Of A Literary Classic



## Synopsis

The Stranger is a rite of passage for readers around the world. Since its publication in France in 1942, Camus's novel has been translated into sixty languages and sold more than six million copies. It's the rare novel that's as likely to be found in a teen's backpack as in a graduate philosophy seminar. If the twentieth century produced a novel that could be called ubiquitous, The Stranger is it. How did a young man in his twenties who had never written a novel turn out a masterpiece that still grips readers more than seventy years later? With *Looking for "The Stranger"*, Alice Kaplan tells that story. In the process, she reveals Camus's achievement to have been even more impressive—and more unlikely—than even his most devoted readers knew. Born in poverty in colonial Algeria, Camus started out as a journalist covering the criminal courts. The murder trials he attended, Kaplan shows, would be a major influence on the development and themes of *The Stranger*. She follows Camus to France, and, making deft use of his diaries and letters, re-creates his lonely struggle with the novel in Montmartre, where he finally hit upon the unforgettable first-person voice that enabled him to break through and complete *The Stranger*. Even then, the book's publication was far from certain. France was straining under German occupation, Camus's closest mentor was unsure of the book's merit, and Camus himself was suffering from near-fatal tuberculosis. Yet the book did appear, thanks in part to a resourceful publisher, Gaston Gallimard, who was undeterred by paper shortages and Nazi censorship. The initial critical reception of *The Stranger* was mixed, and it wasn't until after liberation that *The Stranger* began its meteoric rise. As France and the rest of the world began to move out of the shadow of war, Kaplan shows, Camus's book—with the help of an aggressive marketing campaign by Knopf for their 1946 publication of the first English translation—became a critical and commercial success, and Camus found himself one of the most famous writers in the world. Suddenly, his seemingly modest tale of alienation was being seen for what it really was: a powerful parable of the absurd, an existentialist masterpiece. Few books inspire devotion and excitement the way *The Stranger* does. And it couldn't have a better biographer than Alice Kaplan, whose books about twentieth-century French culture and history have won her legions of fans. No reader of Camus will want to miss this brilliant exploration.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 288 pages

Publisher: University Of Chicago Press (September 16, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 022624167X

ISBN-13: 978-0226241678

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #5,937 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > European > French](#) #3 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Europe > France](#) #5 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > World Literature > European > French](#)

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Looking for The Stranger: Albert Camus and the Life of a Literary Classic At the Existentialist Café: Freedom, Being, and Apricot Cocktails with Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir, Albert Camus, Martin Heidegger, Maurice Merleau-Ponty and Others Literary Movements & Genres: Horror - L (Greenhaven Press Companion to Literary Movements and Genres) My Unsentimental Education (Crux: The Georgia Series in Literary Nonfiction) (Crux: The Georgia Series in Literary Nonfiction Ser.) Senior Moments: Looking Back, Looking Ahead Wild Ones: A Sometimes Dismaying, Weirdly Reassuring Story About Looking at People Looking at Animals in America Cengage Advantage Books: Looking Out, Looking In Looking Out Looking In, 13th Edition Looking Out, Looking In, 13th Edition (Available Titles CourseMate) Cengage Advantage Books: Looking Out, Looking In, 14th Edition Looking Out, Looking In Albert Einstein and Relativity for Kids: His Life and Ideas with 21 Activities and Thought Experiments (For Kids series) Albert Einstein: The incredible life, discoveries, stories and lessons of Einstein! Classic Tales and Fables for Children (Literary Classics) Einstein: A Life of Genius | The True Story of Albert Einstein (Historical Biographies of Famous People) Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass (Classic Collection (Brilliance Audio)) The Hunt for Vulcan: ...And How Albert Einstein Destroyed a Planet, Discovered Relativity, and Deciphered the Universe Einstein's Cosmos: How Albert Einstein's Vision Transformed Our Understanding of Space and Time: Great Discoveries Albert Einstein and the Theory of Relativity (Solutions) Albert Einstein: Universal Genius (Getting to Know the World's Greatest Inventors and Scientists)

[Dmca](#)