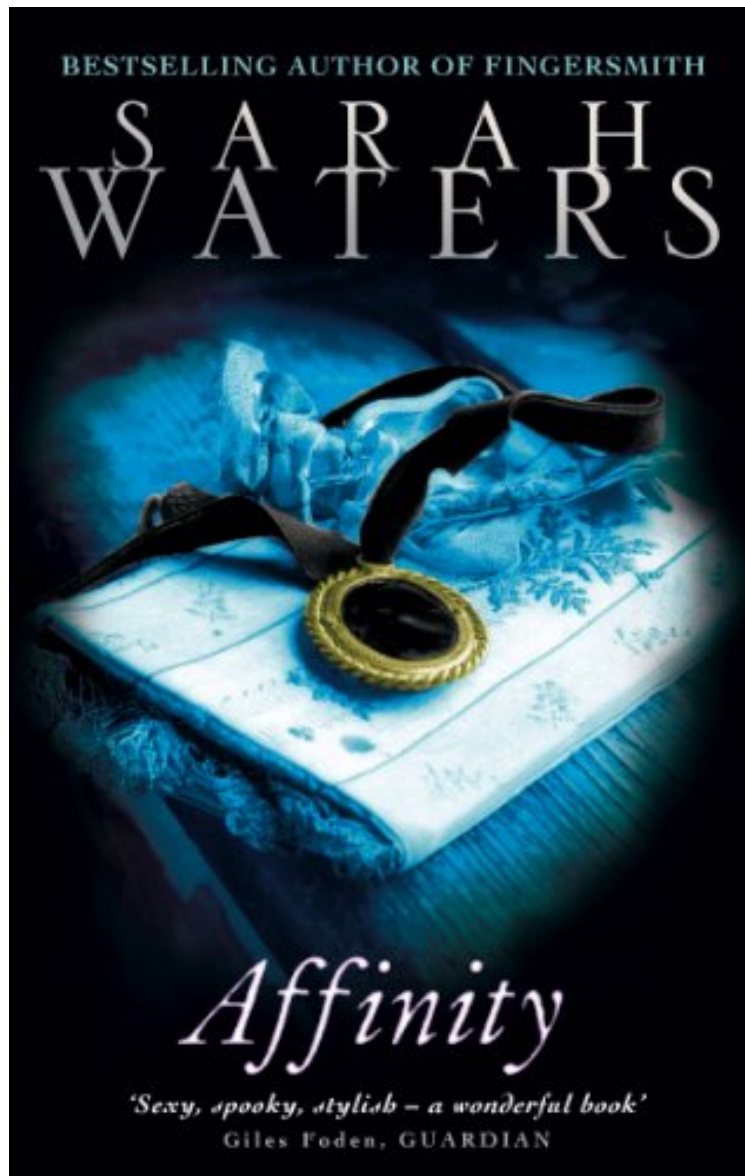


[PDF] Affinity (English Edition)

## Affinity (English Edition)

Von Sarah Waters

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**Von Sarah Waters : Affinity (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Affinity (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Wunderbare GeschichteVon BenGunber Fingersmith ist schon so viel geschrieben worden, dass ich mich hier kurz fassen kann. Das Buch ist spannend und wunderbar konstruiert. Die Geschichte entfaltet sich langsam, und nach und

nach fgen sich die Puzzleteile zusammen. Wenn es aus meiner persnlichen Perspektive etwas zu kritisieren gibt, dann sind es zwei Dinge: die Sexszenen htten fr meinen Geschmack etwas ausfhrlicher sein drfen. Zweitens, das Ende ist etwas abrupt, ich htte gerne noch etwas mehr ber die beiden Hauptcharaktere erfahren0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Seeming Maud. Seeming SueVon GoldI found the exchange of identities and reconciliation warming. Sarah Walters always takes you beyond expectations. What is imagined is more.5 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A novel by a lesbian is not necessarily a lesbian novelVon Dot JamesThis book will disappoint if the reader is expecting a lesbian novel. Though female characters are attracted to other female characters -- after all, the main setting is a women's prison -- there are no moments of lesbian love-making or other conventions of the typical lesbian novel. (To say more is to give too much of the plot away.)But it is a wonderful novel showcasing the incredible skills of its author Sarah Waters. You can read \_Affinity\_ on so many levels. You can read it for its intriguing plot with its O. Henry conclusion. You can read it as a treatise on 19th century prisons or as a history of Spiritualism in England. If you like 19th c. English novels, you can enjoy \_Affinity\_ for its faithful emulation of that form. (But remember that the pace will be slow; give yourself 100 pages or so to get into the novel.)Waters' first novel, \_Tipping\_the\_Velvet\_, was enjoyed at its deepest level by any reader with some knowledge of the conventions of the picaresque novel and a scat dictionary handy. The same sort of thing is true of \_Affinity\_. For example, the two books Margaret reads to her mother are not accidental choices. (Think about the theme of Dickens' \_Little\_Dorrit\_). The name of Selina's "spirit control" is too close to the "Peter Quint" of \_The\_Turn\_of\_the\_Screw\_ to be coincidence. Finding the little secrets that Waters sprinkles through her novels are a large part of the joy of reading them.

KurzbeschreibungSet in and around the women's prison at Millbank in the 1870's , AFFINITY is an eerie and utterly compelling ghost story, a complex and intriguing literary mystery and a poignant love story with an unexpected twist in the tale. Following the death of her father, Margaret Prior has decided to pursue some 'good work' with the lady criminals of one of London's most notorious gaols. Surrounded by prisoners, murderers and common thieves, Margaret feels herself drawn to one of the prisons more unlikely inmates - the imprisoned spiritualist - Selina Dawes. Sympathetic to the plight of this innocent-seeming girl, Margaret sees herself dispensing guidance and perhaps friendship on her visits, little expecting to find herself dabbling in a twilight world of seances, shadows, unruly spirits and unseemly passions..deAffinity is a tale of power and possession that Henry James himself might admire. In her first novel, Tipping the Velvet, Sarah Waters explored secrets and longing--capping off this lesbian romp with a utopian-socialist vision. Her intricate follow-up is just as sensual but infinitely darker, its moral more difficult to descry. Its stylistic and psychological rewards, however, are visible at every turn, the author's persuasive imagination matched by her gift for storytelling. In late September 1874, Margaret Prior makes her way through the pentagons of London's Millbank Prison, a place of fearful symmetry and endless corridors. This plain woman on the verge of 30 has come to comfort those behind bars, several of whom Waters brings to instant, sad life. And our Lady Visitor plans to take her role dead seriously, having recovered from two years of nervous indolence in her family's Chelsea house. One person, however, makes her job a passion. Opening an inspection slit (or "eye" as these devices are known), Margaret hears "a perfect sigh, like a sigh in a story." Peering inward, she's confronted by the most erotic of visions--a woman turned toward the sun, caressing her cheek with a forbidden violet: "As I watched, she put the flower to her lips, and breathed upon it, and the purple of the petals gave a quiver and seemed to glow..." Selina Dawes may indeed have the face of a Crivelli angel, but this medium is in for fraud and assault, her last session having gone very badly indeed. Suffice it to say that the first full encounter between these two very different women is enthralling. "You think spiritualism a kind of fancy," Selina riddles. "Doesn't it seem to you, now you are here, that anything might be real, since Millbank is?" And soon enough Margaret receives several viable signs of the supernatural: a locket disappears from her room, flowers mysteriously appear, and her dazzling friend knows everything about her. Strangest of all, Selina seems to love her. As Margaret records her weekly prison forays, her own past comes into focus, notably her plans to travel to Italy with her first love (who is now her sister-in-law). But her current journal, she convinces herself, is to be very different from her last one, which "took as long to burn as human hearts, they say, do take." Meanwhile, Waters offers a narrative two-for-one, placing Margaret's diary cheek by jowl with Selina's chronicle of her pre-Millbank existence. This dispassionate, staccato record initially suggests that we can separate truth from desire. Or can we? What Waters's haunting creation leaves us with is a more painful reality--that knowledge and belief are entirely different things. --Kerry Fried.co.ukAffinity is a tale of power and possession that Henry James himself might admire. In her first novel, Tipping the Velvet, Sarah Waters explored secrets and longing--capping off this lesbian romp with a utopian-socialist vision. Her intricate follow-up is just as sensual but infinitely darker, its moral more difficult to descry. Its stylistic and psychological rewards, however, are visible at every turn, the author's persuasive imagination matched by her gift for storytelling. In late September 1874, Margaret Prior makes her way through the pentagons of London's Millbank Prison, a place of fearful symmetry and endless corridors. This plain woman on the verge of 30 has

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