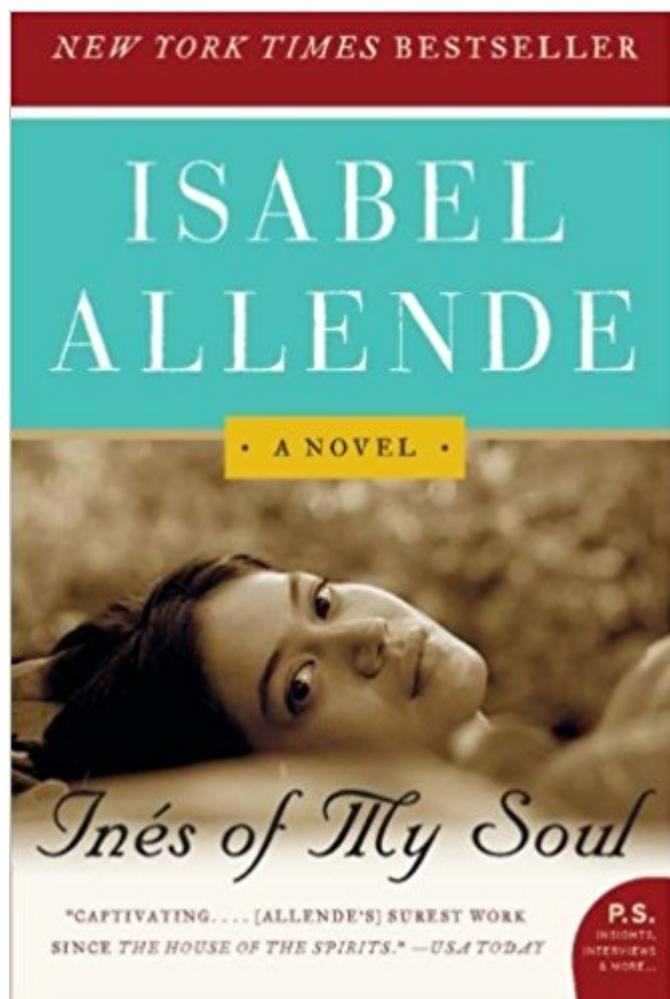


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Ines Of My Soul: A Novel



Synopsis

In the early years of the conquest of the Americas, InÃ©s SuÃ¡rez, a seamstress condemned to a life of toil, flees Spain to seek adventure in the New World. As InÃ©s makes her way to Chile, she begins a fiery romance with Pedro de Valdivia, war hero and field marshal to the famed Francisco Pizarro. Together the lovers will build the new city of Santiago, and they will wage war against the indigenous Chileansâ "a bloody struggle that will change InÃ©s and Valdivia forever, inexorably pulling each of them toward separate destinies. InÃ©s of My Soul is a work of breathtaking scope that masterfully dramatizes the known events of InÃ©s SuÃ¡rez's life, crafting them into a novel rich with the narrative brilliance and passion readers have come to expect from Isabel Allende.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (183 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

In InÃ©s of My Soul, Isabel Allende has written her finest novel, and I read it in one sitting, so impressed by it and so drawn into it was I. The lushness of her prose and her descriptive abilities have never been used in quite this way, and as Allende describes the virginal South American wilds, I was left in amazement at her accomplishment. I have always admired Allende as a writer, but I have been frustrated in the past at what I have seen as her unnecessary and detracting forays into the supernatural, which has intruded (as in House of the Spirits) into an otherwise rational plot. Nothing precisely like that comes to pass in this book, and insofar as it does, it seems less an affront in its setting here than it had at other times, and that also impressed me. InÃ©s of My Soul tells the story of a real life sixteenth-century figure, the bold and enterprising survivor, DoÃ±a InÃ©s

SuÃ¡rez, who, along with her lover, the dashing Don Pedro de Valdivia, founds the great city of Santiago, Chile. Writing a remembrance from the vantage point of extreme old age (seventy years and near death) DoÃ±a InÃ±Ã³s tells of growing up in Spain, then of course the world's most powerful and wealthy nation, and also describes to the reader her eventual voyage to Peru, in search of her husband, Juan, who had traveled to the New World before his wife, as one of Pizarro's conquistadors. Upon learning that her husband has died in battle (and finding that the man was not all she had once thought him to be) DoÃ±a InÃ±Ã³s, left there in Peru with initially limited options, eventually is swept away by a dashing warrior and lover named Don Pedro de Valdivia.

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