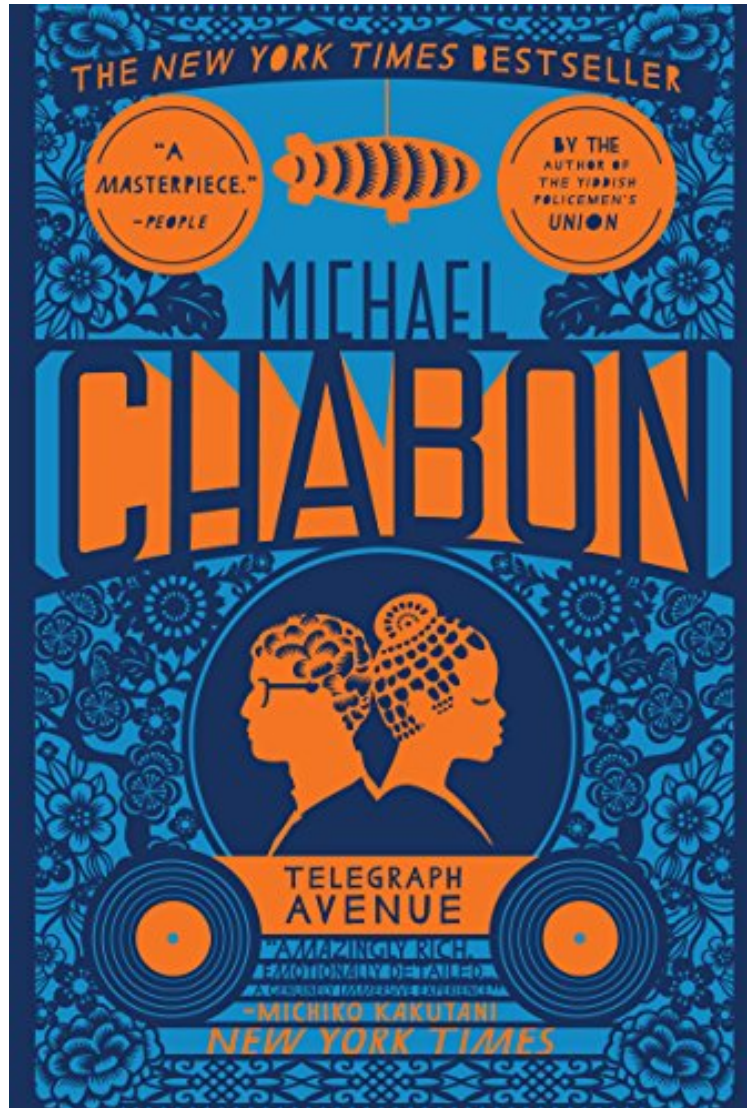


(Free pdf) Telegraph Avenue: A Novel

Telegraph Avenue: A Novel

Von Michael Chabon

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Von Michael Chabon : Telegraph Avenue: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Telegraph Avenue: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An Intriguing Story Filled with Cultural References and Dense with Complex Descriptions and EmotionsVon Donald Mitchell"Passing it with difficulty, we came to a place called Fair Havens," -- Acts 27:8 (NKJV)Before commenting on my reactions to the book, let me note that Telegraph Avenue is a challenging novel to read. Unless you know classic jazz recordings and film references extremely well, you will find the beginning and other parts of this book

difficult to appreciate. Mr. Chabon has also put together some of the most complex descriptions of circumstances and the characters' reactions to them since James Joyce wrote *Ulysses*. It took me about 200 pages to decide that reading the book was worth the effort. After I decided that it was, I was rewarded for that decision by discovering a story that breaks many genre and cultural molds about how the story of contemporary life is captured to achieve that rarity, a quite original and worthy story. Ultimately, the book's theme is about the importance taking stock of your life and dealing with what needs attention, rather than just going with the flow. It's an important message, and I found myself re-examining major parts of what I hadn't looked at in some time. Rarely do novels have that effect on me. I came to deeply appreciate the long descriptions of circumstances and reactions to them for the complex images they built in my mind, taking me more precisely where Mr. Chabon wanted me to go than most novelists attempt to do. Where I understood the references to popular culture, they informed me beyond what mere storytelling could have done. It made me wish I was more in touch with the references. I suspect that my reading would have been improved by taking the time to research the references as they appeared. I don't have the patience for that, but it's probably the way to go. I have to say that this book won't be accessible to some readers (especially in the first 200 pages). If you can get over that, eventually you'll pick up on what Mr. Chabon wants you to appreciate ... especially the way that popular culture conditions so many of our expectations and actions. It's an impressive book, and it would make a great choice for a book club. As a book for me to read without someone to discuss it with, *Telegraph Avenue* wasn't accessible enough. Otherwise, I would classify it as one of the most rewarding reads about contemporary life that I've read in many years.

Jazz and movie fans, enjoy!

4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A bit too eager to please

Von Harry Sachs "Telegraph Avenue" is certainly not a bad book, but I can't help the impression that Michael Chabon fell into the hipness-trap here. A mixed-race pair of record shop entrepreneurs - one of them Jewish, the other the son of a former blaxploitation/kung-fu star - fighting the evil business plans of a veteran NFL quarterback and vainly attempting to fly the flag of independent record shop ownership in the Bay Area? Come on... And then even Obama has a cameo!

I was neither overtly bored nor gripped by the plot, the story just dawdles along without any real high points, as all climaxes attempted by the author somehow misfire. In a way, all characters come across a bit lifeless and slightly divorced from reality. On top of that, not all of Chabon's - who is regarded by many to be a master of prose writing and style - metaphors and similes are as ingenious as he probably thought. I suppose the editorial department did not dare to speak up against the genius. And the 12-pages-long sentence comprising chapter 3 is merely an exercise in self-importance and shows an author indulging in his smugness and cleverness - it just does not further the story in any way. It's just plain unnecessary and sometimes shorter sentences just work better than a seemingly infinite chain of subclauses. My verdict: professional enough not to be a bomb, but certainly no real recommendation and nowhere near "Kavalier Clay".

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Midlife Midwife Crises

Von Felix Richter Brokeland ist die leicht ramponierte Gegend, wo Oakland in Berkeley bergeht, und Brokeland Records heit der Laden an der Telegraph Ave., in dem Nat und Archie eine kleine, aber treue Kundschaft mit gebrauchten Jazzplatten versorgen. Auch ihre Frauen, Aviva und die hochschwangere Gwen, sind in einem aussterbendem Metier geschftlich verbunden, nmlch als selbststndige, auf Hausgeburten spezialisierte Hebammen. An den jeweiligen Geschftshorizonten ziehen dstere Wolken auf: In Brokeland Records' ohnehin prekrer Situation droht das endgltige Aus, weil in der Nachbarschaft ein Medien-Superstore geplant ist, und auch das Baby-Business bekommt scharfen Gegenwind, als eine Geburt unverschuldet aus dem Ruder luft und Gwen dem Krankenhausarzt, der die Sache zu Ende bringen muss, dann nicht mit der Unterwrfigkeit gegenbertritt, die dieser von einer schwarzen Freiberuflerin offenbar erwartet.

Michael Chabon macht in seinem Roman eine Menge Fsser auf. Als wre es mit dem beruflichen Stress nicht genug, wird Archie von zahlreichen weiteren Heimsuchungen geplagt: Ein Tunichgut von Vater, der sich wieder mal tief in den Schlamm geritten hat, ein pltzlich auf der Bildflche erscheinender Sohn aus vorehelicher Zeit, den er Gwen aber verheimlicht hatte, der Tod eines vterlichen Freundes, den es stilvoll unter die Erde zu bringen gilt, und schlielich eine fatale Neigung, sein agiles Reproduktionsorgan auch auer Haus zum Einsatz zu bringen. Der Autor schafft es mit viel Humor und Sprachwitz, seinen zahlreichen Haupt- und Nebendarstellern ordentlich Leben einzuhauchen. Irgendwie wachsen einem alle ans Herz, ihren teilweise himmelschreienden Schwchen zum Trotz. Und es macht Spa zu lesen, wie die Davids den Goliaths die Stirn bieten, vor allem bei Gwens furiosem Kampf um ihre berufliche Reputation. Dagegen erschwert es das betrchtliche Personalaufkommen in Archies und Nats Umfeld, der etwas versponnenen Story um den Plattenladen zu folgen, die gleichzeitig Lob- und Abgesang auf das analoge Zeitalter ist. Da muss man sich seitenlang ganz schn durchbeien, um dann am Ende aber doch das Buch zufrieden zuzuklappen.

Kurzbeschreibung An immensely gifted writer and magical prose stylist. Michiko Kakutani, *New York Times* *New York Times* bestselling, Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Michael Chabon has transported readers to wonderful places: to New York City during the Golden Age of comic books (*The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier Clay*); to an imaginary Jewish homeland in Sitka, Alaska (*The Yiddish Policemens Union*); to discover *The Mysteries of*

Pittsburgh. Now he takes us to Telegraph Avenue in a big-hearted and exhilarating novel that explores the profoundly intertwined lives of two Oakland, California families, one black and one white. In *Telegraph Avenue*, Chabon lovingly creates a world grounded in pop culture, Kung Fu, 70s Blaxploitation films, vinyl LPs, jazz and soul music and delivers a bravura epic of friendship, race, and secret histories.

Pressestimmen An amazingly rich, emotionally detailed story. [Chabon's] people become so real to us, their problems so palpably netted in the authors buoyant, expressionistic prose, that the novel gradually becomes a genuinely immersive experience something increasingly rare in our ADD age. (Michiko Kakutani, *New York Times*) Chabon is an extraordinarily generous writer. He is generous to his characters, to his landscapes, to syntax, to words, to his readers there is a real joy in his work. Both ambitious and lighthearted, the novel is a touching, gentle, comic meditation. (Cathleen Schine, *New York of Books*) Astounding.... steamrolls the barrier that has kept the Great American Novel at odds with the country its supposed to reflect.... [A] huge-hearted, funny, improbably hip book. (John Freeman, *Boston Globe*) Forget Joycean or Bellovian or any other authorial allusion. *Telegraph Avenue* might best be described as Chabonesque. Exuberantly written, generously peopled, its sentences go off like a summer fireworks show, in strings of bursting metaphor. (Jess Walter, *San Francisco Chronicle*) Chabon has made a career of routing big, ambitious projects through popular genres, with superlative results. The scale of *Telegraph Avenue* is no less ambitious. Much of the wit... inheres in Chabon's astonishing prose. I don't just mean the showy bits I mean the offhand brilliance that happens everywhere. (Jennifer Egan, *New York Times Book (cover review)*) The writing - stylized, humorous and often dazzling - is inflected with tones of jazz and funk. But it's Chabon's ear for the sounds of the human soul that make this book a masterpiece, as his vividly drawn characters learn to live at the intersection of disappointment and hope. (Robin Micheli, *People* (4 out of 4 stars)) *Telegraph Avenue* is so exuberant, it's as if Michael Chabon has pulled joy from the air and squeezed it into the shape of words.... His sentences spring, bounce, set off sparklers, even when dwelling in mundane details. Fantastic. (Carolyn Kellogg, *Los Angeles Times Book*) Witty and compassionate and full of more linguistic derring-do than any other writer in America could carry off. (Ron Charles, *Washington Post*) An exhilarating, bighearted novel. (*O* magazine) A genuinely moving story about race and class, parenting and marriage Chabon is inarguably one of the greatest prose stylists of all time, powering out sentences that are the equivalent of executing a triple back flip on a bucking bull while juggling chain saws and making love to three women. (Benjamin Percy, *Esquire*) A jam that grooves, entertains, entrances and sticks in your head with infectious melodies. [Chabon] is a hypnotizing master of language, crafting fresh descriptors for familiar functions, poetic detours that never sacrifice narrative flow, well-oiled metaphorical machinations, and seamless time travelling that makes the phrase flashback seem obsolete. (Jake Austen, *Chicago Tribune*) Chabon's hugely likable characters all face crises of existential magnitude, rendered in an Electra Glide flow of Zen sentences and zinging metaphors that make us wish the needle would never arrive at the final groove. (Elle) [Chabon] is a truly gifted writer of prose: He writes long, luxurious sentences that swoop and meander before circling back in on themselves, not infrequently approximating the improvisational jazz that Archy and Nat hold so dear. (Associated Press) As always, Chabon's gorgeous prose astonishes, particularly in the Joycean chapter *A Bird of Wide Experience*. Like that colorful bird, *Telegraph Avenue* dazzles and soars. (Cliff Froehlich, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*) Spectacular. (Mike Fischer, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*) A moving, sprawling, modern-day tale that uses the improvisational shifts and rhythms of jazz and soul to tell the story of two couples. With seeming ease, Chabon shifts from high-wire flourish to moments of crystalline simplicity. (Robert Bianco, *USA Today* (4 out of 4 stars)) Fresh, unpretentious, delectably written. For all his explorations into the contentious dynamics of family, race and community, Mr. Chabon's first desire is simply to enchant with words. Eight novels in, he still uses language like someone amazed by a newly discovered superpower. (Sam Sacks, *Wall Street Journal*) A beautiful, prismatic maximalism of description and tone, a sly meditation on appropriation as the real engine of integration, and an excellent rationale for twelve-page sentences. (Kelsey Dake, *GQ*) He writes with such warmth and humor and sheer enthusiasm - for his characters, for the rhythms and atmosphere of Oakland, for geek culture, for the mysterious power of music, which he captures with uncommon descriptive virtuosity - that by the end it's hard to resist this charmingly earnest book. (Rob Brunner, *Entertainment Weekly*) This is a novel rich in story and character, rich in its dialogue and descriptions, rich in spirit and invention - and full of sharp, funny writing. The spirit of *Telegraph Avenue* is one of union and reconciliation, a welcome, exuberant voice in our fractious times. (David Walton, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*) A buoyant novel, written with the author's typical stylistic elegance and empathetic imagination. His prose is as energizing as ever, in part because he's always willing to try high-risk maneuvers up on the figurative balance beam. (Troy Patterson, *Slate*) An end-of-an era epic.... A Joyce-an remix with a hipper rhythm track. (Kirkus s (starred review)) One of Chabon's great gifts is an ability to beguile us with prose that exudes warmth into seeing ourselves in others, to even know them as ourselves. It's a feat that parlays *Telegraph Avenue*, with its diverse population, into an All-American novel, one of the great ones. (Sherryl Connelly, *Daily News*) A magnificently crafted, exuberantly alive, emotionally lustrous, and socially intricate saga.... Bubbling with lovingly curated knowledge about everything from jazz to pregnancy Chabon's rhapsodically detailed, buoyantly plotted, warmly intimate cross-cultural tale of metamorphoses is electric with suspense, humor, and bebop dialogue. An embracing, radiant masterpiece. (Booklist, starred review) If any novelist can pack the entire American zeitgeist into 500 pages, it's Chabon.... Ambitious, densely

written, sometimes very funny, and fabulously over the top, here's a rare book that really could be the great American novel. (Library Journal (starred review)) Virtuosity is the word most commonly associated with Chabon, and if *Telegraph Avenue*, the latest from Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Yiddish Policemans Union*, is at first glance less conceptual than its predecessors, the sentences are no less remarkable. (Publishers Weekly) A stylized, rapturous novel. *Telegraph Avenue* entertains with a riotous mashup of comics, kung fu, 70s jazz and family strife, but at the core lie some startlingly sober revelations. (Zane Jungman, *Austin American-Statesman*) Chabon has a near effortless ability to reveal the huge universal human truths that scaffold absurdly specific circumstances, and he does so on nearly every page here. (Emily Simon, *Buffalo News*) A sparkling, mesmerizing read. That's what Chabon's books do, sentence after sentence, page after page: they force you to bring your game up to his level. His writer's eye makes the world a more vivid, vital place to live. (Michael Bourne, *The Millions*) An achingly poignant vibe of sweet and soulful idealism makes itself heard throughout *Telegraph Avenue*. It's a dream worth imagining, and Chabon does so with skill, charm, and no small amount of virtuosic writing. (Diane Cole, *Jewish Week*) [*Telegraph Avenue*] has a Great American Novel heft to it probably because, all caps aside, it is a great American novel. (Kathryn Schulz, *New York magazine*) Chabon not only knows how [his characters] feel, but how they talk. His dialogue is a thing to behold, the plot unrelenting. And I can't imagine any writer, male or female, ever delivering a more breathtaking description of a woman giving birth. Some midwife, this Chabon. (Dan Cryer, *Newsday*) Displays both his sense of ordinary people's inner lives and his rich, freewheeling prose. A dense, flavorful book about race, class, politics, culture and sexuality, as expansive and ambitious as anything Chabon has published to date. An essential, unforgettable read. (Ben Pfeiffer, *Kansas City Star*) His most mature, accessible fiction to date. An engrossing, well-crafted drama of family and friendship. Chabon's storytelling gifts seem to know no bounds, and the dexterity with which he crafts his beautiful prose is often breathtaking. (Jeremy Garber, *The Oregonian*) A dazzling star turn of a novel that showcases Chabon's writing talents like a digital TV screen above Times Square. Chabon does love popular culture, but he loves humanity more, and that love is the power behind this sweeping novel. (Bob Hoover, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*) Chabon's inventiveness requires language dazzling and deft enough to put it across, and like most of his later work, *Telegraph Avenue* reads easy - I downed 300 pages flying back from Denmark, stopping only to eat and nap. (Robert Christgau, barnesandnoble.com) A dazzling display of sheer writing ability from the prodigiously talented Chabon. (Philadelphia Inquirer) Michael Chabon is the Michael Jordan of American novelists. *Telegraph Avenue* could serve as a master class on how to write a novel. (John Broening, *Denver Post*) As ever, Chabon is a performing magician. He can take any topic and stage it so the crowd smiles and even oohs its amazement. Chabon makes a grab for the entire world in a single bighearted book. (Darin Strauss, *New York Times Book Review*) *Pressestimmen* A magnificently crafted, exuberantly alive, emotionally lustrous, and socially intricate saga.... Bubbling with lovingly curated knowledge about everything from jazz to pregnancy. Chabon's rhapsodically detailed, buoyantly plotted, warmly intimate cross-cultural tale of metamorphoses is electric with suspense, humor, and bebop dialogue. An embracing, radiant masterpiece... (Booklist, starred review)