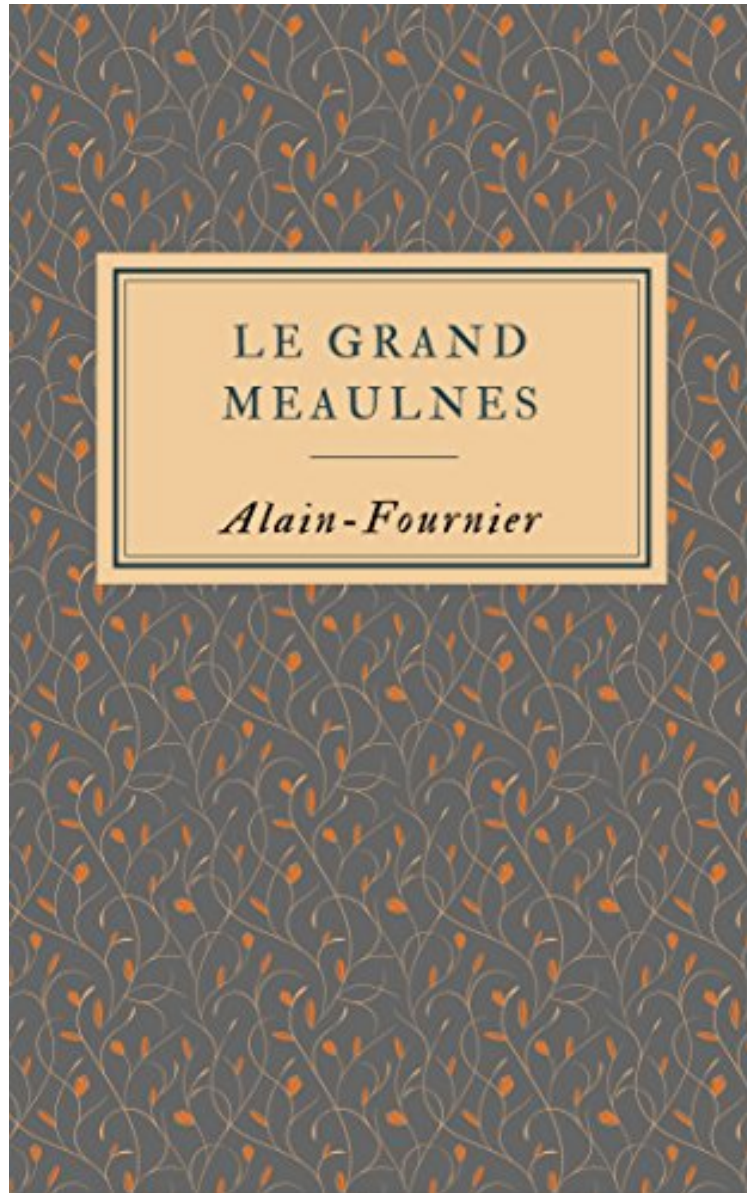


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Alain-fournier

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Alain-fournier : (Le grand Meaulnes) (French Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised (Le grand Meaulnes) (French Edition):

40 of 40 people found the following review helpful. Poignant And Magical - An Unforgettable Novel!By Jana L.Perskie"Le Grand Meaulnes" is, simply put, a beautiful novel. A friend recommended it to me recently, and after reading it once I know I will keep it to read over and over again. Alain-Fournier has written, with heartbreaking

poignance, about a magical period between boyhood and manhood; a time that once gone can never be recaptured. The book's title has shifted over the years from "The Grand Meaulnes," to "The Wanderer," and then "The Lost Domain." Alain-Fournier writes about a boy who is called "Le Grand Meaulnes" by his friends and fellow schoolmates. What does "Grand" mean? The novel's translator writes: "No English adjective will convey all the shades of meaning that can be read into the simple word 'grand' which takes on overtones as the story progresses. 'Le Grand Meaulnes' can be 'the tall,' 'the big,' 'the almost-grown-up,' even 'the great Meaulnes' - or with schoolboys, even 'good old Meaulnes.' But when the book has been put down, that phrase evokes in retrospect the image of someone not only tall or big, but also daring, noble, tragic, fabulous." And Augustin Meaulnes is all those things - as he is also a wanderer, searching for a lost domain. The tale is set in France in the late 1800s. Our narrator is Francois Seurel, the somewhat sheltered, adolescent son of Sainte-Agathe's secondary schoolmaster. A new border comes to the school, Augustin Meaulnes, bringing adventure and a breath of fresh air into Francois' peaceful, rather sedate life. The charismatic young man easily becomes the leader of the schoolboys and much admired by all. He is definitely not flamboyant nor a show-off, but a rather quiet, serious and sometimes introspective young man. Yet he has tremendous imagination and leads the boys on childish exploits, "bold and dangerous." One day Meaulnes disappears on what the others believe is a seemingly harmless prank - an adventure. When he returns, 3 days later, he is forever changed. He becomes reclusive and obsessively works on a map he is making. He loses interest in everything and everyone, except for Francois, who has become his only confidant. The day Meaulnes disappeared from the schoolhouse, he became lost and disoriented. After an anxious overnight stop, in the middle of nowhere, he found himself in the midst of a grand and fantastic celebration in a forest clearing. The festival was held to celebrate the wedding of young Frantz de Galais and his beloved bride. At this feast, Augustin Meaulnes met the beautiful, gentle, mysterious Yvonne, Frantz' sister. Tragically, the wedding never took place, the party was disbanded, and Meaulnes, forced to take leave immediately, lost sight of Yvonne - his fairy-princess, his love dream of adolescence. He returned to Sainte-Agathe but remained haunted by memories of the magic place, its trappings and most of all, Yvonne. Meaulnes' time was now almost exclusively spent trying to find his way back, but since he didn't know how he arrived at the domain, he didn't know how to return. Disconsolate, he wrote down everything he remembered about his trip and began his mapmaking. He promised Francois that he could accompany him when he finally makes his way back to the lost domain. Together the two friends attempt to retrace Meaulnes' footsteps. They journey together into the world of adulthood, trying to close the circle between what had been and what was yet to be. Alain-Fournier's descriptive prose is exquisite. His narrative frequently reads like pure poetry, filled with magical imagery. I must say a few words here about Frank Davison's superb and faithful translation. Without Mr. Davison's work, I would not have been able to appreciate Fournier's prose. This story of friendship and love, of vows broken and vows kept, is one of the most original and unique books I have ever read. I cannot recommend it highly enough. What makes this novel even more poignant is that the author was killed, at age 27, in the first actions of WWI. I was overwhelmed by sadness when I learned of this terrible loss. Alain-Fournier will always be remembered through his wonderful work. JANA0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I hate to give a low star rating based on this. By TMBuyer beware. I was looking at the French edition paperback when I noticed I could get the same book on Kindle for a lower price. The Kindle book is in English. Perhaps I was foolish in thinking that different language translations would be listed separately, but it was very misleading. I hate to give a low star rating based on this, but I don't know how else to report it and I don't want others to get burned. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Le grand Meaulnes: un grand livre. By Murielle Lucie Cleacutement. Il y a des livres qui restent et d'autres qui disparaissent. Le grand Meaulnes d'Alain-Fournier se classe dans la premiere categorie. Mystere, enfance, erie... Mais pardessus tout, une ecriture qui n'a pas pris une seule ride en cent ans. Ce livre est grave; metre entre toutes les mains pour un immense plaisir de lecture. Murielle Lucie Cleacutement

Alain-Fournier, demi-pseudonyme d'Henri-Alban Fournier, ne le 3 octobre 1886; La Chapelle-d'Angillon dans le Cher et mort au combat le 22 septembre 1914 (age; 27 ans) age; Saint-Remy-la-Calonne, est un ecrivain francais, dont l'oeuvre la plus celebre est Le Grand Meaulnes.

About the Author Alain-Fournier, christened Henri Alban, was born in La Chapelle d'Angillon in 1886. He was tragically killed in the First World War after writing Le Grand Meaulnes (The Lost Domain), his only novel.