



## Baltasar and Blimunda

*By Jose Saramago*

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**Baltasar and Blimunda** By Jose Saramago

From the recipient of the 1998 Nobel Prize in Literature, a “brilliant...enchancing novel” (New York Times Book Review) of romance, deceit, religion, and magic set in eighteenth-century Portugal at the height of the Inquisition. National bestseller. Translated by Giovanni Pontiero.

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## **Baltasar and Blimunda By Jose Saramago Bibliography**

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Saramago has blended fact and fiction in much the same way as Marquez and others use magical realism, to create an elegantly written, surrealistic reflection on life in 18th century Portugal. It is a time of astonishing excess—autos-da-fe, the Inquisition, an outbreak of the plague, colonialism—and the two central characters, Baltasar, a soldier just home from the wars, and Blimunda, a clairvoyant who can actually see inside people, are enlisted by the renegade priest, Bartolomeu Lourenco de Gusmao, to help him construct a flying machine. (A mad genius, Bartolomeu actually existed and is now considered a pioneer of aviation.) The machine does fly, but with disastrous consequences for all involved. This is a dark, philosophical tale that shows off the talents of Portugal's premier contemporary writer.

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From Library Journal

Saramago's epic novel is set in 18th-century Portugal, a kingdom bloated with plundered wealth and top-heavy with churches and priests. Real events (the erection of an enormous convent in the tiny village of Mafra) and real personages (an heretical priest bent on building a flying machine) figure prominently. But the maimed soldier and his visionary lover named in the title are bit players, for the real protagonist here is Portugal itself in travail. Distanced and ironic, Saramago's novel might well have been written to illustrate Walpole's dictum that "the world is a comedy to those that think, a tragedy to those that feel." Recommended for collections emphasizing modern continental fiction. Grove Koger, Boise P.L., Id.

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Review

"Much reverberates in memory after reading this enchanting novel, but most of all the love story which soars over the rest of the action like a flute above a heavy orchestra. Mr. Saramago, a writer of sharp intelligence, keeps this love story under strict control, free of pathos or sentimentality. It is a of, and on, the earth." -- *Irving Howe, The New York Times Book Review*

"Saramago has produced a novel that is deeply imbedded in the history of his land yet moves in mystical realms. It is a romance and an adventure, a rumination on royalty and religion in 18th century Portugal and a bitterly ironic comment on the uses of power." -- *Walter Goodman, The New York Times*

A charming and really moving love story. -- *USA Today*

## Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Margaret Wright:**

Do you have favorite book? Should you have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to be aware of everything in the world. Each reserve has different aim or maybe goal; it means that e-book has different type. Some people sense enjoy to spend their a chance to read a book. These are reading whatever they take because their hobby is definitely reading a book. Think about the person who don't like reading through a book? Sometime, man feel need book when they found difficult problem or even exercise. Well, probably you'll have this Baltasar and Blimunda.

**Sheila Carter:**

Information is provisions for individuals to get better life, information these days can get by anyone with everywhere. The information can be a know-how or any news even an issue. What people must be consider whenever those information which is inside former life are challenging to be find than now could be taking seriously which one is acceptable to believe or which one the resource are convinced. If you have the unstable resource then you get it as your main information we will see huge disadvantage for you. All of those possibilities will not happen in you if you take Baltasar and Blimunda as the daily resource information.

**Ruth Aguilar:**

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**Donald Link:**

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book is usually option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the book untitled Baltasar and Blimunda can be excellent book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

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