



## Marx's Das Kapital: A Biography (Books That Changed the World)

By Francis Wheen

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**Marx's Das Kapital: A Biography (Books That Changed the World)** By Francis Wheen

In this brilliant book, “as gripping and as readable as a first-rate thriller,” Francis Wheen, author of the most successful biography of Karl Marx, tells the story of *Das Kapital* and Karl Marx’s twenty-year struggle to complete his unfinished masterpiece. (*The Sunday Telegraph*) Born in a two room flat in London’s Soho amid political squabbles and personal tragedy, the first volume of *Das Kapital* was published in 1867, to muted praise. But after Marx’s death, the book went on to influence thinkers, writers, and revolutionaries, from George Bernard Shaw to V. I. Lenin, changing the direction of twentieth century history. In this “exhilarating read,” Wheen shows that, far from being a dry economic treatise, *Das Kapital* is like a vast Gothic novel whose heroes are enslaved by the monster they created: capitalism. (*The Times*, London) Furthermore, Wheen argues, as long as capitalism endures, *Das Kapital* demands to be read and understood.

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## Marx's Das Kapital: A Biography (Books That Changed the World) By Francis Wheen Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1593435 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Atlantic Monthly Press
- Published on: 2007-11-10
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .61" h x 5.36" w x 8.02" l, 1.10 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 130 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"As gripping and as readable as a first-rate thriller."

"Wheen...presents this splendid reevaluation with great wit and verve."

"[Wheen] brilliantly evokes the atmosphere of Victorian Gothic that pervades the pages of *Das Kapital*."

"[An] exhilarating read, and a healthy corrective to those brought up to think of Marx's work as rigid and doctrinaire."

#### About the Author

Francis Wheen, an author and journalist, was named Columnist of the Year for his contributions to the *Guardian*. He is the author of several books, including *How Mumbo-Jumbo Conquered the World* and a highly acclaimed biography of Karl Marx that has been translated into twenty languages. His collected journalism, *Hoo-Hahs and Passing Frenzies*, won the George Orwell Prize in 2003. Simon Vance, a former BBC Radio presenter and newsreader, is a full-time actor who has appeared on both stage and television. He has recorded over four hundred audiobooks and has earned over twenty Earphones Awards from *AudioFile* magazine, including one for his narration of *Theft* by Peter Carey. A twelve-time Audie finalist, Simon has won three Audie Awards, including one for *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens, and the 2008 Booklist Voice of Choice Award. He has also been named an *AudioFile* Golden Voice as well as an *AudioFile* Best Voice of 2009.

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