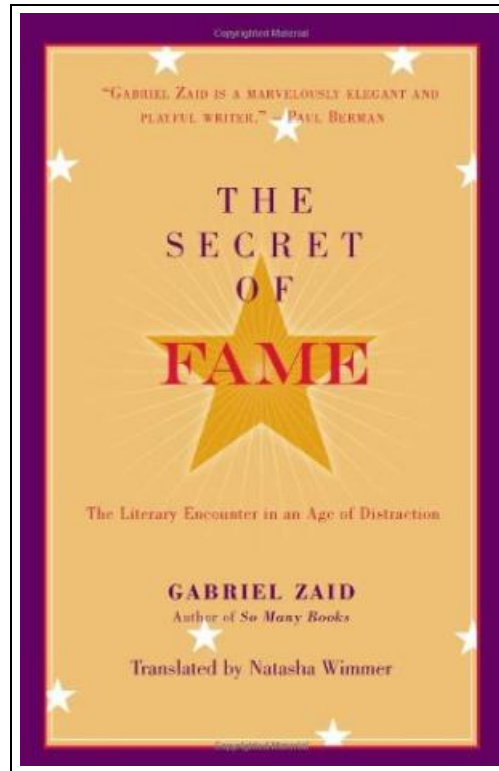


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Paul Dry Books, Inc, United States, 2008. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 178 x 122 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Gabriel Zaid is a marvelously elegant and playful writera cosmopolitan critic with sound judgment and a light touch. He is a jewel of Latin American letters, which is no small thing to be. Read himyou ll see. Paul Berman Mr. Zaid s goal is to capture the variety of anxieties that beset literary fame-seekers, and he does so with a mocking cleverness. A serious theme, though, runs through his bookthat with the possible exception of a few agonized painters and musicians, no one can quite touch the exquisite torment of the literary artist as he faces the hazards of fate. Wall Street Journal In So Many Books, Gabriel Zaid explored the predicament in which all unrepentant readers find themselves today, when the human race publishes a book every thirty seconds more books than any of us can even contemplate, much less read.Now, in The Secret of Fame, this playful celebrant of literary proliferation ( New Yorker ) examines the methods and motivations of literary fame-seekers from ancient times to the present day. He shines a critical, yet humorous, light on today s book world, whose denizens often find it more interesting to talk about writers than to read them, and he takes a serious look at the desire for fame and the disillusionment that can engulf those who achieve it. Along the way, Zaid pokes fun at literary and scholarly traditions, including the unwritten rules of quoting other authors, the ascendancy of the footnote, and the practice of publishing foolishly complete works. More important to Zaid than the fame of a piece of writing or of its writer is the miracle of great writing. Fame concentrates society s attention...



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