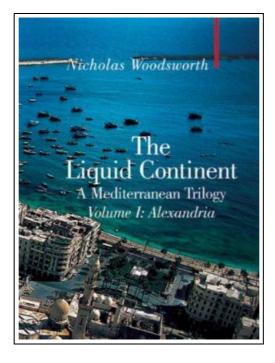
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Armchair Traveller. 1 Cloth(s), 2008. hard. Book Condition: New. When Nicholas Woodsworth came to Alexandria, he immediately felt its particular atmosphere: "There is an intimacy, a garrulous warmth and near-tribal sociability that belongs to this city and is shared by all others on this sea. It is not African, nor European, nor Middle Eastern, either. But it is identifiable. It is Mediterranean." In this first of his three petite travelogues on the unique culture of the Mediterranean Sea, Woodsworth attempts to explain why it is that he is so attracted to the once-great ports of this sea, even as they fall into disrepair in the age of airliners, bullet trains, and container freight. "Wherever you look in the Mediterranean, life is basically the same. I don't mean in the hinterland or in the capitals lying far in the interiortheir agendas are different. I mean the people and ports on the sea itself." Once the staff travel writer for London's Weekend Financial Times, Woodsworth realized that the Mediterranean was far more than an empty space surrounded by Europe, Asia, and Africa on the map, and in this charming, anecdotal book, he makes us see it as well. "This sea has its own cities, its own life, its own way of being. Jean Cocteau loved the Mediterranean. Of all the world's continents, he said, it is the only one that is liquid." 201.



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