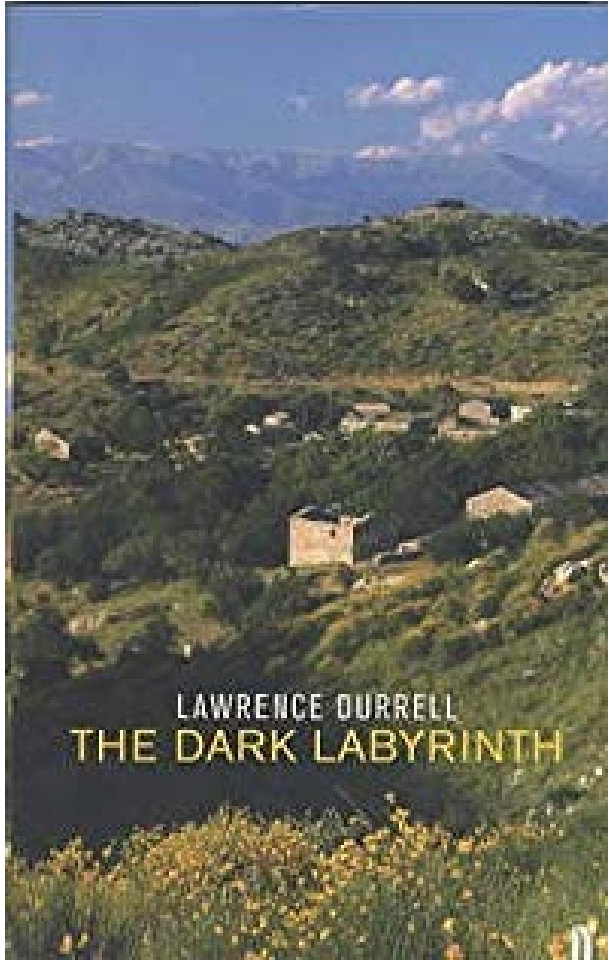


The Dark Labyrinth



Pages:	256
Language	English
Author:	Lawrence Durrell
ISBN10:	057120743X
Genre:	Fiction
ISBN13:	9780571207435
Goodreads Rating:	3.73
Published:	July 9th 2001 by Faber Faber

[The Dark Labyrinth.pdf](#)

[The Dark Labyrinth.epub](#)

This captivating Mediterranean novel was written by Lawrence Durrell immediately after finishing his exquisite vignette about Corfu, Prospero's Cell, and a decade before Justine.

The story is set on Crete just after the War, as an odd assortment of English travellers come ashore from a cruise ship to explore the island and in particular to examine a dangerous local labyrinth. They include an extrovert painter, a spiritualist, a Protestant spinster with a fox terrier, an antiquarian peer and minor poet, a soldier with guilty memories of the Cretan resistance, a pretty convalescent and an eccentric married couple. To some extent the book is a roman à clef and Durrell's characters talk with great reality about their experiences, themselves and a certain psychological unease that has led most of them to embark on their journey. The climax is a disastrous visit to the labyrinth, with its reported minotaur. The novel is a gripping piece of story-telling, full of atmosphere and the vivid first-hand writing about Mediterranean landscape and people of which Durrell was a master. [Cefalu (1947; republished as The Dark Labyrinth in 1958)]