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## Dom Casmurro

By Joaquim M. Machado de Assis

Oxford University Press, USA. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 288 pages. Dimensions: 8.0in. x 5.2in. x 0.9in. A palm tree, seeing me troubled and divining the cause, murmured in its branches that there was nothing wrong with fifteen-year old boys getting into corners with girls of fourteen; quite the contrary, youths of that age have no other function, and corners were made for that very purpose. It was an old palm-tree, and I believed in old palm-trees even more than in old books. Birds, butterflies, a cricket trying out its summer song, all the living things of the air were of the same opinion. So begins this extraordinary love story between Bento and Capitu, childhood sweethearts who grow up next door to each other in Rio de Janeiro in the 1850s. Like other great nineteenth century novels--The Scarlet Letter, Anna Karenina, Madame Bovary--Machado de Assis Dom Casmurro explores the themes of marriage and adultery. But what distinguishes Machados novel from the realism of its contemporaries, and what makes it such a delightful discovery for English-speaking readers, is its eccentric and wildly unpredictable narrative style. Far from creating the illusion of an orderly fictional reality, Dom Casmurro is told by a narrator...

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