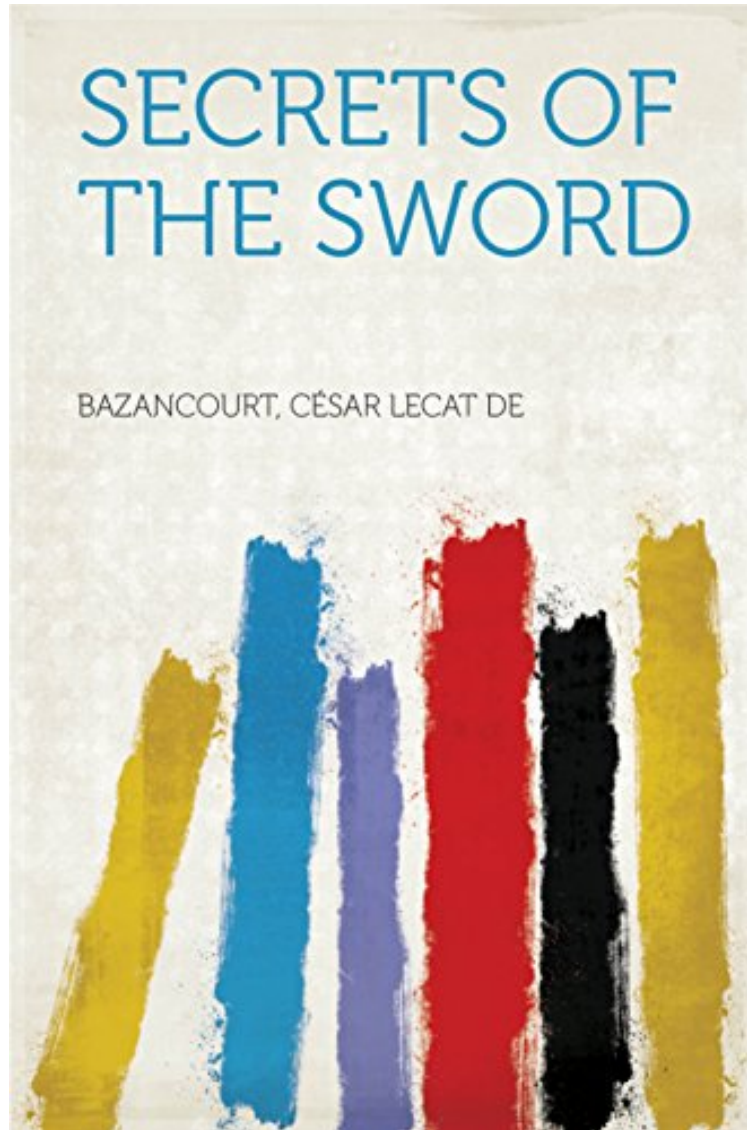


(Pdf free) Secrets of the Sword

Secrets of the Sword

Von Csar Lecat de Bazancourt

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Von Csar Lecat de Bazancourt : Secrets of the Sword before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Secrets of the Sword:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A must for all fencers! Von remise@aol.com "A sharp point is a peremptory fact, which makes shortwork of illusions." So declares the French nobleman Baron Cesarde Bazancourt, writing in his classic and far too long out of print masterpiece, "Secrets of the Sword," of which I have just pre-ordered three copies. I never thought I would see this book, first published in 1900, in print again. In general, "Secrets of the Sword" presents a sort of Socratic dialogue for

our sport, and in doing so, delights the reader with the author's wit, his observations, and his insights. Those who lament the loss in skill, and the increase in violent athleticism, seen in today's competitive fencing will be amused to note that almost a century ago, the same complaints were being voiced. The author examines, with a notably critical eye, the intricacies of fencing -- and duelling, for duels were still occasionally fought in those days. He then refines and simplifies the essence of fencing, and, at last, presents our sport as art, and perhaps even philosophy. Those of us who have dedicated our own lifetimes to fencing will easily follow this transformation, and delight in it. "Secrets of the Sword" begins with the author promising to share his ideas with several of his acquaintances, some veteran fencers, and some never having held a blade in their lives. He claims that he can simplify the terminology, and in so doing, the actions, of fencing, to the betterment of the fencer and his performance on the piste and in actual combat. We then follow the Baron and his acolytes -- for no better word will serve -- through eleven evenings of instruction, each session with its own gems of wisdom relating to fencing, armed combat in general, and ultimately offering us some lessons -- should we choose to perceive them -- relating to life itself. As the book closes, the Baron offers a summary of his hopes for his students, and for us, his readers: "You have given us most excellent advice," exclaimed the Comte de C. "If one could only think of it all at the critical moment, one would be well provided." "Think of only half of it," I answered, "and you will not do so badly, -- there are so many men who cannot think at all." 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A refreshing read Von GLEN MCFERRENT There's been a lengthy review, so I'll keep it short. This book was a pleasure to read, with a casual air that pulls one along. As a beginning fencer, the presentation of a knowledgeable fencer speaking to a non-fencing group, providing a simple (but progressively deeper) overview of the art/sport/skill over a series of evening talks, met my needs wonderfully. Even so, it is clear that some of the topics (this book was written almost 150 years ago) are apparently still being debated in contemporary fencing. This book was a clever and refreshing break from some of the "heavier" fencing literature I have been reading. I would have to believe that the more you know of fencing, the more you will get from this book. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Another Excellent Offering from Laureate Press Von Ein Kunde I have often compared this book, in casual conversation, to Musashi's "Book of Five Rings." Like the latter offering, Bazancourt presents a mixture of philosophy, advice, and technique. Obviously, they are also very different-the one was written in Tokugawa Japan and the other in nineteenth century France-but they are similar in that they seek to touch not just the accidentals of the practice of swordsmanship, but also the universals. (Or, for those not conversant in Scholastic philosophy, not just the being, but the essence.) Bazancourt's book is not just informative and useful, but also entertaining and well-written. I'm sure that the French original must be even better!

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