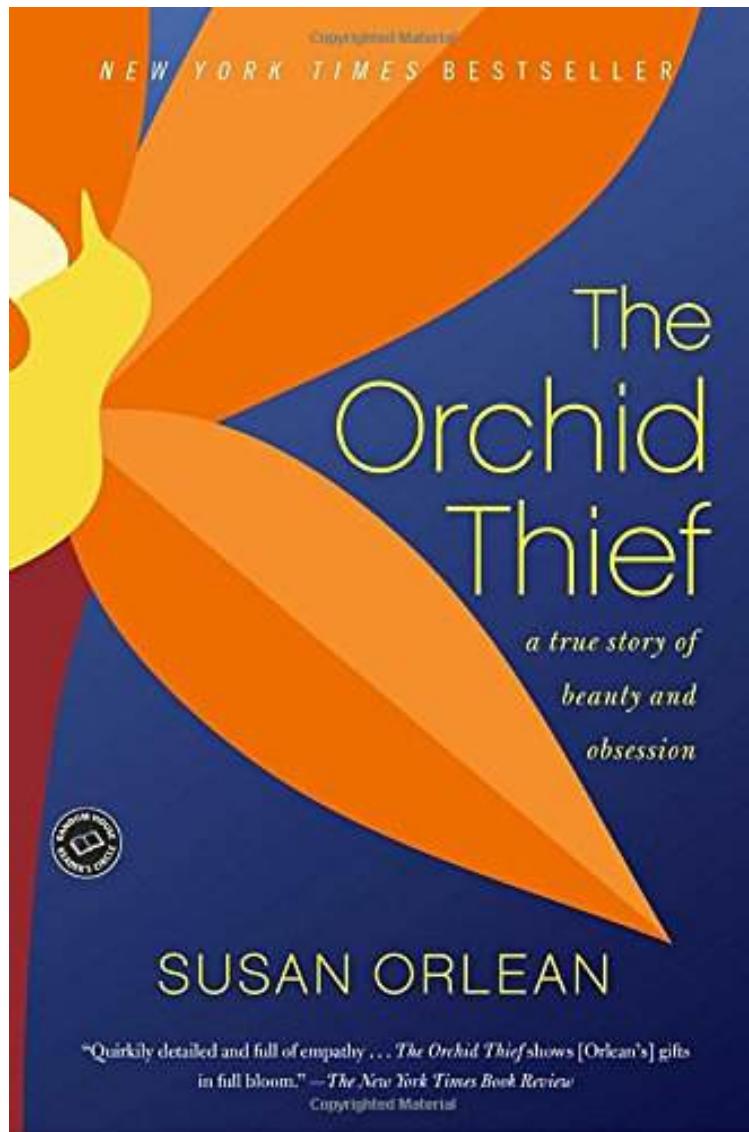


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## **The Orchid Thief: A True Story of Beauty and Obsession (Ballantine Reader's Circle)**

*By Susan Orlean*  
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1 of 1 review helpful Yet another window into the European Great White Hunter attitude of ruthless greed which is By BSteeve This is an interesting book It doesn't have a gripping story line the reader is not on the edge of his/her seat waiting to see what happens but the history of orchid hunting is engagingly told and a horrific story it is The characters don't add a lot but do provide a connective thread Y NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER bull A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK nbsp A modern classic of personal journalism The Orchid Thief is Susan Orlean's wickedly funny elegant and captivating tale of an amazing obsession Determined to clone an endangered flower — the rare ghost orchid *Polystachya lindenii* — a deeply eccentric and oddly attractive man named John Laroche leads Orlean on an unforgettable tour of America's com *Orchidelirium* is the name the Victorians gave to the flower madness that is for botanical collectors the equivalent of gold fever Wealthy orchid fanatics of that era sent explorers heavily armed more to protect themselves against other orchid species

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