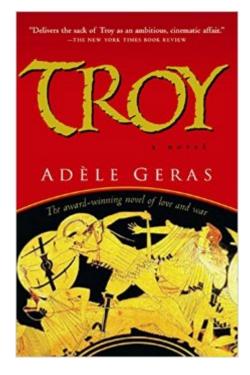
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## Synopsis

The siege of Troy has lasted almost ten years. Inside the walled city, food is scarce and death is common. From the heights of Mount Olympus, the Gods keep watch. But Aphrodite, Goddess of Love, is bored with the endless, dreary war. Aided by Eros's bow, the goddess sends two sisters down a bloody path to an awful truth: In the fury of war, love strikes the deadliest blows. Heralded by fans and critics alike, AdÃ<sup>--</sup>le Geras breathes personality, heartbreak, and humor into this classic story.

### **Book Information**

Paperback: 376 pages Publisher: Harcourt; 1st edition (September 1, 2002) Language: English ISBN-10: 0152045708 ISBN-13: 978-0152045708 Product Dimensions: 4.5 x 0.9 x 7 inches Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (67 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #642,136 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #100 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Ancient #271 in Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends > Greek & Roman #291 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Military

### **Customer Reviews**

The life of men in war has been told throughout the years, but not the stories of life of women in the time of war. Xanthe and Marpessa were two sisters that lived in a time of war in Troy. It all began when Paris decided to sweep Helen away from her husband in Greece to take her to his birthplace in Troy. This caused Helen's husband to wage a war to reclaim what was his. Ten years had passed since the war had started. Xanthe at this time worked for Paris' brother, Hector, and his wife. She took care of her infant child and worked in the Blood Room in her leisure time. The Blood Room was the place where the wounded soldiers were treated. Something extremely vital in the story happened one some of her time there, Aphrodite, bored and irritated with the long-lasting war, caused Xanthe to fall in love desperately with one of the wounded soldiers in the Blood Room. His name was Alastor. Xanthe experiences a love twist. A good female friend of Xanthe falls for a male friend that was in love with Xanthe. Unfortunately she was in love with Alastor. But as the story progresses Aphrodite's actions become duplicitous. She fools Alastor and makes him fall for

Marpessa, and she for him. Soon after this Marpessa and Alastor start a secret love affair as the war becomes bloodier and bloodier. Marpessa was Helen's housemaid but they had a relationship as strong as a mother and a daughter. She witnesses the love of Paris and Helen, but also Paris' flirting ways. That wasn't the only thing she experienced. Marpessa was able to see the gods as they walked among us humans. The gods could speak to her and she could witness their deeds. The events in war started to get intense as Paris' brother, Hector, was brutally killed by Achilles, and the city started to mourn.

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