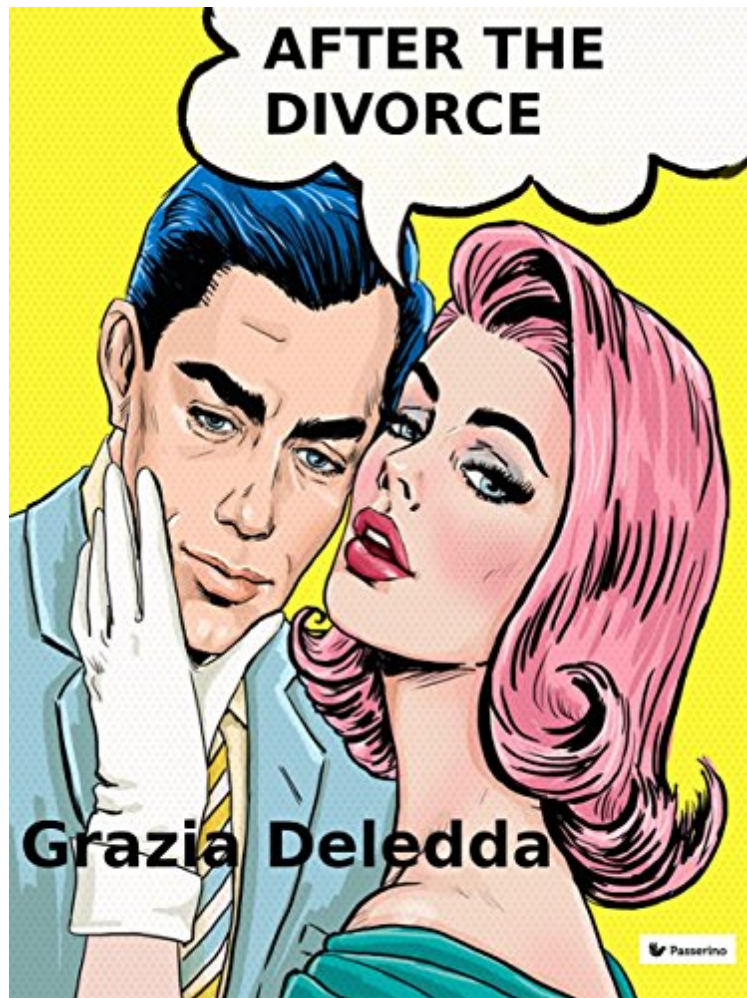


## After the divorce

*Grazia Deledda*

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**Grazia Deledda : After the divorce** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised After the divorce:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful Writing Concerning NatureBy UrennaAfter the Divorce is a tale in 1920s Sardinia of love, envy, covetousness, murder, deceit, and anger. In actuality, it is drama dealing with events in the lives of Costantino Ledda, his wife Giovanna, his rival Brontu Dejas and the mothers-in-law, Bachisia Era and Martina Dejas. Wrongfully accused of murdering his uncle, Basile, Costantino received a sentence of twenty-seven years in prison. Giovanna and Bachisia lost their home after paying off the lawyer. The area is not impoverished, but Giovanna and Bachisia did not own land, nor have cattle or sheep, like their neighbors, the Dejas. There was little work, so they, along with Martino, Giovannarsquo;s son, experienced almost starvation in the small village. Giovanna and Costantinorsquo;s toddler died during his incarceration. In the meantime, an uncompromising, bossy, Bachisia badgered Giovanna to marry Brontu, who loved her, whom she had spurned for Costantino. Realizing

she was still young, her husband's lengthy confinement, the death of their son, and poverty-stricken, Giovanna conceded. Costantino collapsed when he discovered his wife's decision to marry Brontu. Neighbors and friends were outraged. They considered it a sacrilege to divorce and marry another man while her husband alive. They named Giovanna 'the woman with two husbands.' Giovanna and her mother believed she made the right decision. Later, Giovanna had regrets. She married Brontu for his wealth, but became he and his mother's slave. Authorities freed Costantino when the real culprit confessed on his deathbed. Costantino left jail with ambivalent feelings for Giovanna. He felt betrayed. Yet he returned to the village, said he planned to leave, but could not. This became unpleasant and destructive for everyone. Notwithstanding Costantino and Giovanna are the chief characters, but the story involved stronger characters in Bachisia and Martina, too strong-willed mothers-in-law. They were imperious. I liked it, but thought the novel melodramatic and gave it three stars. You will be enlivened with Grazia DeLeddard's nature writing on Sardinia throughout the book. One of my favorites is: 'The sunset light was still brilliant while water shone here and there between oleanders and rushes, reflecting the red-gold glare of the sky. The lacy umbrellas of elder and the bright coral buds of the oleanders stood out against the light sky like enamel-work set in silver.' Ms. DeLeddard received the Nobel Prize for literature in 1926. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant Recreation Of The Sardinian Peasant's World By propertius Universal themes concerning love, fate, faith ensconced in the stifling word of a Sardinian village. Grazia Deledda brings dignity and compassion to the characters who have all the emotional impact of Italian Neo-realism. Small wonder that her work transcends time and location and she was awarded The Nobel Prize. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Romantic story By Sheryl The story illustrates life in Sardinia a century ago. For that, it is valuable. The plot is a morality tale of a young couples' struggles. It is ok as a historical oddity.

"After the Divorce" is a novel by Italian author Grazia Deledda. This tragedy is set in Sardinia. Constantino Ledda is convicted on charges for murdering his bad uncle. Constantino is innocent, but he accepts the verdict because of her wife Giovanna. After Constantino is convicted, Giovanna has no economic means to support her family, so she divorces her husband and marries again with a wealthy but cruel landowner. Constantino is released after the real killer confesses, and he and Giovanna start a forbidden romance. Grazia Deledda (27 September 1871 – 15 August 1936) was an Italian writer who received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1926. She was the first Italian woman to receive this honor. Translated from the Italian by MARIA HORNOR LANSDALE (1905)

"[Deledda] belongs to more than just her own day. She does more than reproduce the temporary psychological condition of her period. She has a background, and she deals with something more fundamental than sophisticated feeling . . . what she does do is create the passionate complex of a primitive populace." --D.H. Lawrence