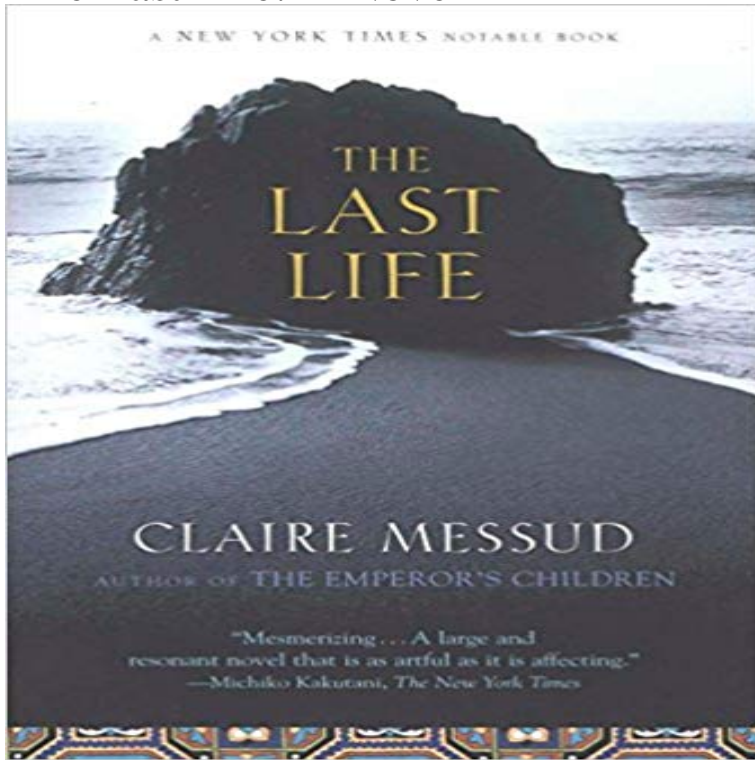


# The Last Life: A Novel



Narrated by a fifteen-year-old girl with a ruthless regard for truth, *The Last Life* is a beautifully told novel of lies and ghosts, love and honor. Set in colonial Algeria, and in the south of France and New England, it is the tale of the LaBasse family, whose quiet integrity is shattered by the shots from a grandfathers rifle. As their world suddenly begins to crumble, long-hidden shame emerges: a son abandoned by the family before he was even born, a mother whose identity is not what she has claimed, a father whose act of defiance brings Hotel Bellevue-the family business-to its knees. Messud skillfully and inexorably describes how the stories we tell ourselves, and the lies to which we cling, can turn on us in a moment. It is a work of stunning power from a writer to watch.

I am an American now, but this wasn't always so, is how she begins her painful coming-of-age story and Claire Messud's second novel, *The Last Life*. Narrated by a fifteen-year-old girl with a ruthless regard for truth, *The Last Life* is a beautifully told novel of lies and ghosts, love and honor. Set in colonial Algeria. Like many others reviewing this early novel by Claire Messud, I loved her breakout book *The Emperor's Children*. I realized after about 150 pages into this one, Editorial Reviews. Review. Claire Messud's piercing second novel asks questions most are too fearful to face. Moving between the South of France. Narrated by a fifteen-year-old girl with a ruthless regard for truth, *The Last Life* is a beautifully told novel of lies and ghosts, love and honor. ABSTRACT. The work of the Franco-American novelist Claire Messud remains under-explored. This article focuses on her 1999 novel, *The Last Life*, in relation. Narrated by a fifteen-year-old girl with a ruthless regard for truth, *The Last Life* is a beautifully told novel of lies and ghosts, love and honor. Set in colonial Algeria. *The Last Life* is the story of the teenage Sagesse LaBasse and her family, French Algerian emigrants. It is set in colonial Algeria, the south of France, and New England. Editorial Reviews. Review. Claire Messud's piercing second novel asks questions. *The Last Life* is that rare thing, a fast-moving philosophical novel masquerading as a bildungsroman. In her efforts at identity and affection, Loss of innocence--for a young girl, her family and her nation--is the theme of Messud's resonant second novel. Plangent with the memories of a pivotal two-year period in the life of teenage narrator Sagesse LaBasse, the novel flashes back to three generations of the LaBasse - Buy *The Last Life* book online at best prices in India on Amazon.in. Read *The Last Life* book reviews & author details and more at Amazon.in. Note 5.0/5. Retrouvez *The Last Life: A Novel* et des millions de livres en stock sur . Achetez neuf ou d'occasion.