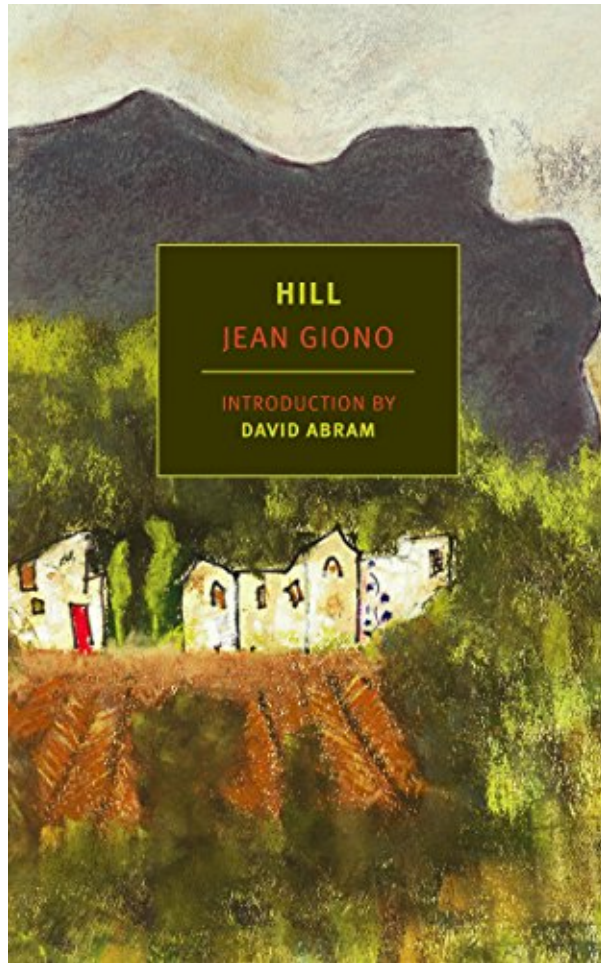
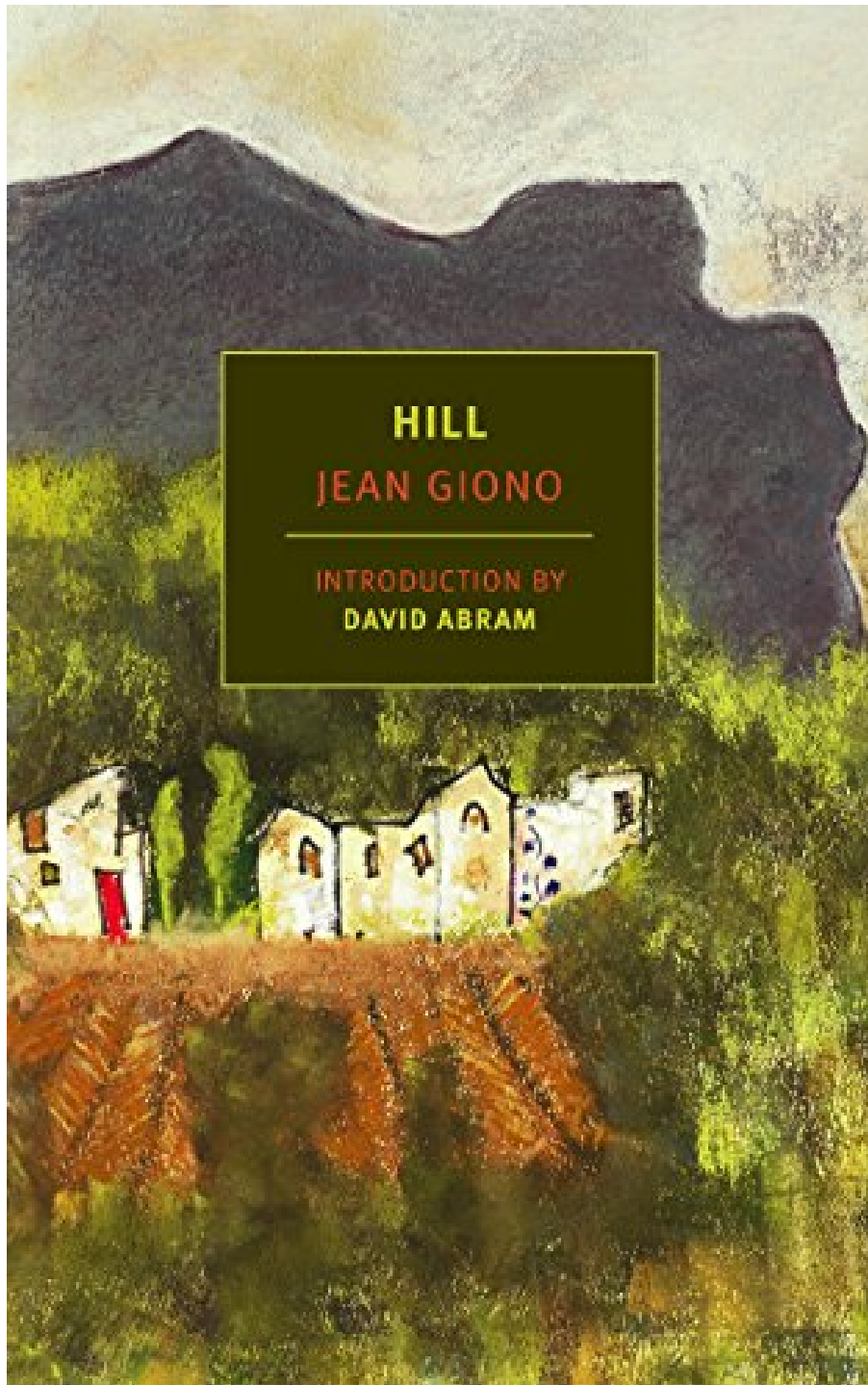


HILL (NEW YORK REVIEW BOOKS CLASSICS) BY JEAN GIONO



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Review

“Though this novel is nearly ninety years old, its sharp focus and uncompromising storytelling leave it feeling hauntingly timeless—a story of primal conflicts erupting into seemingly pastoral landscapes.”

—Kirkus Reviews

“In Hill [Giono] . . . decided to show the peasants of his region of Provence in all their particularity—and also to show the beauty and terror of nature in its raw state, stripped of its classical allusions.”

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—The New York Times

About the Author

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Paul Eprile is a longtime publisher (*Between the Lines*, Toronto), as well as a poet and translator. He is currently at work on the translation of Jean Giono’s novel *Melville* (forthcoming from NYRB) and lives on the Niagara Escarpment in Ontario, Canada.

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An NYRB Classics Original

Deep in Provence, a century ago, four stone houses perch on a hillside. Wildness presses in from all sides. Beyond a patchwork of fields, a mass of green threatens to overwhelm the village. The animal world—a miming cat, a malevolent boar—displays a mind of its own.

The four houses have a dozen residents—and then there is Gagou, a mute drifter. Janet, the eldest of the men, is bedridden; he feels snakes writhing in his fingers and speaks in tongues. Even so, all is well until the village fountain suddenly stops running. From this point on, humans and the natural world are locked in a life-and-death struggle. All the elements—fire, water, earth, and air—come into play.

From an early age, Jean Giono roamed the hills of his native Provence. He absorbed oral traditions and, at the same time, devoured the Greek and Roman classics. *Hill*, his first novel and the first winner of the Prix Brentano, comes fully back to life in Paul Eprile's poetic translation.

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Fantastic

By Amazon Customer

This novel is full of exquisite imagery, moving freely between the impressionistic, the naturalistic, and the human. The translation is beautiful. The effect of the story and the skill of the prose left me in a perfect poetic pause.

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