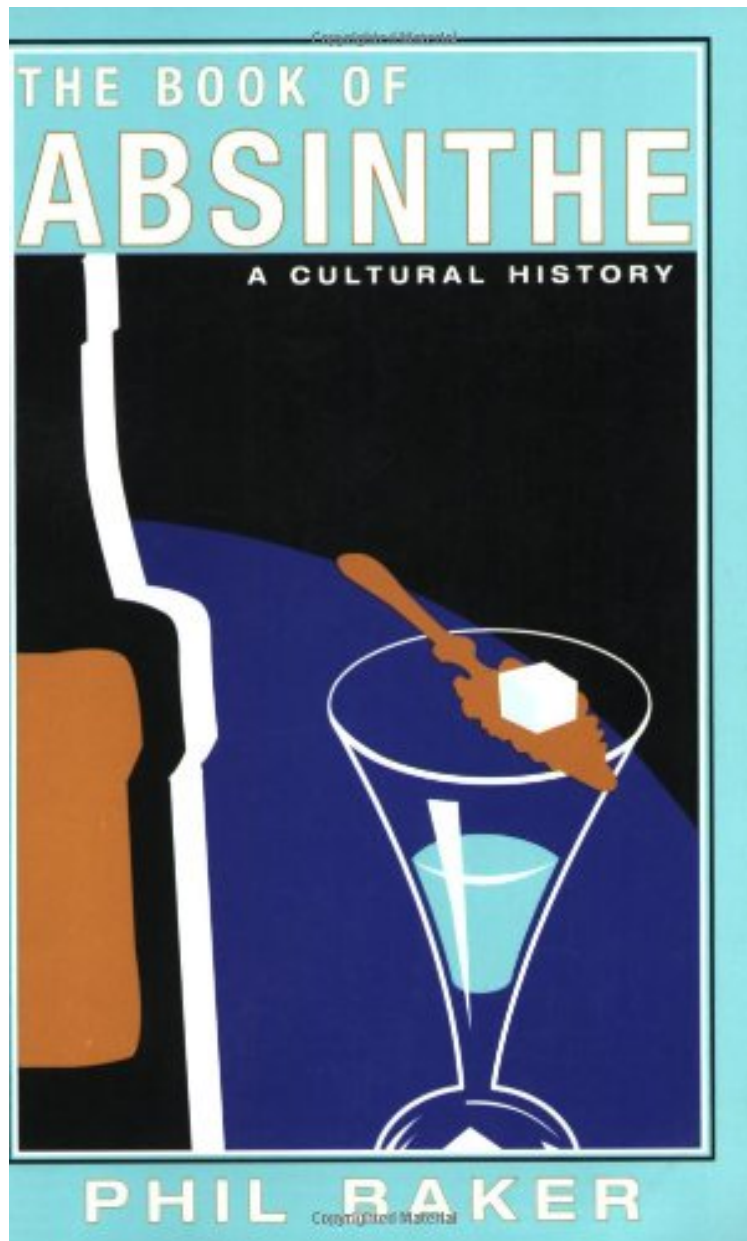


[Ebook pdf] The Book of Absinthe: A Cultural History

## The Book of Absinthe: A Cultural History

*Phil Baker*

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**Phil Baker : The Book of Absinthe: A Cultural History** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Book of Absinthe: A Cultural History:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy Mike PlaisanceFast shipment, no complaints.0 of 0

people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CustomerVery informative.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Loved itBy Helana MariePhil Baker's hilarious reviews of various brands of absinthe, at the end of the text, are worth the price of the book all on their own. The book gives an engaging overview of the history of "La Fee Verte." I thought it was a good read, and I will now be able to hold up my end of the conversation the next time the topic of absinthe comes up. Paul Verlaine, Arthur Rimbaud, Charles Baudelaire, Oscar Wilde, Ernest Dowson, Aleister Crowley, Arthur Machen, August Strindberg, Alfred Jarry, Vincent van Gogh, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Alphonse Allais, Ernest Hemingway, and Pablo Picasso are all said to have fallen into the bitter embrace of "The Green Fairy." Interesting drink drunk by interesting people.

La Fee Verte (or "The Green Fairy") has intoxicated artists, poets, and writers ever since the late eighteenth century. Stories abound of absinthe's druglike sensations of mood lift and inspiration due to the presence of wormwood, its infamous "special" ingredient, which ultimately leads to delirium, homicidal mania, and death. Opening with the sensational 1905 Absinthe Murders, Phil Baker offers a cultural history of absinthe, from its modest origins as an herbal tonic through its luxuriantly morbid heyday in the late nineteenth century. Chronicling a fascinatingly lurid cast of historical characters who often died young, the absinthe scrapbook includes Paul Verlaine, Arthur Rimbaud, Charles Baudelaire, Oscar Wilde, Ernest Dowson, Aleister Crowley, Arthur Machen, August Strindberg, Alfred Jarry, Vincent van Gogh, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Alphonse Allais, Ernest Hemingway, and Pablo Picasso. Along with discussing the rituals and modus operandi of absinthe drinking, Baker reveals the recently discovered pharmacology of how real absinthe actually works on the nervous system, and he tests the various real and fake absinthe products that are available overseas. The Book of Absinthe is a witty, erudite primer to the world's most notorious drink.

"Magnificent...formidably researched, beautifully written, and abundant with telling detail and pitch-black humor." "Hugely entertaining...excellent...merits prolonged and repeated consumption." "Packed with enjoyable anecdotes and eccentric absintheurs, and reveals why it has been the most demonized of all alcoholic drinks."