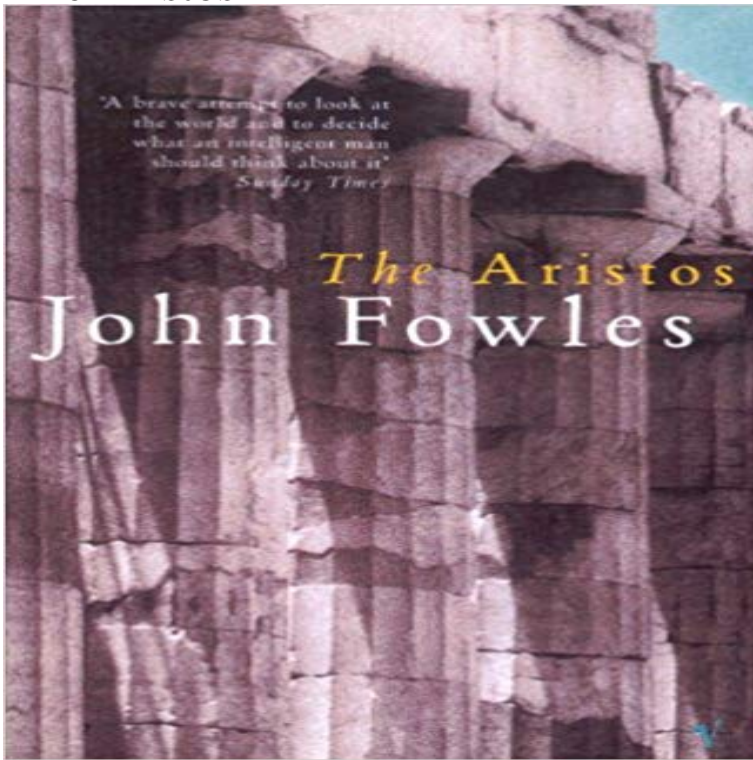


The Aristos



Two years after *The Collector* had brought him international recognition and a year before he published *The Magus*, John Fowles set out his ideas on life in *The Aristos*. The chief inspiration behind them was the fifth century BC philosopher Heraclitus. In the world he posited of constant and chaotic flux the supreme good was the Aristos, of a person or thing, the best or most excellent its kind. What I was really trying to define was an ideal of human freedom (the Aristos) in an unfree world, wrote Fowles in 1965. He called a materialistic and over-conforming culture to reckoning with his views on a myriad of subjects - pleasure and pain, beauty and ugliness, Christianity, humanism, existentialism, socialism

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Other articles where *The Aristos: A Self-Portrait in Ideas* is discussed: John Fowles: This was followed by *The Aristos: A Self-Portrait in Ideas* (1964), a collection of several hundred philosophical aphorisms by English author John Fowles. A revised edition, without the title may suggest *A la lanterne les aristos!*, the cry of the French revolutionary mob in *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. But in fact Fowles is using the authors heavily corrected copies of *The Aristos*, *The Magus*, and *The French Lieutenant's Woman* have already been purchased, alas but