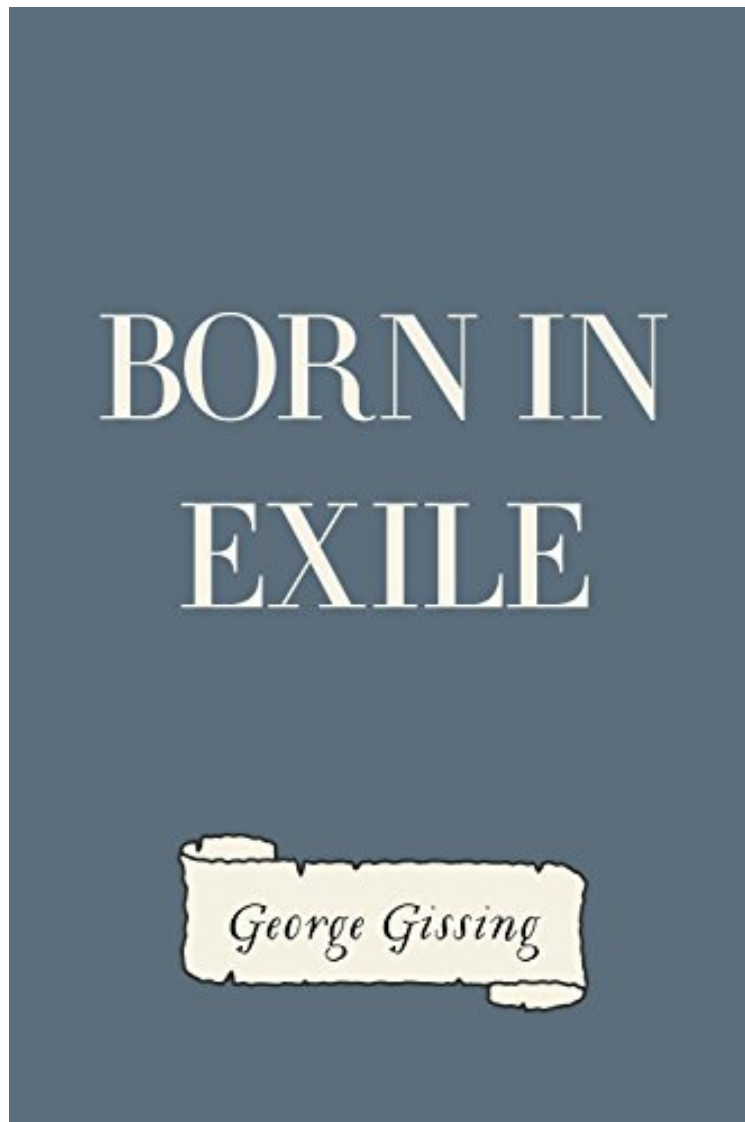


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Born in Exile (English Edition)

Von George Gissing

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Von George Gissing : Born in Exile (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Born in Exile (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Our friend, the Charlatan.Von Austin ElliottGeorge Gissing is not a name most people would recognize as one of the great Victorian novelists.Though always admired by those who experienced his powerful and original work,he never achieved the wide readership that the critically underrated Trollope has,let alone the perennial favorites-the Brontes

and Dickens. Even obviously lesser yet talented authors such as Wilkie Collins, Mary Elizabeth Braddon and Marie Corelli are certainly more read today than Gissing. Yet he was best English novelist (along with Thomas Hardy and Robert Louis Stevenson) of the late Victorian era with his unsparing realism and trenchant observations on class and manners filtered through a nervous and uncertain sensibility. His comparative obscurity may be due to the reputation his work has for being depressing (it is not) and his iconoclasm—he was an agnostic maverick whose criticisms of capitalism, religion and sex still will unsettle those seeking in Victorian literature an escape to simpler, kinder times. What is most remarkable about George Gissing (and sometimes most poignant) is that he had no set philosophy and was himself unable to extract concrete and assuring meanings from life even as he attempted to depict and explicate it. "Born in Exile" tells the story of one Godwin Peake, a poor, socially insecure but brilliant college graduate whose yearnings to belong to the "respectable" world clash with his intellectual rejection of its conservatism. Peake, an atheist, shares little sympathy with his poor religious family and is humiliated by the "commonness" of some of his relations' work. Overly sensitive and with only his intelligence to support his pride, Peake happens to be invited to the home of a good natured but popular college hero, whose wealth and breeding expose him to a world he has only dreamed about. Peake there meets his kind studious clergyman father and beautiful graceful sister, and being subjected for the first time to respect, interest and charm, he begins to find himself doing anything to fit in—including initiating a series of lies to mask his radical opinions. "Born in Exile" powerfully portrays the complexities of living a double life; its critical yet sympathetic treatment of its protagonist humanely examines the limited and cloudy choices of "this prison called life" and the merciless and clearcut repercussions that entail. In addition, "Born in Exile" is autobiographical—a similar situation happened to Gissing in reality. George Gissing wrote many great novels in the 1890's—this is an excellent and memorable place (if you are a neophyte) to start. END

Kurzbeschreibung George Gissing was a British novelist, most famous for his novels *The Nether World*, *New Grub Street*, and *The Odd Women*. He is said to have been primarily influenced by Emile Zola. Kurzbeschreibung George Gissing was a British novelist, most famous for his novels *The Nether World*, *New Grub Street*, and *The Odd Women*. He is said to have been primarily influenced by Emile Zola. Synopsis The summer day in 1874 which closed the annual session of Whitelaw College was marked by a special ceremony preceding the wonted distribution of academic rewards.