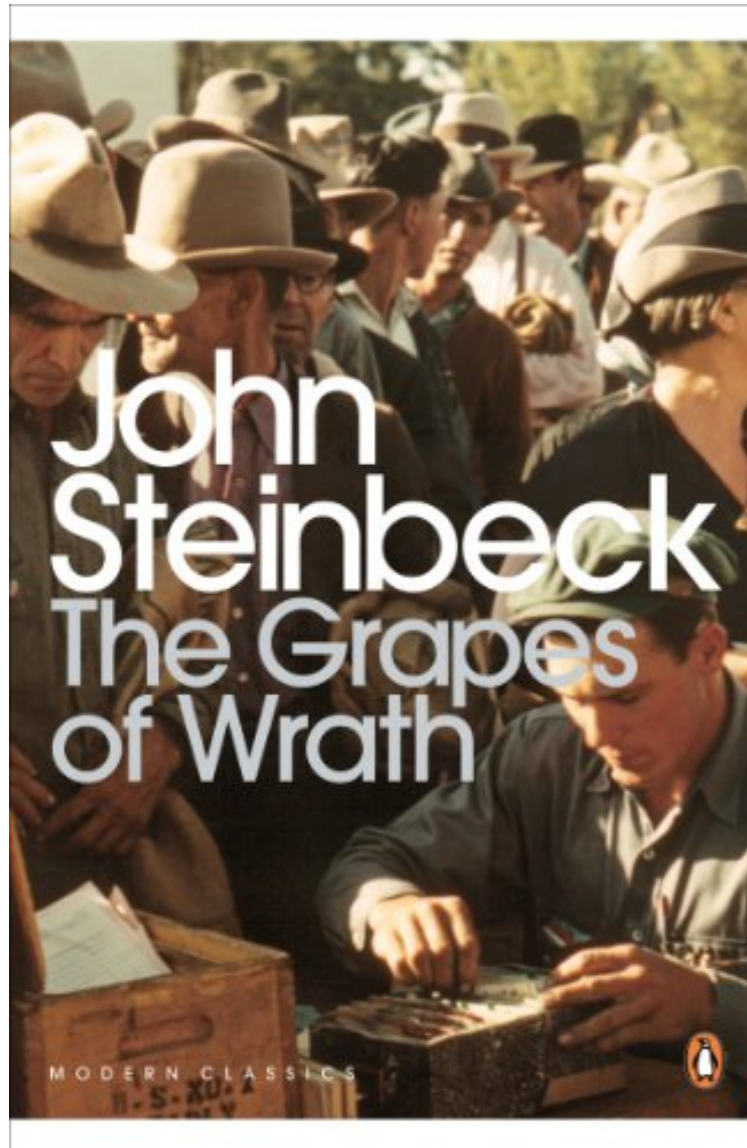


[Library ebook] The Grapes of Wrath (Penguin Modern Classics)

The Grapes of Wrath (Penguin Modern Classics)

Von John Steinbeck

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Von John Steinbeck : The Grapes of Wrath (Penguin Modern Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Grapes of Wrath (Penguin Modern Classics):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Timeless and sharp observation of an economic depressionVon Alezza GrayI started Grapes of Wrath more out of courtesy to a friend who strongly recommend it than anything else, but was really grateful I did. It's an excellent piece of literature and I do understand now why it's a classic.Set in the 1920s, with a family in Oklahoma losing their land and work due

to a ruthless banking system, unfavorable weather and dropping prices for work along with thousands affected by the same fate, they decide to go to California to improve their situation. On the way they struggle to make ends meet, with the different coping strategies of the family meme era, and also other families sharing a similar fate. There are many obstacles on their way, including the disdain by Californians, state and rich people. The slang used may be difficult to read for non-native speakers. What I particularly enjoyed were the "philosophic chapters" where it's not about driving the story of the characters, but about analyzing the situation. It is so well observed, sharp and nearly poetic, not to say timeless. Those chapters as standalone could be easily written for the depression of 2008/09 and would still be accurate. Seeing how little our world changed in 80 years regarding certain aspects - impressive! Worth a read.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. "Pu-raise Gawd fur vittory!" Von Rainer Richter What a wonderful book! In THE GRAPES OF WRATH John Steinbeck tells about the fate of many American farmers during the Great Depression. By means of the Oklahoman Joad family he delivers an insight into the hopes and wishes of a family that had been forcibly evicted from their home and the land they had worked for generations. From a handbill they hear about jobs in California, so they take a chance and hit the road. Steinbeck's prose and his use of the genuine idiom of rural America tells this journey in the most perfect way. It creates pictures of such detail that the reader soon becomes fully immersed: During the past two weeks the Joads became my family. I crossed a whole country with them. I was anxious if our old truck would be up to this enormous task, getting us to the orchards of California. During our journey we shared moments of sorrow and pain. We lost relatives and friends. I am glad I took this ride. Besides beautifully written this book is also as relevant as it was 75 years ago. In every other chapter Steinbeck draws the larger image of society as a whole and the system which we call capitalism. Here he proves a deep understanding of his times and above all an eye for the absurd.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Fnf Sterne fr Steinbeck Von Desanida Die fnf Sterne sind natrlich fr Steinbeck, das versteht sich bestimmt von selbst. Wie - nahezu - immer kam das Buch ganz pnktlich, und ich war froh, hier seine Hauptwerke dermaen billig in einem DICKEN Buch (wieder) beisammen zu haben, weil die dnneren Bndchen sich bei mir leichter verflchtigen. Da leiht sich mal ein Bekannter auf die Schnelle eins aus.....na, man kennt das ja schon. Desanida

Kurzbeschreibung Shocking and controversial when it was first published in 1939, Steinbeck's Pulitzer Prize-winning epic remains his undisputed masterpiece. Set against the background of dust bowl Oklahoma and Californian migrant life, it tells of the Joad family, who, like thousands of others, are forced to travel West in search of the promised land. Their story is one of false hopes, thwarted desires and broken dreams, yet out of their suffering Steinbeck created a drama that is intensely human yet majestic in its scale and moral vision; an eloquent tribute to the endurance and dignity of the human spirit.

de When The Grapes of Wrath was published in 1939, America, still recovering from the Great Depression, came face to face with itself in a startling, lyrical way. John Steinbeck gathered the country's recent shames and devastations--the Hoovervilles, the desperate, dirty children, the dissolution of kin, the oppressive labor conditions--in the Joad family. Then he set them down on a westward-running road, local dialect and all, for the world to acknowledge. For this marvel of observation and perception, he won the Pulitzer in 1940. The prize must have come, at least in part, because alongside the poverty and dispossession, Steinbeck chronicled the Joads' refusal, even inability, to let go of their faltering but unmistakable hold on human dignity. Witnessing their degeneration from Oklahoma farmers to a diminished band of migrant workers is nothing short of crushing. The Joads lose family members to death and cowardice as they go, and are challenged by everything from weather to the authorities to the California locals themselves. As Tom Joad puts it: "They're a-workin' away at our spirits. They're a tryin' to make us cringe an' crawl like a whipped bitch. They tryin' to break us. Why, Jesus Christ, Ma, they comes a time when the on'y way a fella can keep his decency is by takin' a sock at a cop. They're workin' on our decency." The point, though, is that decency remains intact, if somewhat battle-scarred, and this, as much as the depression and the plight of the "Okies," is a part of American history. When the California of their dreams proves to be less than Edenic, Ma tells Tom: "You got to have patience. Why, Tom--us people will go on livin' when all them people is gone. Why, Tom, we're the people that live. They ain't gonna wipe us out. Why, we're the people--we go on." It's almost as if she's talking about the very novel she inhabits, for Steinbeck's characters, more than most literary creations, do go on. They continue, now as much as ever, to illuminate and humanize an era for generations of readers who, thankfully, have no experiential point of reference for understanding the depression. The book's final, haunting image of Rose of Sharon--Rosasharn, as they call her--the eldest Joad daughter, forcing the milk intended for her stillborn baby onto a starving stranger, is a lesson on the grandest scale. "You got to," she says, simply. And so do we all. --Melanie Rehak.com

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