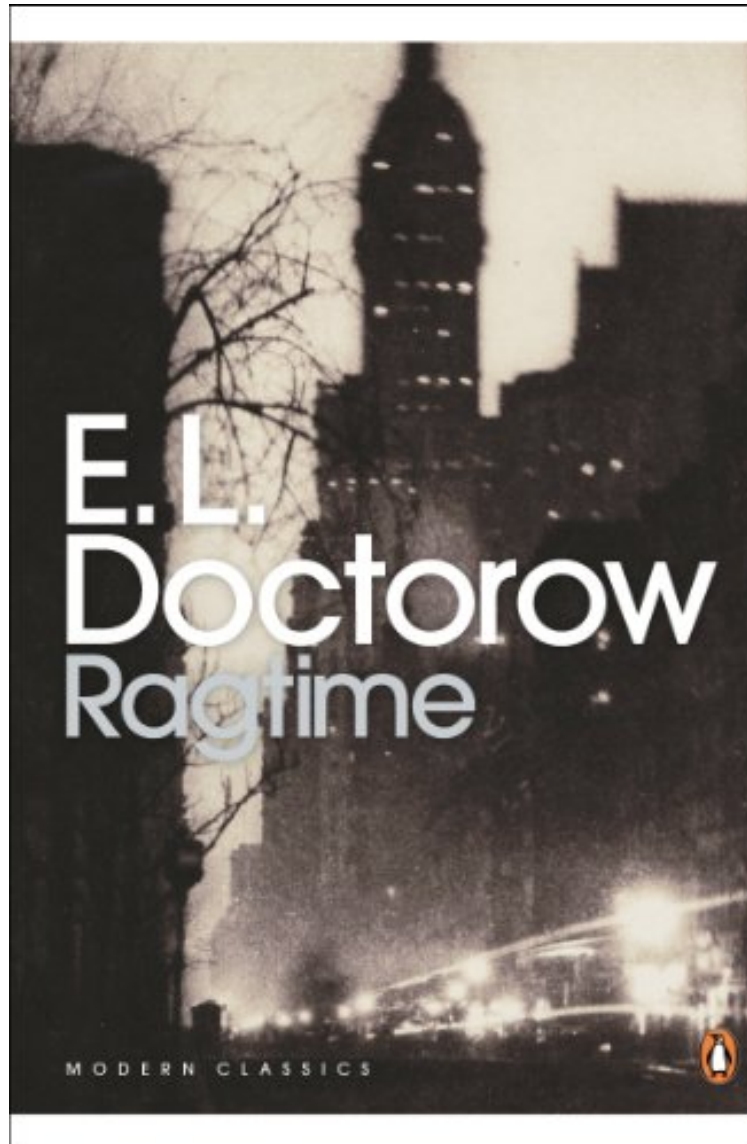


(Library ebook) Ragtime (Penguin Modern Classics)

Ragtime (Penguin Modern Classics)

Von E. L. Doctorow

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Von E. L. Doctorow : Ragtime (Penguin Modern Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ragtime (Penguin Modern Classics):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. a major modern novelVon Bruce KendallI would differ slightly with Eddie P.(who's insights I appreciate) who likened the novel to Fitzgerald's or Lewis' and say it has more in common with John Dos Passos' USA Trilogy. The vignettes Doctorow draws for us have a great deal in common, I believe, with Dos Passos' snapshots. In answer to Banger's

question about why this time period, I would suggest that this is an era that is generally regarded in the American historical consciousness as being primarily bucolic and carefree. The nation, relatively innocent, having shaken off the aftereffects of the civil war, has recently won the spurious Spanish-American war, and is generally revelling in a sense of purpose and civility. What Doctorow is suggesting is that this serene surface was already infected, with a host of social ills festering beneath it. A shift was occurring that would lead to labor riots, race riots, change in mores (sexual attitudes), loss of faith in institutions, etc. that would define the 20th century. If this were all of Doctorow's plan however, it would have been interesting Sociology, but a pretty boring novel. Doctorow is above all an interesting storyteller. He knows how to keep a plot moving and how to invest it with enough intellectual hardware to make the reader feel that his/her time has been worth the effort. He can bring a scene to life with a few fresh (never shopworn) details. He doesn't spend a great deal of time elaborating over these details, as James or Wolfe do, but he makes the reader just as cognizant of them. A few brushstrokes and we are there. His writing is cinematic, in that we can "see" the scene he is depicting, without burdening us with excess verbiage. This is the hallmark of a really good author. Ragtime is a primary example of this kind of shorthand acumen. The novel flashes by as seen in a kinescope. I, for one, was delighted I had inserted my nickle.³ von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A flawed masterpiece Von Ein Kunde What differentiates E.L. Doctorow's Ragtime from almost any other book is the simple style. Doctorow's book evokes memories of F. Scott Fitzgerald in his simplicity, yet hidden complexity. Doctorow proposes to take three storylines, all different yet interlocked, and combine them in a chain that should have crashed in a mess. Yet, Doctorow's style keeps the book together, his rich descriptions of the characters, combined with the true personalities mixed with the three stories, makes this book a masterpiece. Doctorow's magic is to weave his tale simply and concisely, giving the readers three simple tales, and then slowly combining them into one brilliant novel. A lyrical experience that literally is a pot of gold, Ragtime is a book that is beautiful to read, time and time again. Doctorow reminds us that life is not one story. It is the combination of experiences that make us who we are. Simply dazzling.¹ von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Look at Factual History Through a Fictional Story Von W. Pyszczymuka This book is very amusing, presenting an interesting story as well as portraying nonfictional characters (such as H. Ford, J.P. Morgan, Evelyn Nesbit, and Harry Houdini) in their true identity. One gets to experience the early century and pre-Great War era. Each chapter allows the reader to enter a life of character all intermingled with one plot. As one reads, the reader experiences the times as an African American, an immigrant, and rich businessmen. What I enjoyed most was the immigrant (Tateh Daughter) which reminded me of my Great Grandmother's trip into America for the first time. After reading, I did background research on many characters. For what reason? to see if Doctorow was telling the truth about the nonfictional characters, such as J.P. Morgan. It turns out that Doctorow was on the dot with all characters, which shows the hidden secrets of people we thought we knew. I find this book very entertaining. Although not recommended for anyone under the age of 16 for some sexual content and vivid descriptions, I think anyone of any age old enough, would enjoy the read. It is a very interesting and a page turning history lesson as well as drama. After reading consider getting the CD for the musical, which very precisely follows the book.

Kurzbeschreibung Welcome to America at the turn of the twentieth century, where the rhythms of ragtime set the beat. Harry Houdini astonishes audiences with magical feats of escape, the mighty J. P. Morgan dominates the financial world and Henry Ford manufactures cars by making men into machines. Emma Goldman preaches free love and feminism, while ex-chorus girl Evelyn Nesbitt inspires a mad millionaire to murder the architect Stanford White. In this stunningly original chronicle of an age, such real-life characters intermingle with three remarkable families, one black, one Jewish and one prosperous WASP, to create a dazzling literary mosaic that brings to life an era of dire poverty, fabulous wealth, and incredible change - in short, the era of ragtime. Werbetext As exhilarating as a breath of pure oxygen . . . this highly original novel is enormous fun to read Newsweek Kurzbeschreibung Welcome to America at the turn of the twentieth century, where the rhythms of ragtime set the beat. Harry Houdini astonishes audiences with magical feats of escape, the mighty J. P. Morgan dominates the financial world and Henry Ford manufactures cars by making men into machines. Emma Goldman preaches free love and feminism, while ex-chorus girl Evelyn Nesbitt inspires a mad millionaire to murder the architect Stanford White. In this stunningly original chronicle of an age, such real-life characters intermingle with three remarkable families, one black, one Jewish and one prosperous WASP, to create a dazzling literary mosaic that brings to life an era of dire poverty, fabulous wealth, and incredible change - in short, the era of ragtime.