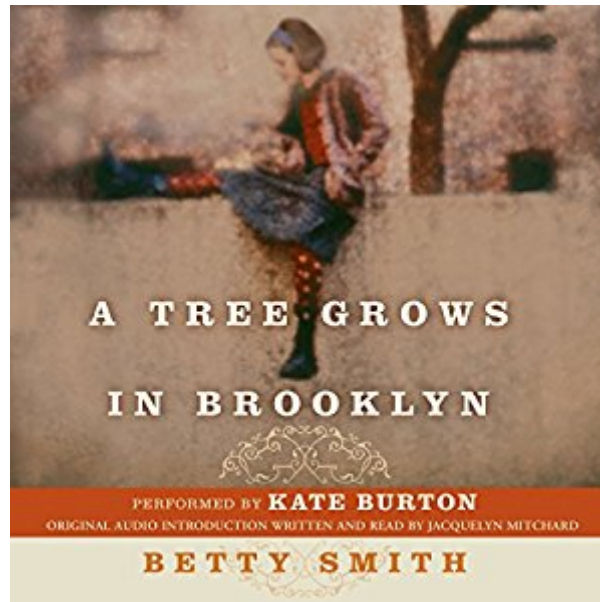


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A Tree Grows In Brooklyn



Synopsis

The American classic about a young girl's coming-of-age at the turn of the century. This P.S. edition features an extra 16 pages of insights into the book, including author interviews, recommended reading, and more. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Customer Reviews

I enjoyed this story because it portrays a family who struggles, overcomes obstacles and eventually starts a new life for themselves. Katie has two supportive sisters, a loving mother, a dramatic husband and 3 children she supports, and takes care of. Francis, Katie's daughter is bullied, criticized, mocked and heartbroken. Her family struggles with finances, economical issues, and death. Francie learns that either though she may struggle, there are still happy, fun and memorable moments which she experiences. Her mother and brother also learn the same thing.

Lyrical, moving, and honest portrayal of poor life. It ended better than I had hoped, and I will miss these characters.

This has been since its first publication an American classic. I have reread it with great enjoyment. This is a wonderful look at real life among the poor, as lived by mainly immigrant families in early 1900's Brooklyn. It doesn't need my recommendation; it has been known for decades to be a fascinating must-read for anyone who enjoys literature about social class and family life in the U. S. But at least I can add my praise for it here.

This is a wonderful book, I can't believe this was not required reading in high school. I'm so glad I picked this one up and read it. I've been reading an assortment of classics lately and this one should be read by all. The other reviews explain the book so I won't go into detail. Great read, well worth the time, highly recommend. Betty Smith was quite the author.

One of my top-ten books in my whole life, this novel captures what it is to be a young woman living the American Dream. I gave this copy, as I have previous copies, to a girl graduating from high school, so that she can see how her hopes and aspirations connect her to earlier generations of girls.

I read this book as a teenager many years ago. I picked it up again after watching the movie on TCM. I wasn't disappointed. It was better the second reading and experiencing it as an adult. This a book that should be read by everyone.

This is my kind of gritty reality story...more story, less grit. I know life is rough, but I don't want to have my heart broken while reading. I don't need to steel myself before turning the page, for fear of something terrible. I need stories like this. Reality. Sad reality. But with an overlay of optimism and faith in the human spirit. With the sharp and bitey edges sanded down a little, so they're not so pointy. And of course, with a heroine who is spunky, optimistic, smart, and loves books. 5 stars...one for every hundred pages.

This was a wonderful book. I kept getting it recommended to me because on classics, as something I needed to read. I looked at it a couple of times, and finally decided to take the plunge. It was worth the read. It still is relevant today in many ways even though it happened at the turn of the century, early in the 1900's. Even though many things have changed over time, including the diseases that impact us (tuberculosis raged in urban tenements), and the technology which didn't exist back then...but so many other things still exist. The poor are always with us. Too often we don't understand what they did or do to get by. One big difference back in the early 1900's is there was no social security, and no welfare to catch people when they fell through the cracks. So when people were out of money, and couldn't find a job...they really went hungry. Sometimes, we need a reminder of what it used to be like to appreciate what we have. Betty Smith wrote from personal knowledge of that time period. Both of the people and the things that happened. This was a novel,

but it was autobiographical at the same time. Smith wrote with so much description and insight that you rarely see in novels. Everything that Francie, her protagonist, goes through as she grows up in a family with a strong mother and a beloved father who drinks, is very tangible to the reader. The reader feels honored to be given a 'front seat' to Francie's life, to understand her feelings and her dreams. Not everything is bleak, though Francie goes through a lot. She survives the death of her father whom she loved without judgement. She experiences the fear of being accosted by a pedophile, from whom her mother saves her. But she also shares the beauty of reading, of learning, of being in a family where she is loved, and many other important life experiences such as getting her first job and falling in love. This was an exquisite read...one that I think should be recommended on lists of books for highschool students.

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