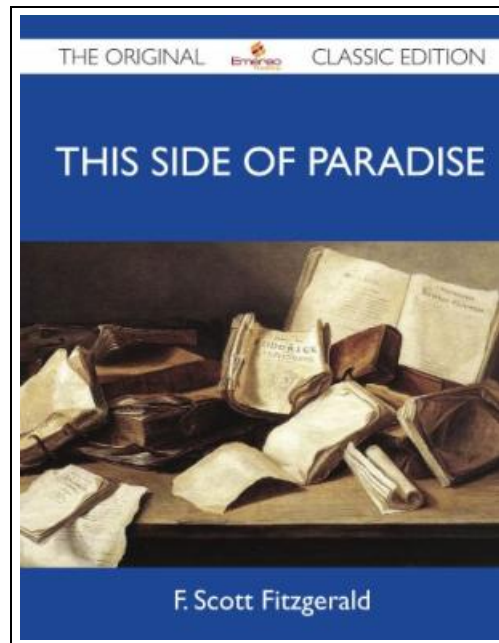


This Side of Paradise - The Original Classic Edition



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Reviews

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THIS SIDE OF PARADISE - THE ORIGINAL CLASSIC EDITION



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tebbo. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 146 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.3in. The first thing that will strike you on reading this book will be the timelessness of its subject matter, no matter how dated the setting is. The Ivy League of Fitzgeralds indifferent hero, Amory Blaine, is a thing of the past, with only the faintest reminders of its aura of American royalty remaining today. Reading about Amorys days at Princeton is a bit like looking at the ancient photographs of 19th century football teams that every university seems to have on display in some corner of the campus, with the added twist that most of those long-ago jocks were presumably the sons of bankers and senators. And yet, Fitzgeralds depiction of a whirlwind of exhilaration, alienation, eagerness for the future and a sense that it should all be more meaningful is still all too recognizable to those of us who are just a few years out of college. So like all the best fiction, the story works both on a historical and a contemporary level. Amory isnt the most sympathetic of protagonists. Coming from a non-aristocratic but quite cushy background, hes all you would expect from a Fitzgerald hero: full of himself, indifferent to the less fortunate, somewhat lazy, and at once condescending to and inept with women. But this is a story of young adulthood in the last gasps of the pre-World War I upper-crust, and Amory is the perfect vehicle for illustrating the youth of that time and place. Although the relative lack of details provided about Amorys experience in the war is odd, it adds to his Everyman quality for the generations since his, all of which have had their own reasons for a bleak outlook at some point even if few could match...



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