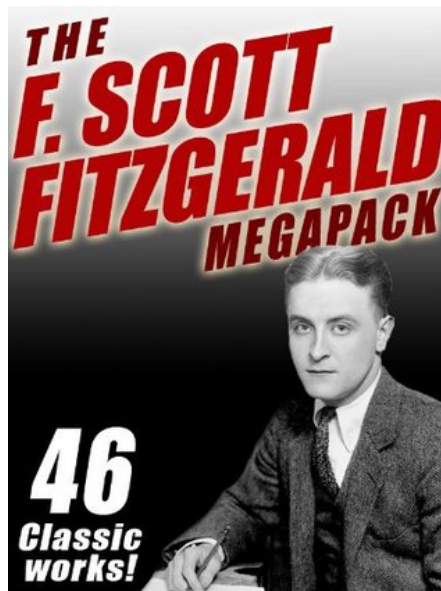




The F. Scott Fitzgerald MEGAPACK ®: 46 Classic Works

F. Scott Fitzgerald

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"O RUSSET WITCH!"

THE LEES OF HAPPINESS

MR. ICKY

JEMINA, THE MOUNTAIN GIRL

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From Reader Review The F. Scott Fitzgerald MEGAPACK ®: 46 Classic Works for online ebook

Becky Ford says

I absolutely adore this collection of Fitzgerald's works. Both novels lived up to expectations, and I was delightfully surprised by the short stories. I purchased this book at Barnes & Noble for \$7.98, and frankly, I consider it a steal!

Debbie Davies says

What a joy to read some of Fitzgerald's best short stories. Except for a couple, his short stories earned all of the 5 stars that could be given as a rating. "Mr. Icky" was my least favorite. I found the writing style lacking and the storyline a little trite, but Fitzgerald definitely hit the mark with "the Diamond as Big as the Ritz" , "The Curious Case of Benjamin Buttons", "The Camel's Back", "Jemima, the Mountain Girl" and several others that I read. Reading Fitzgerald is always time well spent in my opinion.

Caitlin Streit says

Fitzgerald's best

This little volume is bursting with f Scott Fitzgerald's best works . The 1920s at their best and worst. The Jazz age comes to life as his work thrusts you in the height of his promise to the depths of his downward spiral. truly he depicts the lost generation. much enjoyed highly recommend.

Colin says

Finished The Beautiful and Damned - 11/28/14.

Jlhuyser says

I do audiobooks -- can't see to physically read a text. So I rely heavily on the quality of the narrator. I understand the choice of this narrator, and I'm sure he gets the tone exactly as it should be, but I simply can't listen to the simpering droll tone he affects in order to convey the tone of the idle rich that this author so clearly disdains.

I have picked it up and given up a dozen times. I simply don't know if I can finish it.

Donna Merritt says

Got this as a bargain book on B&N for five bucks. Best five dollars I think I've ever spent. This is a collection of Fitzgerald's work, including *This Side of Paradise*, *The Beautiful and the Damned*, and over a dozen short stories. If you were forced to read *The Great Gatsby* or another of his books in high school or college, do yourself a favor and reread some of Fitzgerald's work. I was caught off-guard by the many original and poetic phrases I skimmed over (or didn't recognize as brilliant) when I was younger.

Kara says

3.5 stars. One of my 2017 reading goals was to finish this book — although it's really more like four books in one (two novels, *This Side of Paradise* and *The Beautiful and Damned*, as well as 19 short stories split across two collections, "Flappers and Philosophers" and "Tales of the Jazz Age"). I started this collection more than three years ago, but according to the sticky note I left stuck in the books, paused partway through *The Beautiful and Damned* and never came back...until now. As with any collection, I greatly preferred some stories to others — *This Side of Paradise* was slow-moving and didn't really capture my attention (although it was Fitzgerald's debut novel, so I can't judge it too harshly), but the realism and disillusionment of *The Beautiful and Damned* really resonated with me. However, I found Fitzgerald's demeaning treatment on non-Caucasian Americans across both these novels and short stories problematic, and it diminished my enjoyment of the tales. I suppose such insulting characterizations were more socially acceptable during his time, but it doesn't excuse his writing.

Chad says

This is an excellent book for any Fitzgerald fan. The novels are great and the collected short stories are some of Fitzgerald's more mature works, albeit a bit repetitive at times. A long read, but if you like his writing it's worth it.

Colleen says

What an incredible talent. What an incredible life. What an incredible era. I have become obsessed with this era and the writers. I hadn't realized F Scott wrote Benjamin Button.

His short stories were fascinating! I digress but I have read books on Zelda as well. She was amazing on her own and struggled under his fame and personality

Jan says

The stories? Exercises in mediocrity, done for money and published in periodicals like the Saturday Evening Post. On the covers of that magazine were illustrations by Norman Rockwell. These are Norman Rockwell quality stories, but then Fitzgerald never claimed they were literature. I got bored with the stories and haven't read *This Side of Paradise*, included in this collection, yet. May go back to it at some point.

John says

What can I say? I love Fitzgerald. One of the most lush and descriptive authors I've ever read. Personally I'm both exhibitionist and voyeur and reading Fitzgerald is always akin to sneaking around and looking through the key hole into someone's private life.

Margaret Metz says

The book I'm reading is a collection which claims to contain the following titles:

1. This Side of Paradise [1920]
2. The Beautiful and Damned [1922]
3. The Great Gatsby [1925]
4. Tender is the Night [1934]
5. Flappers and Philosophers [1920]
6. Tales of the Jazz Age [1922]
7. All the Sad Young Men [1926]
8. Taps at Reveille [1935]
9. The Pat Hobby stories [1941]

Each of the short stories has it's own publication date and place. This is a monstrously long collection. I should get bonus points or something. lol

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This is such a huge project that I'm sort of reviewing as I'm going along. I really was only familiar with "The Great Gatsby" and some excerpts of other pieces before I started this collection. I'm ashamed to say the last time I read Gatsby was in school.

Having read now through "The Beautiful and the Damned," I like Fitzgerald's wit and he has a real talent for descriptions. So far he seems to have a very low opinion of women, though. They are mostly minor or negative characters. Perhaps this will change, I'm only 23% of the way through the collection. There has also been a feeling of anti-Christianity by his characters at least. It's hard to tell how he feels because he writes about people he seems to like very little. They are chiefly lazy, bored, selfish, and vain. I loved the parts where he writes about writing.

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"Flappers and Philosophers" had a more ... upbeat feeling to it. The stories were clever, ironic, and witty. Some of them still had tragic moments - but the collection as a whole seemed of a lighter nature.

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I'm 74% of the way through the book now (I know - an inch worm could go faster) and I can see why Gatsby stands out. It is more . . . polished than some of the other works -- and the character development seems deeper.

There isn't a whole lot new to say about the book/his writing at this point.

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Finally finished. I couldn't connect very well with the characters at times. They seemed like actors in a scene -- moving about but not really connecting with anything. It's ironic really because Fitzgerald uses a similar description for how people at a certain party were behaving.

Sometimes it seemed as if the characters only reacted to other people -- like the balls in a pinball machine -- they really only came alive or had any emotions in response to other characters. They were merely existing in between moments.

I found it really sad that many of his stories were based on himself and his wife.

Irene says

Delightful. Like a fresh breeze.

Lori says

This Side of Paradise was very different from what I expected. There were moments that I got lost in the lyrical writing style and those were my favorite moments. I wonder if I would have finished this had I not known this was the beginning of Fitzgerald's writing career, but I did know, and I wasn't going to put it down. The format is a tad tricky as Fitzgerald shifts gears quite often. One moment the story unfolds in a narrative and the next Fitzgerald tries his hand at being a playwright. I felt pulled out of the story a bit but I am sure that in the 1920's this was thought of as innovative storytelling.

There were certainly moments of brilliance. Insights in relationships, philosophy, and poetry - all the best of Fitzgerald that I loved in *The Great Gatsby* - are present. I liked this passage:

"Amory, you're young. I'm young. People excuse us now for our poses and vanities, for treating people like Sancho and yet getting away with it. They excuse us now. But you've got a lot of knocks coming to you---".

For everything this book has to offer, I can't give it more than 3 1/2 stars rounded up to 4. While I liked it, and found it interesting, I didn't love it.

The Beautiful and Damned: Sumptuous writing. Fitzgerald is honing his skills as a writer. Wonderful to read as a historical novel. Full review to come. Four stars.

I admit I had to just push through a lot of the short stories, many of which I found utterly depressing. *The Offshore Pirate* was thoroughly entertaining and another favorite was *Porcelain and Pink* - both were stories that I found to be refreshingly humorous. I was surprised to see that Fitzgerald ventured into the realm of fantasy with *The Diamond as Big as the Ritz*, *'O Russet Witch*, and of course *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*. Reminding myself that this is a collection of his earlier work, I am happy to know that his more highly praised offerings lie ahead for me.

Kate Cobb says

Fitzgerald's writing - his words - have a certain effect on him. Some of his books and stories, if I stop and say

sleep while in the middle of reading, I get visions -- dreams -- of the text, with me as one of the characters and usually an updated ("happening today") version. The first time this happened was with the Great Gatsby, the most recent time it was with The Diamond As Big As the Ritz. I started reading it and then after part 2 went to sleep, finished the story the next day to realize the dream I had the night before was an updated version of the story. I consider this an aspect of great writing!
