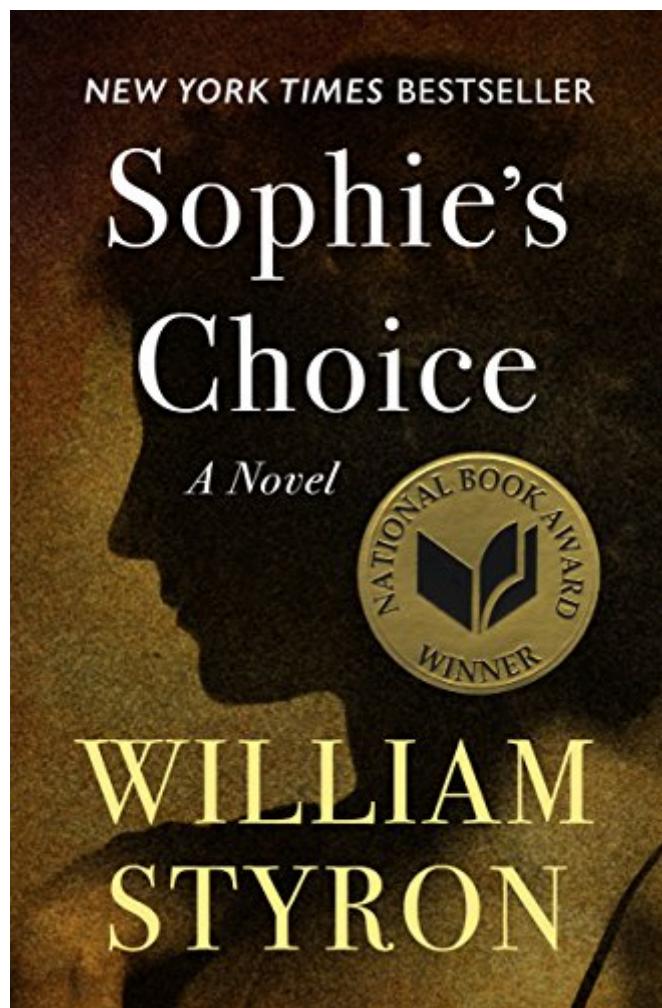


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Sophie's Choice: A Novel (Open Road)



Synopsis

This award-winning novel of love, survival, and agonizing regret in post-WWII Brooklyn "belongs on that small shelf reserved for American masterpieces" (The Washington Post Book World). A Winner of the National Book Award and a modern classic, Sophie's Choice centers on three characters: Stingo, a sexually frustrated aspiring novelist; Nathan, his charismatic but violent Jewish neighbor; and Sophie, an Auschwitz survivor who is Nathan's lover. Their entanglement in one another's lives will build to a stirring revelation of agonizing secrets that will change them forever. A Poetic in its execution, and epic in its emotional sweep, Sophie's Choice explores the good and evil of humanity through Stingo's burgeoning worldliness, Nathan's volatile personality, and Sophie's tragic past. Mixing elements from Styron's own experience with themes of the Holocaust and the history of slavery in the American South, the novel is a profound and haunting human drama, representing Styron at the pinnacle of his literary brilliance. A This ebook features an illustrated biography of William Styron, including original letters, rare photos, and never-before-seen documents from the Styron family and the Duke University Archives.

Book Information

File Size: 3989 KB

Print Length: 575 pages

Publisher: Open Road Media (April 30, 2010)

Publication Date: May 4, 2010

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B003JBFCEQ

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #51,744 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #87

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Customer Reviews

A beautiful Polish Catholic survivor of Auschwitz, her Jewish Brooklynite boyfriend, and a young writer from Tidewater Virginia become best friends and spend a memorable summer of 1947 together. It's a story of sex, drugs, booze, and holocaust memories in the time soon after WWII. Styron had an impressive command of the English language which he mixed with occasional locker room slang to produce a very readable and absorbing novel, with humor sprinkled through the otherwise serious tome. It is a long book but memorable.

This book is a masterpiece. Any work by William Styron is a masterpiece. He wrote the great American novel - several times over. He may not have set out to do that - but every word he wrote - every chapter read - every book devoured is a completely awesome experience for the reader. After reading this book, or any of his other books - most others will pale by comparison. Of course, if every author was a genius then this author would be status quo - but of course that is not the case. Pick up any of his works, sit right down and be prepared to be awed. And they are books you will reread because you just can't stop yourself.

A dictionary will be helpful insomuch as Styron has such a vast ease with the English language. Expansive in scope and quality, he really takes readers on a wonderful ride. This gutwrenching story of the title character is emotionally charged. Further, comparisons between the Holocaust and American slavery is compelling in demonstrating humanity's propensity for evil. Well worth your time.

Very wordy novel, don't expect a fast read. It had been a long time since I have seen the movie but I could instantly picture Meryl Streep, Kevin Kline, and Peter MacNichol and it was their voices I had in my head I read this. Excellent book.

One of the best books I've ever read. Beautiful prose and storytelling, I read this book five times hoping, as a fledgling writer, I could come close to the beauty of the writing. Although a tragic story with a heart-wrenching moment when the reader finds out the choice Sophie had to make, it contrasts her experiences in a Nazi concentration camp with her modern life in New York. Light-hearted moments in the book help make the tragic moments more palatable.

Hard, difficult reading....was finding myself to try a skim through sections of his philosophical verbage, just to get to the story. But little tidbits were hidden in his long winded ranting and had to read it to get the story. Deep and tough like Dreisers American Tragedy, but a lot less readable. Good book to put me asleep at night - usually did get through more than 2-3 kindle pages before sleeping. Too long.

I did not like this book. I appreciate the acclaim for the author but found the writing not to my liking. The story is very drawn out. The excessive pages to tell it reflect a strong preference for very complex sentences and with words not used in the common language. The three main characters are not very likeable. Over the very long hall of the total book the story is interesting but getting there is a slog.

I had trouble getting into this story, but once it caught me I couldn't put it down. It is a story of survival and living beyond our past. I so wish Sophie made a different choice at the end, but so is life. Good character development. A lot of description, somtimes more that is needed, but it finally all comes together.

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