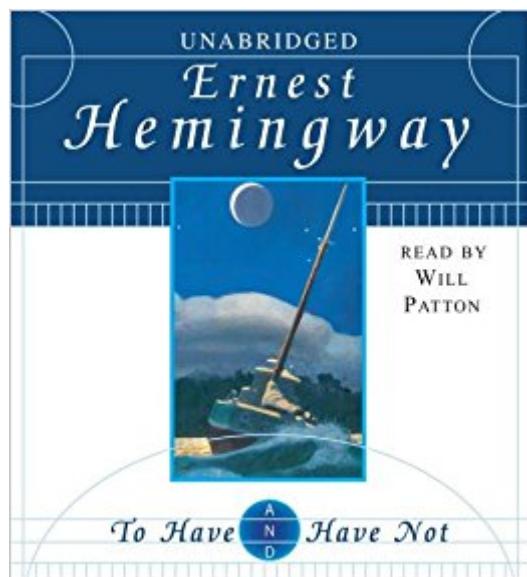


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To Have And Have Not



Synopsis

Hemingway's classic novel about contraband, intrigue, and love To Have and Have Not is the dramatic story of Harry Morgan, an honest man who is forced into running contraband between Cuba and Key West as a means of keeping his crumbling family financially afloat. His adventures lead him into the world of the wealthy and dissipated yachtsmen who throng the region, and involve him in a strange and unlikely love affair. Harshly realistic, yet with one of the most subtle and moving relationships in the Hemingway oeuvre, To Have and Have Not is literary high adventure at its finest.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First things first: readers coming to To Have and Have Not after seeing the Bogart/Bacall film should be forewarned that about the only thing the two have in common is the title. The movie concerns a brave fishing-boat captain in World War II-era Martinique who aids the French Resistance, battles the Nazis, and gets the girl in the end. The novel concerns a broke fishing-boat captain who agrees to carry contraband between Cuba and Florida in order to feed his wife and daughters. Of the two, the novel is by far the darker, more complex work. The first time we meet Harry Morgan, he is sitting in a Havana bar watching a gun battle raging out in the street. After seeing a Cuban get his head blown off with a Luger, Morgan reacts with typical Hemingway understatement: "I took a quick one out of the first bottle I saw open and I couldn't tell you yet what it was. The whole thing made me feel pretty bad." Still feeling bad, Harry heads out in his boat on a charter fishing expedition for which he is later stiffed by the client. With not even enough money to fill his gas tanks, he is forced

to agree to smuggle some illegal Chinese for the mysterious Mr. Sing. From there it's just a small step to carrying liquor--a disastrous run that ends when Harry loses an arm and his boat. Once Harry gets mixed up in the brewing Cuban revolution, however, even those losses seem small compared to what's at stake now: his very life. Hemingway tells most of this story in the third person, but, significantly, he brackets the whole with a section at the beginning told from Harry's perspective and a short, heart-wrenching chapter at the end narrated by his wife, Marie. In between there is adventure, danger, betrayal, and death, but this novel begins and ends with the tough and tender portrait of a man who plays the cards that are dealt him with courage and dignity, long after hope is gone. --Alix Wilber --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Minor novel by Ernest Hemingway, published in 1937. Set in and near Key West, Florida, the novel is about a cynical boat owner whose concern for his rum-soaked sidekick and love for a reckless woman lead him to risk everything to aid gunrunners in a noble cause. -- The Merriam-Webster Encyclopedia of Literature --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I first read this book when I was living and writing in Greece. I was not yet 30. It was interesting to me not only because I had always been profoundly influenced by Hemingway, but also because I had lived in Key West in the late '60's while in the Navy. I just reread it now as I begin my 70th year. The story was deeper and darker to me now. I still marveled at Hemingway's detailed knowledge of the waters off Cuba and Key West and the descriptions that are so accurate and true. The characters that appear in this novel are very three dimensional and the interweaving of their stories build up to and support the tragedy the plot pulls the reader toward. The author also plays with differing points of view, narration, even streams of consciousness that deepen the story through its twisting course downward.

A somewhat neglected Hemingway masterpiece finds its way into today's readership. This is a gritty tale of several tragedies of the Depression Era, which Hemingway depicted with an unfailing sense of the injustices, humiliations that the "Conchs" (the Keys' residents as they were called then) suffered. The novel is readable, but tough. Hemingway deploys all his art, his unequaled spare style never failing him, making this an absorbing tale that keep the reader alert at all times. Incidentally, one could also think of Howards Hawks' movie by the same name, with Bogart and Bacall at their best, and a script written by William Faulkner. Place this on your reading list, if you are a Hemingway fan.

Not Papa's best work. I have read reviews which says that it was actually written and published in different parts, years apart, and it is obvious. Not really sure why he jumps from first person to third person

Although most readers will disagree, this is my favorite Hemingway novel. I rate it four stars as opposed to five only because the changes of narrative view will bother some readers, although I am fine with it. I like this particular Hemingway because I found the main character to be the most engaging. He is a man who doesn't like to compromise, but is finding that approach to life difficult to maintain during the Depression, and his actions become increasingly desperate as time goes by. I also like the setting, which is Key West, Florida. This is the only Hemingway novel set in the U.S. "To Have and Have Not" starts out with a great action scene, which is actually a bit unusual for Hemingway. He tells it in beautiful and dramatic fashion and I found myself wishing he had done it more often. It ends with a view of a part of society that was completely out of reach of the main character, and of most of us. The view of that part of society still resonates today. What is that old saying? The more things change, the more they stay the same...

Another Hemingway masterpiece. Could we really expect less of him? The prose is amazing and the story is captivating. Sad but hilarious at certain points.

THIS IS A GIFT AND I KNOW IT WILL BE WELL READ. THANK YOU FOR SPEEDY SERVICE.

No one can make you feel like Hemingway does and no one closes better. His writing may seem daunting to readers, but the beauty of his work is in its simplicity. It is easy to read and too easy to capture you. But be careful, Hemingway had a very bleak view and few of his endings are happy.

It's Hemingway... what else can I say...

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