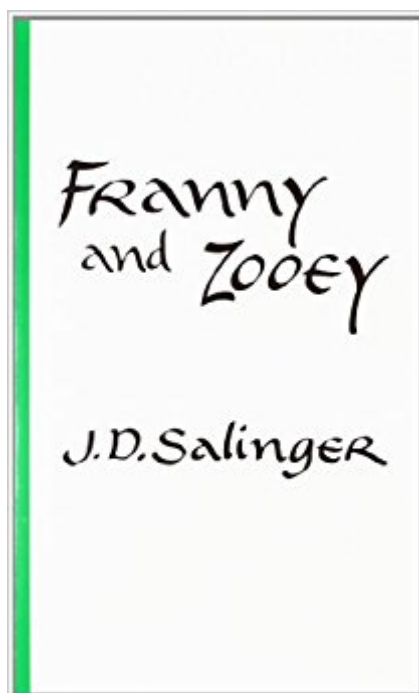


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Franny And Zooey



Synopsis

The author writes: FRANNY came out in The New Yorker in 1955, and was swiftly followed, in 1957 by ZOOEY. Both stories are early, critical entries in a narrative series I'm doing about a family of settlers in twentieth-century New York, the Glasses. It is a long-term project, patently an ambiguous one, and there is a real-enough danger, I suppose that sooner or later I'll bog down, perhaps disappear entirely, in my own methods, locutions, and mannerisms. On the whole, though, I'm very hopeful. I love working on these Glass stories, I've been waiting for them most of my life, and I think I have fairly decent, monomaniacal plans to finish them with due care and all-available skill.

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Customer Reviews

Volume containing two interrelated stories by J.D. Salinger, published in book form in 1961. The stories, originally published in The New Yorker magazine, concern Franny and Zooey Glass, two members of the family that was the subject of most of Salinger's short fiction. Franny is an intellectually precocious late adolescent who tries to attain spiritual purification by obsessively reiterating the "Jesus prayer" as an antidote to the perceived superficiality and corruptness of life. She subsequently suffers a nervous breakdown. In the second story, her next older brother, Zooey, attempts to heal Franny by pointing out that her constant repetition of the "Jesus prayer" is as self-involved and egotistical as the egotism against which she rails. -- The Merriam-Webster Encyclopedia of Literature

J.D. Salinger was born in 1919 and died in January 2010. He grew up in New York City, and wrote

short stories from an early age, but his breakthrough came in 1948 with the publication in the New Yorker of 'A Perfect Day for Bananafish'. The Catcher in the Rye was his first and only novel, published in 1951. It remains one of the most translated, taught and reprinted texts, and has sold some 65 million copies. Salinger also wrote several novellas and short stories, including Franny and Zooey, For Esme - With Love and Squalor, and Raise High the Roof Beam, Carpenters and Seymour: An Introduction. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

These two stories are beautiful. I absolutely love Salinger and, incidentally, these are my all time favorites. The characters are complex and lovable. I don't know. You just need to read it. You might think it's just some dissatisfied 20 something year old's view on life. But it is so much more. Keep reading. For goodness sake, just keep reading for the fat lady.

Two wonderful short stories. It pairs well with Raise High the Roof Beam, Carpenters. And stands on its own just as well. Franny: Young Franny Glass has a terrible time visiting her long distance boyfriend. Zooey: The youngest two Glass children discuss theology, their irritability with others, and the beauty of all things.

You don't need Mr. Punch to tell you what to think of Mr. Salinger--but I will say that F&Z has more depth and breadth to me than CitR, and definitely more to latch on to in a philosophical sense. If one were to try to read into it to the biography of JDS himself, I imagine that this one comes closer to the man's weltanschauung (nice word!) than his other works. Yes Mr. Punch chose that word self-consciously and in the 3rd person. Meaning: "world-view" etc. As Mr. Punch's aunt used to say, quoting Laugh-In: "Look it up in yer Funk 'n Wagnalls!"

love this book

The most sentimental immediate timeless piece about love I have ever read

J.D. Salinger (1919-2010) won lasting literary fame for his short novel "The Catcher in the Rye." Salinger, though, was primarily a short story writer. Two of his short works are "Franny" and "Zooey" (a short story and novella) which appeared in "The New Yorker" in the mid 1950s. Salinger's oeuvre is slim. The reclusive author spent most of his life living in a small New England town with occasional forays into New York City. Salinger was an inveterate lover of young women whose

personality has proven to be an enigma to biographers. The two stories contained in this small volume of 203 pages deals with the fictional Glass family. Francis (nicknamed "Fanny") is a beautiful young coed. The story concerns her being invited to spend a football weekend at an Ivy League campus for the Yale game. She meets with Lane her boyfriend and collapses with a nervous stomach. There is much more going on under the surface! Franny is disgusted by the egotism and shallow learning which goes on in college. She is seeking wisdom as she delves into a Russian book about a pilgrim seeking how to pray in the manner advised by Paul in his Thessalonians letters. Salinger is adept at rapid fire dialogue. The action takes place in the mind of the reflective Fanny. Zooey is one of the seven Glass siblings raised by a family of American-Irish former vaudeville stars. he and his mother Bessie have a long discussion on literature and philosophy. Zooey seeks to help Franny work through her depressive mood and disillusionment about life. Both stories subtly assail the shallowness and quest for material comforts endemic in modern society. The stories also reflect Salinger's religious quest. Both stories are considered classics and come from the pen of one of America's most famous twentieth century authors.

I read "The Catcher in the Rye" when I was a high school sophomore. That was the book that introduced me to J.D. Salinger and his great storytelling. Later on in my life, when I was just out of college, my best friend Keith gave me a copy of "Franny and Zooey." He and I often talked about what we wanted out of life. As it turned out this book provided wonderful food for thought and further discussions. It also was a great introduction to other members of the Glass Family and to other stories by Salinger in which they are featured. Salinger had the ability to write descriptively with an economy of expression and to infuse his characters with enormous sympathy. From the very first scene in the bathroom I immediately identified with Zooey (whose physical attractiveness, intelligence and impatience made me see myself in him). The dialogues have a wonderful humorous quality and they provide a clever device to slide in deeper philosophical insights. I got this book so that I can give it to my nephew who is the age when he is searching for ultimate meanings. I think that he will find a lot here to like.

enjoyed the family dynamics and the strong will of those involved this is definately a salinger must read to add to any list

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