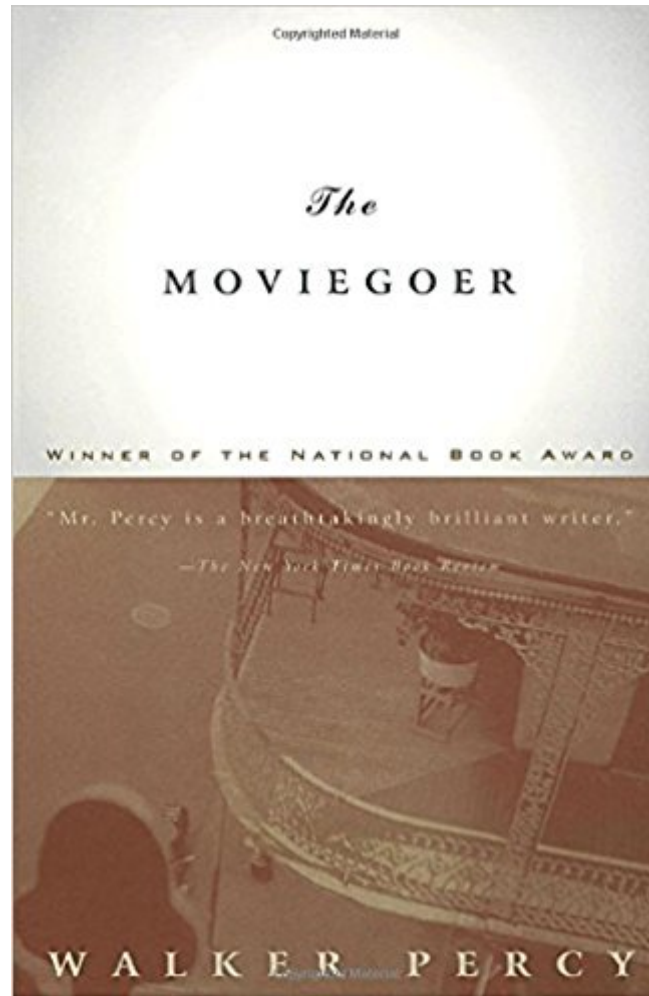




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The Moviegoer



Synopsis

Winner of the 1961 National Book Award The dazzling novel that established Walker Percy as one of the major voices in Southern literature is now available for the first time in Vintage paperback. The Moviegoer is Binx Bolling, a young New Orleans stockbroker who surveys the world with the detached gaze of a Bourbon Street dandy even as he yearns for a spiritual redemption he cannot bring himself to believe in. On the eve of his thirtieth birthday, he occupies himself dallying with his secretaries and going to movies, which provide him with the "treasurable moments" absent from his real life. But one fateful Mardi Gras, Binx embarks on a hare-brained quest that outrages his family, endangers his fragile cousin Kate, and sends him reeling through the chaos of New Orleans' French Quarter. Wry and wrenching, rich in irony and romance, The Moviegoer is a genuine American classic.

Book Information

Paperback: 241 pages

Publisher: Vintage; 1st Vintage International ed edition (April 14, 1998)

Language: English

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Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars 303 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

This elegantly written account of a young man's search for signs of purpose in the universe is one of the great existential texts of the postwar era and is really funny besides. Binx Bolling, inveterate cinemaphile, contemplative rake and man of the periphery, tries hedonism and tries doing the right thing, but ultimately finds redemption (or at least the prospect of it) by taking a leap of faith and quite literally embracing what only seems irrational. --This text refers to the MP3 CD edition.

In a gentle Southern accent narrator Christopher Hurt delivers the story with a slow, lazy lilt which suits the text and evokes a pervading spiritual emptiness. --AudioFileClothed in originality,

intelligence, and a fierce regard for man's fate. . . .Percy has a rare talent for making his people look and sound as though they were being seen and heard for the first time by anyone. --TimeMr. Percy is a breathtakingly brilliant writer.--New York Times Book Review A brilliant novel. . . .Percy touches the rim of so many human mysteries. --Harper's --This text refers to the MP3 CD edition.

Great writing. Unusual characters. I really enjoyed this book but am not recommending it to my book club. I think the structure of the novel would not please them.

okay but a bit out of date (1961) for this type of book

This is an excellent book that provides insight into depression and hardship while being consistently hilarious. It definitely earns it's spot on various "best novels" lists. It's perspectives on race, gender, and sexuality, however, are dated and what you might expect from an author writing before the cultural shift of the late sixties and seventies.

Good Book!

Perhaps Percy's best book, the writing feels natural and it flows beautifully. The story line, while a bit imperfect, is filled with authentic angst and soul-searching. It is funny, very witty, certainly erudite and yet one does not feel estranged from the author's search for meaning, even when it becomes entangles in the realities of day to day life.

Remarkable slice of life of the Deep South tradition and personality. Written with charm and a slow leisurely pace. Enjoyable sense of time and place.

The search. Read again after many decades. Still great. A writer of inner silences but vivid realness too, in a south as alien as the moon but timeless.

Excellent story and fascinating voice.

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The Moviegoer

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