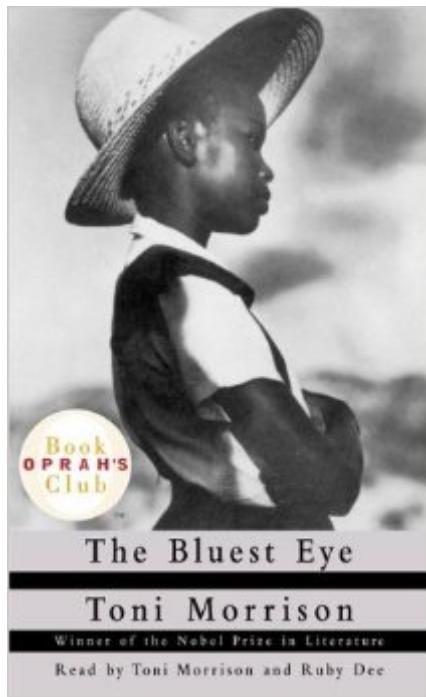


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The Bluest Eye



Synopsis

3 compact discs/ 3 hours Read by Toni Morrison and Ruby Dee Winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature, *The Bluest Eye* (1970) is the first novel written byÂ Â Toni Morrison. It is the story of eleven-year-old Pecola Breedlove--a black girl in an America whose love for its blond, blue-eyed children can devastate all others--who prays for her eyes to turn blue: so that she will be beautiful, so that people will look at her, so that her world will be different. This is the story of the nightmare at the heart of her yearning and the tragedy of its fulfillment.

Book Information

Audio CD

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (966 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I know this book is considered a classic, but personally, I hated it, to the point where I really wish I hadn't read it. I don't see the point of a book entirely about the abuse of a child - abuse which gets progressively more horrific, graphic and pornographic, including incestual rape, until she goes insane. People say "Oh, it's a powerful story about racism and false ideas of beauty etc." But IMO, there are so many BETTER stories about those themes that DON'T make me want to scrub my eyeballs after reading them. For example, "The Skin I'm In" - that book is about a black girl teased and bullied by her classmates (also black) just because her skin is darker than theirs. Like "The Bluest Eye," "The Skin I'm In" shows how black kids living in poverty in a white society can develop a self-loathing feeling that whiter is prettier - but unlike this book, that one has an admirable protagonist who's able to rise above adversity, and has a sense of hope. Or "Push" by Sapphire (the book that the movie "Precious" was based on) - that protagonist, like Pecola, was raped and impregnated by her father and had a hateful mother and a horrible life, but then had the opportunity

for education, which gave her strength and self-worth. It's an inspiring and uplifting book, despite the protagonist's grim life. Or how about "The Color Purple"? I could go on and on. The difference between those books and "The Bluest Eye" is that those books all have hope in them, whereas "The Bluest Eye" is unrelentingly grim and horrible with no hope at all. Why would I want to read a book like that?

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