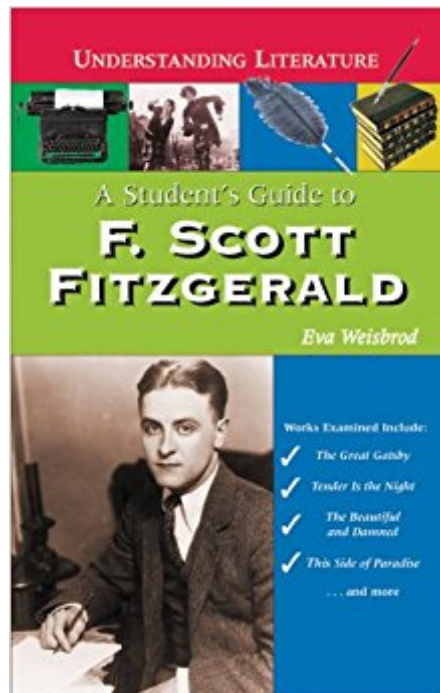




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A Student's Guide To F. Scott Fitzgerald (Understanding Literature)



Synopsis

Book by Weisbrod, Eva

Book Information

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Criticism & Collections

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Gr. 9-12. Part biography, part reader's companion, this solid entry in the new Understanding Literature series will attract slackers looking for crib notes as well as researchers interested in a colorful figure of the Jazz Age. Following an overview of Fitzgerald's childhood, subsequent chapters summarize and discuss each of his major works (and several short stories) in turn, then explain how the events of his life-his wife's mental illness, his own alcoholism--may have influenced his writing. Although occasionally lacking source notes, the biographical details rest comfortably alongside the purely literary readings of the text; the author draws readers' attention both to the beauty of Fitzgerald's prose and to his common themes. Predictably *The Great Gatsby* receives the most elaborate analysis. The back matter is copious, but readers will probably need a dictionary because of the sharply limited glossary. The terms it does include, though, like *roman à clef* and alliteration (also defined in sidebars), reinforce the basic vocabulary of literary analysis. Clear black-and-white photos lend immediacy to this humanizing portrait. REVWRCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Eva Weisbrod's *A Student's Guide To F. Scott Fitzgerald* is a 'must' for high school readers: the career and major works of Fitzgerald are examined in chapters which cover both his full-length fiction and his shorter works. Chapters offer a depth of focus and detail on the major themes begun and created by Fitzgerald's approach and writings which lend particularly well to school research as well as understanding his writings.

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