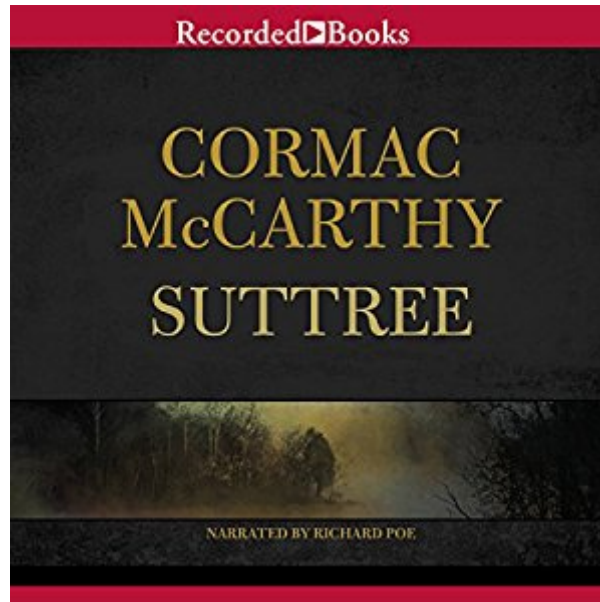




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Suttree



Synopsis

No discussion of great modern authors is complete without mention of Cormac McCarthy, whose rare and blazing talent makes his every work a true literary event. A grand addition to the American literary canon, Suttree introduces readers to Cornelius Suttree, a man who abandons his affluent family to live among a dissolute array of vagabonds along the Tennessee river.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is not the best of McCarthy's work. I've enjoyed everything I've ever read by this author including this, but this one, quite frankly was less than the best. It is dark in places, but also humorous in places.....I really have mixed emotions about this work. If you're a fan of the author, I say "read it"!----otherwise, ?????

This book expects a lot from its reader: time, patience, ultimate confidence in the author, perseverance, and a dictionary readily at hand. I had all five and came out better for it at the end. Took me about thirty pages to stagger and stutter my way into the groove, but once I did, I was left with looking up words, at least two or three on a page. Funny that; while I usually intuited the gist of what McCarthy was saying with any particular word of a colloquial, arcane or troubling nature, it made me wonder why he didn't just use a more quotidian word instead. However, every single time, without exception, when I looked up the word I didn't know, I found that he'd used the exactly right word; the right color, the right brushstroke, the right rhythm, the right vibe, or the right flavor. The story is/was a joy to read, transportive in so many ways, transgressive in so many others. Cornelius

Suttree's daily journeys link together to create an extraordinarily well conceived, crafted and constructed novel. A peephole into a life I'll never live but do, a place that everywhere exists, that I now know to look for with the ability to recognize. Suttree also stands as a reminder: that by shining a brighter light on those around you, your own life instantly becomes more colorful, vibrant and interesting.

This novel is absolutely incredible. Grotesque and hilarious. There are certain things that occur in this book that are so absurd you can't help but laugh out loud. Achieving this kind of humor in a book that is written so beautifully is not easily accomplished. First review I've written. I just had to, I was obsessed with Blood Meridian and a couple of his other books and decided to try Suttree and it's the same caliber of novel that Blood Meridian was in my opinion. I bought Suttree along with a few other books at the same time while I was at the beginning of a new semester at school. I read some of the others, trying to get into them when I got the free time, but once I started reading Suttree I was hooked and every chance I got I would read more and lay awake (knowing I had to get some sleep) but being intrigued at what might happen next. Anyway, buy this book, McCarthy deserves all of our money! You won't regret it!

Suttree is my favorite Cormac McCarthy novel. It's a long, slow, evenly paced novel about a quasi-troubled Suttree trying to make a low-key uneventful life in 50's Knoxville after giving up a life of privilege and getting caught helping out with a crime. But his relationships keep dragging him into situations. The most interesting situations are with Gene Harrogate, a feeble-minded man, who needs Suttree's help to navigate life in some version of the real world. There isn't really an over-arching point to the novel. At least not that I see. Just an interesting story of a man in a time and a place surrounded by interesting characters. It doesn't really need a point. It's just an interesting read. The fact that there isn't really a point might be the reason that it's overlooked when I consider it the best of Cormac McCarthy's novels.

Few of us can imagine living in the world of Suttree. Cormac McCarthy is a genius word weaver. Some compare him to Faulkner or some other classic author, but I don't. He is completely unique. While reading this tale, you can feel the cold of 0 degree weather while living under a bridge, or on a floating shack. Imagine spending three or four days sitting still in total darkness isolated with no light source in a cavern, thinking you might have died and are now in an eternal hell, all said in one sentence. Pure genius. You can almost smell the cheap whisky, and vomit, after a binge with street

buddies. After reading this excellent novel one should see the homeless, and the poor, in a much different perspective. Most of us live within a good Karma and can not imagine Suttree's life. If you read and survived McCarthy's Blood Meridian then you might also survive Suttree and learn some new values from it as well.

Having read several other works by McCarthy, I did not expect an uplifting morality tale or a happy ending, and I was not disappointed. He delivers a picturesque panorama of Southern river lowlife with just enough distance from the characters portrayed to keep the dirt off your hands while reading. As in his other books, the narrative ends on a hanging note of disillusionment but not quite despair - at least that was my take on it.

got a good review in The Week; never read him before and it is quite an introduction to the machinations of the english language; wow! may have to re-read the intro several times to try and get the picture he is lavishly painting with words

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Suttree

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