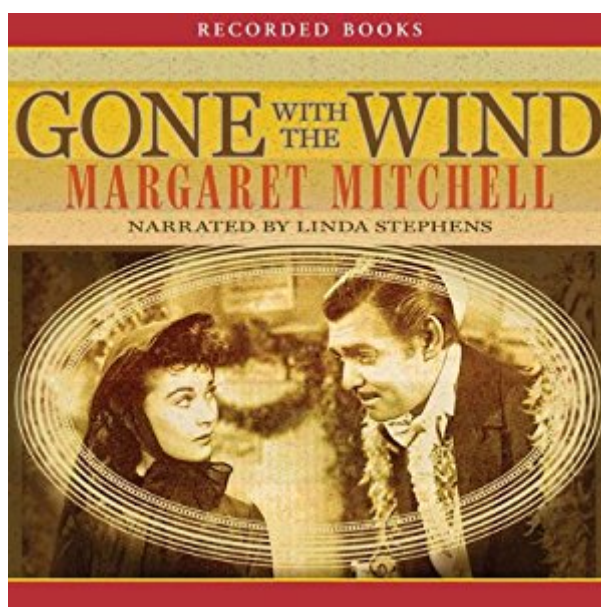


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Gone With The Wind



Synopsis

Set against the turbulent backdrop of the Civil War South, the classic story of tempestuous Southern belle Scarlett O'Hara and the dashing Rhett Butler comes to life in a new sixtieth anniversary edition tied to the publication of Mitchell's long-lost work, *Lost Laysen*. 60,000 first printing. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I'm a literary snob, I'll admit it. I've read all the classics, and I even know some Literary Theory. *Gone With the Wind*? Pul-lease, racist, sexist, revanchist trash, made popular by all the young woman dreaming of being Scarlett and having both their Rhett and Ashley. Cheerleader fare. Escapist. WRONG!*Gone with the Wind* is an American *War & Peace*. This is serious literature, which won the Pulitzer prize, no less. Most people don't see past the epic plot (which isn't as cut and dried as you may think) or the love story, but this is no less than a successful attempt to reclaim a discarded culture. It is not about crinoline and lace, it is about the Apocalypse and how losers of the counter-revolution must learn to live in a place where all their politics, personal or civil, are demolished. Scarlett O'Hara is popular because she is an American, driven, materialistic, sentimental and utterly ruthless. Rhett Butler is the tragic character of this book; the way of life and ideals he disdained are killing him, and he suffers like no one else in this post-apocalyptic landscape. His departure at the end is an act of contrition as much as a romantic failure; he had tried to recreate the materialism of the ante-bellum world, but neglected the spirituality (such as it

is) of men like Ashley Wilkes. Both men, the dreamer and the realist end up alone in a very sterile place. This book is proto-feminist as well. Scarlett survives, even as everything around her dies, but in the end, she too is alone. Don't dumb this masterpiece down. The movie fails to capture even a tenth of the depth here. And that awful sequel! Caused by the mistake that this book is some kind of romance novel. This is Art, and you can't stick a new ending on it, any more than you can a great painting or musical composition.

I've read GWTW many times -once you get going you can't stop! I once gave a copy to a friend to read -she said it was 'too old fashioned' oh well her loss. I'm glad I'm in the company of true 'Windies' so I thought I'd share with you some interesting facts about the book: -Scarlett was originally named Pansy-Scarlett was partly based on Mitchell herself and her grandmother-Rhett was based on Mitchell's first husband Red Upshaw-the initials JRM in her dedication refer to her second husband John Reginald Marsh-Margaret Mitchell maintained the only character taken from real life was Prissy the maid-When asked who she'd like to be in the movie version, Mitchell said 'Prissy'-Like a detective novelist, Mitchell wrote the last chapter first and the first chapter last-GWTW is the only book to sell more copies than the bible-Mitchell nearly went blind just proofreading the manuscript!-Mitchell scrupulously researched every detail for GWTW, even going to the town register to ensure there was no Rhett Butler or Scarlett O'Hara alive during the Civil War-The novel took ten years to complete, most of it was written in three-For style, she endeavoured to make her prose so that a five-year old could read it-If she were ever to write a sequel, it would be called 'Back With the Breeze' On that note, please avoid the Ripley penned sequel 'Scarlett', it is atrocious.-Gone with the Wind is my favourite book of all time, and yours too, I hope. Enjoy!

I would give this 10 stars if I could. I haven't read this since I was a young girl in the early 70's and should never have waited so long to read it again. The characters were exceptionally well drawn, the dialogue was brilliant, particularly between Rhett (SIGH!) and Scarlett. I swear there was sparks flying off the pages. I am going to miss the people I will have to put behind me now that the book has come to an end, Rhett (SIGH), Scarlett, Mammy, Prissy and Aunt Pitty Pat (LOL). The author's use of prose was beautiful, all the scenes and action came alive for me. Some people seem to be offended by the racism in the book, but that's how things were back then. Sugar coating it would have ruined the story reducing it to a Harlequin romance. This is an incredibly well written book about the death of a civilization and the struggles to survive in the new era. This is a book that should not be missed, particularly those who enjoy historical fiction.

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