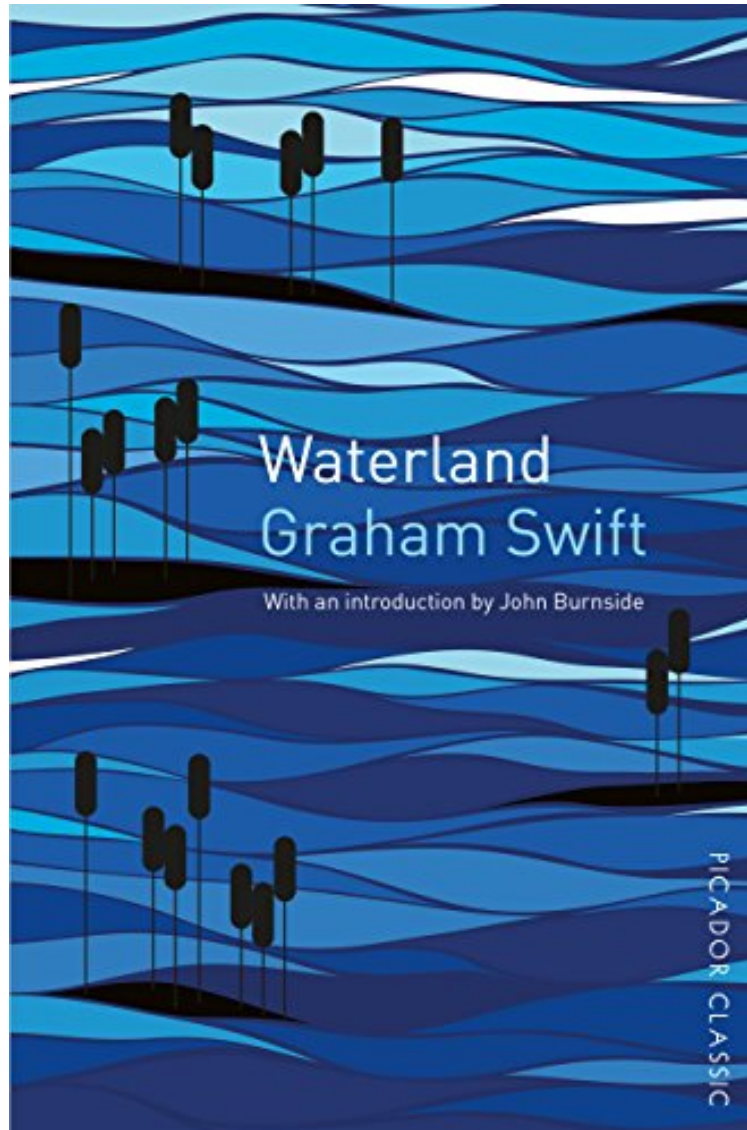


(Download free pdf) Waterland: Picador Classic (English Edition)

## Waterland: Picador Classic (English Edition)

*Von Graham Swift*

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**Von Graham Swift : Waterland: Picador Classic (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Waterland: Picador Classic (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Das Ende der Geschichte???Von Michael Dienstbier1989 verffentlichte der konservative Politikwissenschaftler Francis Fukuyama den bis heute viel diskutierten Aufsatz "The End of History". Nach dem Fall der Mauer und dem Zusammenbruch des Kommunismus gebe es nur noch die Ideologie von Freiheit, Demokratie und Marktwirtschaft, so dass es in Zukunft keine Revolutionen und Krisen mehr geben werde. Die Geschichte sei an ihrem paradiesischen

Ende angelangt. Das Ende der Geschichte ist Hauptthema von Swifts erstmals 1983 erschienenem Erstlingswerk "Waterland". Tom Crick, Geschichtslehrer, muss erfahren, dass sein Fach aus dem Lehrplan gestrichen werden soll, da die Vergangenheit für das hier und heute nicht mehr von Belang sei. In seinen letzten Stunden erzählt Crick der Klasse seine persönliche Lebensgeschichte und setzt diese parallel zu den Ereignissen der Weltgeschichte. So fügen sich langsam die tragischen Ereignisse um den frühen Tod seiner Mutter, die Wahrheit über seinen geistig behinderten Bruder sowie die Tragödie über seine langsam dem Wahnsinn verfallenden Frau zu einem Gesamtbild zusammen. Dazwischen wird immer wieder die alles entscheidende Frage erörtert: Warum Geschichte? Warum die Vergangenheit nicht einfach auf sich beruhen lassen? Die Geschichte von Cricks Leben enthält eigentlich die Antwort auf diese Frage, wird aber auch vom Erzähler im 8. Kapitel ausdrücklich beantwortet: "[O]nly animals live entirely in the Here and Now. Only Nature knows neither memory nor history. But man - let me offer you a definition - is the story-telling animal." Fazit: einerseits die mitreißend erzählte Tragödie eines Menschenlebens, andererseits eine theoretische Auseinandersetzung über den Sinn und Zweck von Geschichte. Sollte Pflichtlektüre für angehende Geschichtslehrer sein. 4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. BRILLIANT, MOVING, SAD Von William M. Hessberg Graham Swift is a great talent. Waterland is a wonderful novel. The narrator is Tom Crick who lived in the Fens in the 1930s and 1940s and is narrating the story from London in the 1970s. He is a history teacher. The Fens is a low lying area of Eastern England where water is both a blessing and a curse. The pregnancy of Tom's girlfriend is the central event of the book. Paternity, rage, guilt, abortion and permanent damage to Mary Metcalf are themes in the 1930s portion of the book. Flashbacks to the history of Tom's family in the nineteenth century reflect on the themes of time, loss and history. Maintaining coherence through the three time frames-1800s, the 1930-40s part, and the 1970s perspective- is the technical challenge that Mr. Swift manages very well through vital characters and brilliant prose. The book is funny, very sad, and evocative of a portion of England that is beautiful and dramatic in itself. 3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. once upon a time...a history teacher told me this story... Von Kelly Anne Burns "~Waterland was a novel that held me captive....I was unable to put it down without reading it in its entirety. I was completely captivated by the story's unique blending of not only a family's history, but also a history of a town and the world surrounding it. teacher, Tom is faced with the challenge of portraying the importance of history lessons to students that do not understand, (nor do they wish to understand), history's significance in their future. After Tom finds out that he is being granted an "early retirement" from the school's headmaster, (for reasons that concur with his personal life), he decides to use the time he has left with his students wisely, and truly show them history's significance. He does this by throwing out the"~ course syllabus guidelines and instead, tells a multi-faceted string of "stories" which give the history of the world through the past of his family and the town surrounding them."~ of the Atkinson and Crick families are a way to show the evolution of two families in the ever-changing town and world around them. The fact that the stories are told in a "lesson" to his students is an important aspect of the novel, because it points to the idea that if they do not learn from their own ancestor's mistakes, then they surely will be destined to repeat them."~ come crashing into your future. In Tom's own words: "How it repeats itself, how it goes back on itself, no matter how we try to straighten it out. How it twists and turns. How it goes in circles and brings us back to the same place" (P.142)."~ upon as the window for the readers, as we hear the stories for the first time at exactly the same time as the students do. Therefore, as the students are unraveling the past to their town through Tom's stories, so are we."~ It is a scandalous account of a family's rise and fall from political and monetary bliss to their eventual downfall, caused by none other than their own reputation and legend."~ everturning rumor-mill."~ last chapters" of the book. It had me anticipating the end and reading as fast as possible to try and uncover every last secret, fable, and truth there was to know.

Kurzbeschreibung With an introduction by John Burnside Shortlisted for the 1983 Booker prize, winner of the Guardian Fiction Prize. Children, only animals live entirely in the Here and Now. Only nature knows neither memory nor history. But man - let me offer you a definition - is the story-telling animal. Tom Crick is a passionate teacher, but before he is forced into retirement by scandal, he has one last history lesson to deliver: his own. Spanning more than 200 years in the lives of its haunted narrator and his ancestors, Waterland is a visionary tale of England's mysterious Fen country. Taking in eels and incest, ale-making and madness, the discovery of a body and a tragic family romance, this is an extraordinary novel about the heartless sweep of history and man's changing place within it. In the years since its first publication in 1983, Graham Swift's Waterland has established itself as a much-loved classic of twentieth-century British literature. It was shortlisted for the Booker prize, won the Guardian Fiction Prize and has been adapted into a film starring Jeremy Irons and Ethan Hawke. Pressestimmen Waterland appropriates the Fens as Moby-Dick did whaling or Wuthering Heights the moors a beautiful, serious, and intelligent novel, admirably ambitious and original. The Observer A formidably intelligent book animated by an impressive, angry pity at what human creatures are capable of doing to one another in the name of love and need. The New York of Books Swift spins a tale of empire-building, land reclamation, brewers and sluice-minders, bewhiskered Victorian patriarchs, insane and visionary relicts . . . A

book of strange, insidious, unsettling power. Books and Bookmen Teems with energy, fertility, violence, madness . . . Demonstrates the irrepressible, wide-ranging talent of this young British writer. The Washington Post Book WorldExtraordinary . . . A personal book, a book that speaks to the innermost core of the reader . . . Waterland is history, it is exploration. Waterland is geography, lineage. It is commerce, decline and fall, the industrial revolution (the French one, too, with heads lopped off) and, like everything around us, it bears the scars of the two great wars of the twentieth century. It is family saga, family secrets, love, licit and otherwise; it is, above all, an exploration into what it is, this history thing, that affects us all, your history, mine, ours. from the Introduction by Tim BindingWerbetextWidely regarded as one of the finest of British novels, Waterland is republished here in a special anniversary edition