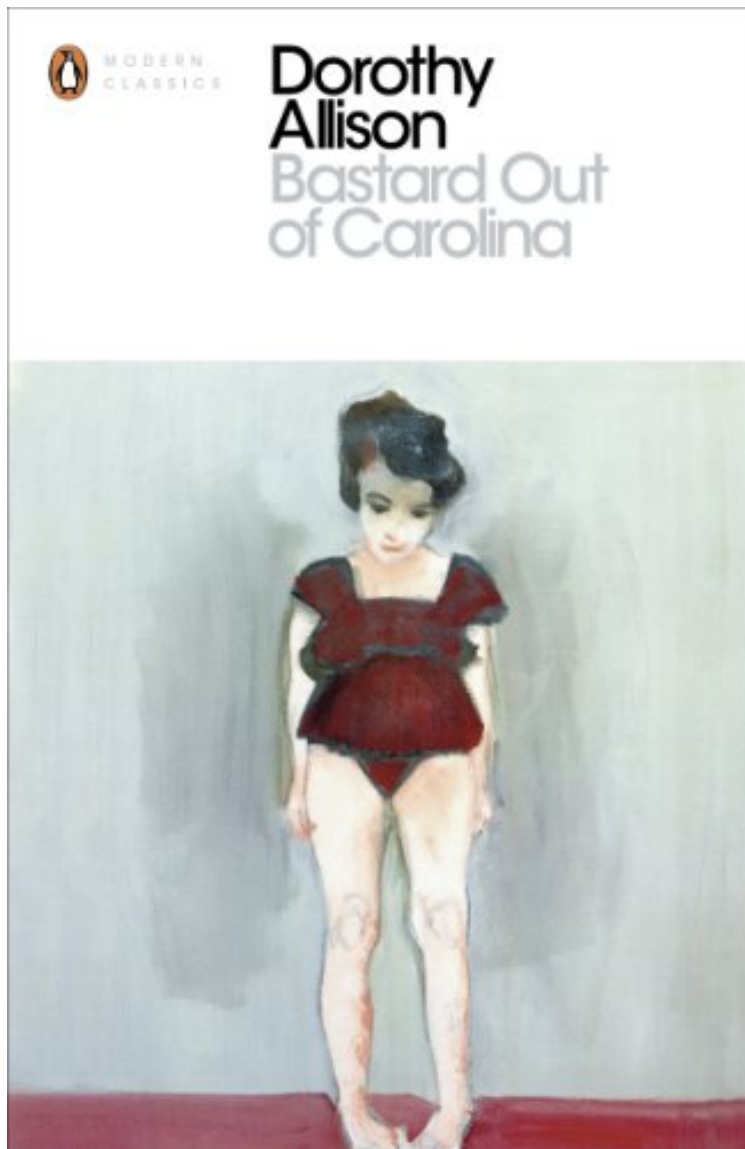


(Mobile book) Bastard Out of Carolina (Penguin Modern Classics)

Bastard Out of Carolina (Penguin Modern Classics)

Von Dorothy Allison

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Von Dorothy Allison : Bastard Out of Carolina (Penguin Modern Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bastard Out of Carolina (Penguin Modern Classics):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. simultaneously bleak, depressing, moving and inspiringVon scutler@nimbus.ocis.temple.eduI've never understood why people pan and/or disregard books because of bleakness. It seems absurd to me, that a sad story should become something worthy of scorn. I see all over the place, here, at this on-line, interactive bookstore, people raging against

the "unlikability" of a character, or the "worthlessness" of certain stereotypes evoked in someone's work. This book uses stereotypes. There is a reason for stereotypes. They represent people's views of other people they do not know, people they never will know and would never want to meet. Stereotypes, no matter how overboard or ridiculous have some basis in fact, someone, somewhere, from which ever group you might want to choose was exactly like that. Stereotypes are an important tool to explain a character, a brief summation that all of us can easily focus to mind. *Bastard Out of Carolina* is about lower-class, white trash Southern hicks, a group we here up North have been brainwashed into fearing and laughing at because they are so unlike us, so grimy and down in the dirt with the pigs and the cows and the muck and the slime. But this book's true success is to grab us by the scruff of the neck and put us there in these people's lives, into the pathetic, wasteful, useless existence of these worthless people with no hope of ever accomplishing anything and then making us care about them, driving us deeper and deeper into their emotions until we realize that they aren't so different from the rest of us, from WE, the enlightened few who can truly 'understand' the world. These are the kinds of lies we tell ourselves to keep away from realizing that everyone is, ultimately, the same and we all have the same bitterness, the same envies, the same dark urges and desires and we are all capable of the same terrifying acts that other people we root to be executed are guilty of committing. Tragedy is the way of life, there are no true happy endings. There is only hope, there is only getting over the misery of your barren life and striving forth ahead into a future that might not be quite so painful. I resent it when people talk and talk of how they need a hero to root for, a happily ever after finale. That is a pathetic delusion. Life will always end with something unfinished, something you'll regret on your deathbed. Deal with it and understand it and then maybe you can get beyond these fragile lies so you can truly enjoy the brief span of time you have to do as you like. Nothing counts for anything so shut up and read a book like this!

10 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Overcoming stigmas in Southern Culture Von Ein Kunde Having grown up in the south myself I saw the stigmas portrayed in Allison's book to be true. It is hard to express to people who were not in this environment what it was like, but Allison has done this in her book. *Bastard out of Carolina* is an excellent book in that it tells the story of "Bone" Boatwright, and her life as poor white trash in the south. Bone's speech patterns in telling the story are so clear and easy to read that it adds to the book's authenticity and to its believability. She tells about her mother's struggle to remove the illegitimate label from her birth certificate, and how this affected her life. Bone had to fight to prove herself to the world around her. She didn't want to be the bastard people called her, she didn't want to have people control her through their labels. Included in this struggle is the story of overcoming the abuse she receives from "Daddy Glen" her step father. He beats her and molests her, under the guise that she asked for it. It is only through the help of her uncles and her aunts that she is able to rise above the abuse, and the abandonment from her mother and become the person she wants to be. The book is partly autobiographical on the part of Allison, and she has used her own experiences to tell a powerful story of strength. I recommend this book to people who enjoyed books by Fannie Flagg, and anyone who has had to deal with abuse and/or abandonment

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. this tragic and inspiring novel pulls heavily at our heart Von Ein Kunde This tragic yet inspiring novel is one that is based on Allison's background. Once I picked up this book, I could not stop reading it. I would read until late into the night. This book was a required reading for my college English class, but I thoroughly enjoyed it. At the end of the book, tears came to my eyes; I felt I had known Bone all my life. She is a survivor, a heroine. At first, she feels that illegitimacy has defeated her, that her life is already what it's going to be. She is jealous of her younger sister, Reece, because she knew her father. Bone's emotional, painful struggle squeezes our hearts until it feels like a lump of grief. Bone finds that storytelling and fantasies are the only places where she can find solace and control. It is a place where she can escape her cruel stepfather's abuse. Her mother is slowly torn apart from her family by her husband, Glenn. He abuses Bone both sexually and emotionally. Bone feels that she deserves this abuse since she is illegitimate. I really liked the quote at the beginning of the book, from Baldwin: " People pay for what they have allowed themselves to become; and they pay for it simply, by the lives they lead." This is especially pertinent to Bone's story, because by the end of the book, Bone's anger has forced her to accept who she is and the life she has been handed. There is a hint of redemption in this quote, by the mention of the word "allowed." This suggests that people may be born into undesirable lives, but that they can be whoever they want to be. I wrote a paper on this book, and I found that I never wanted to stop writing; there was so much to say. Allison is a wonderful and inspiring novelist. Her stories hit close to home. This is definitely a book to be read several times.

Kurzbeschreibung Twentieth Anniversary Edition - with a new introduction by the author 'About as close to flawless as any reader could ask for' The New York Times Book Carolina in the 1950s, and Bone - christened Ruth Anna Boatwright - lives a happy life, in and out of her aunt's houses, playing with her cousins on the porch, sipping ice tea, loving her little sister Reece and her beautiful young mother. But Glen Waddell has been watching them all, wanting her mother too, and when he promises a new life for the family, her mother gratefully accepts. Soon Bone finds herself in a different, terrible world, living in fear, and an exile from everything she knows. *Bastard Out of Carolina* is a raw,

poignant tale of fury, power, love and family. 'For anyone who has ever felt the contempt of a self-righteous world, this book will resonate within you like a gospel choir. For anyone who hasn't, this book will be an education' Barbara Kingsolver

Dorothy Allison was awarded the 2007 Robert Penn Warren Award for Fiction, and has been likened to Flannery O'Connor, William Faulkner and Harper Lee. From Publishers Weekly Allison's remarkable country voice emerges in a first novel spiked with pungent characters ranging from the slatternly to the grotesque, and saturated with sense of place--Greenville, S.C. Ruth Anne Boatwright, 13, got the nickname Bone at birth, when she was tiny as a knucklebone, and the tag acquires painful derivatives, like "Bonehead." While her mother, Annie, a waitress, tries vainly to get the word "illegitimate" scrubbed from Bone's birth certificate, her tobacco-spitting granny reminds her she's a bastard. The identity of her real father, whom granny drove away, is kept from her. Surrounded by loving aunts and uncles, Bone still endures ridicule (she's homely, she has no voice for gospel singing) and--from vicious Daddy Glen, her mother's new husband--beatings and sexual abuse. Bone takes refuge in petty crime, like breaking into Woolworth's, and finds her truest friend in unmarried Aunt Raylene, who once had a great love for another woman. Annie gently defends Daddy Glen, blaming her daughter, until the tale's inevitably brutal climax. Mental and physical cruelty to women forms a main theme, illuminated by the subplot of pathetic albino Shannon Pearls, her story rife with Southern gothic overtones. Allison, author of the well-received short story collection *Trash*, doesn't condescend to her "white trash" characters; she portrays them with understanding and love. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus sA girl comes of age in '50's South Carolina fighting the label "trash" and the violent advances of her stepfather: an overly familiar story as Allison (*Trash*, 1988) handles the material in a surprisingly nostalgic way. When narrator Ruth Ann Boatwright (nicknamed Bone) is born to 15-year-old unmarried Anney, the word "ILLEGITIMATE" is stamped in big red letters on the birth certificate; for years, Anney will stubbornly try to get a new document without the glaring stigma. She will also try to make a decent home for her two daughters, marrying Glen Waddell, who--the black sheep of a prominent local family--admires the heavy-drinking, brawling Boatwright men. Glen adores Anney but the Boatwrights have their reservations: "the boy could turn like whiskey in a bad barrel." Indeed, not only does he have trouble holding a job but soon makes Bone a scapegoat for his frustrations: she suffers beatings and sexual molestation, keeping silent in order not to spoil her mother's hard-won happiness. Though the family triangle is the dramatic center of the novel, the narrative meanders through the story of the Boatwright clan. Bone reflects on her strong and independent (if hard-treated) aunts and appreciates family strength, love, and loyalty while recognizing that the outside world sees the Boatwrights as antisocial trash. Compassionate if not very compelling; after the often searing power of Allison's short stories, she seems not to have claimed her voice so much as tamed it. -- Copyright 1992, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.