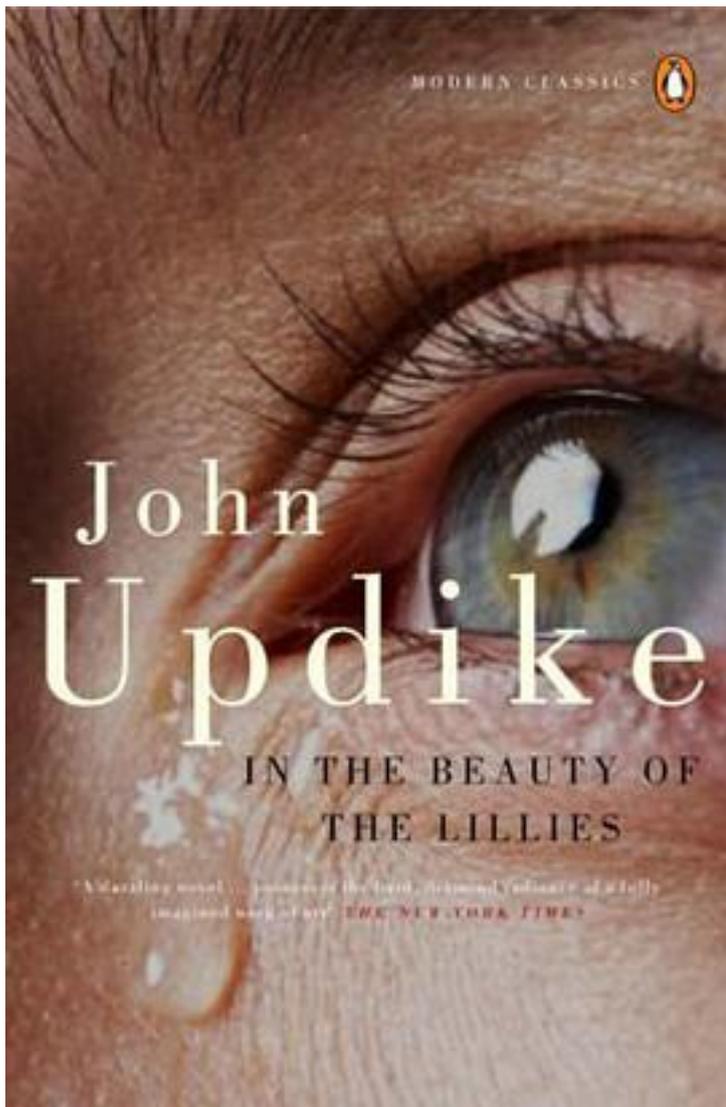


# In the Beauty of the Lilies



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著者:John Updike

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In the Beauty of the Lilies begins in 1910 and traces God's relation to four generations of American seekers, beginning with Clarence Wilmot, a clergyman in Paterson, New Jersey. He loses his faith but finds solace at the movies, respite from "the bleak facts of life, his life, gutted by God's withdrawal." His son, Teddy, becomes a mailman who retreats from American exceptionalism, religious and otherwise, into a life of studied ordinariness. Teddy has a daughter, Esther, who becomes a movie star, an object of worship, an All-American goddess. Her neglected son, Clark, is possessed of a native Christian fervor that brings the story full circle: in the late 1980s he joins a Colorado sect called the Temple, a handful of "God's elect" hastening the day of reckoning. In following the Wilmots' collective search for transcendence, John Updike pulls one wandering thread from the tapestry of the American Century and writes perhaps the greatest of his later novels.

作者介绍:

约翰·厄普代克 (John Updike, 1932.3.18—2009.1.27)，集小说家、诗人、剧作家、散文家和评论家于一身的美国当代文学大师，作品两获普利策奖、两获国家图书奖以及欧·亨利奖等众多奖项多达十数次。“性爱、宗教和艺术”是厄普代克毕生追求的创作标的，“美国人、基督徒、小城镇和中产阶级”则是厄普代克独擅胜场的创作主题，他由此成为当之无愧的美国当代中产阶级的灵魂画师，被誉为“美国的巴尔扎克”。

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标签

英文原版

评论

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## 书评

百年启示录（后记） 袁凤珠

1998年12月16日，美国《基督教科学箴言报》发表了题为《道德伦理沉沦了吗?》的文章，哀叹美国“今天的道德氛围还不如50年代”，并列举了若干方面，其中两项尤其令人深思：一、电视、电影和流行音乐促使这个国家的价值观改变；二、宗教...

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我的生活里就没有暴力。我没打过仗，连架也没打过。我不认为一个和平的人应该在小说里假装暴力。纳博科夫写的那种血淋淋的事情，对我来说更像文学而不是生活。我对我笔下的人物有一种温情，不允许自己对他们施暴。如果有一天大屠杀真的出现在我面前，我肯定自己能够提高表述暴...

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