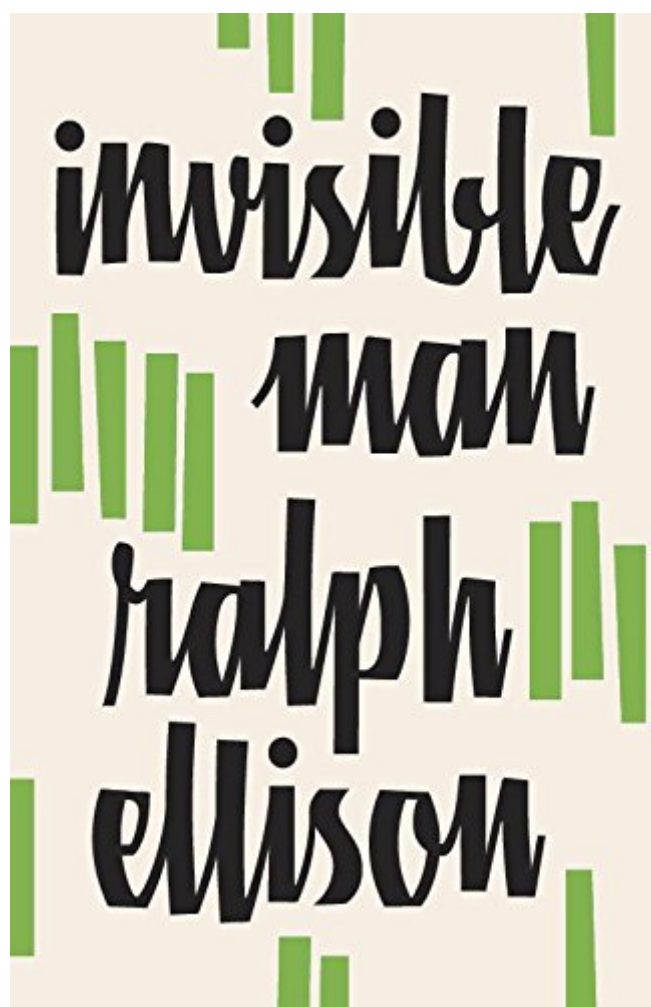


The book was found

# Invisible Man (Vintage International)



## Synopsis

Invisible Man is a milestone in American literature, a book that has continued to engage readers since its appearance in 1952. A first novel by an unknown writer, it remained on the bestseller list for sixteen weeks, won the National Book Award for fiction, and established Ralph Ellison as one of the key writers of the century. The nameless narrator of the novel describes growing up in a black community in the South, attending a Negro college from which he is expelled, moving to New York and becoming the chief spokesman of the Harlem branch of "the Brotherhood", and retreating amid violence and confusion to the basement lair of the Invisible Man he imagines himself to be. The book is a passionate and witty tour de force of style, strongly influenced by T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*, Joyce, and Dostoevsky. From the Trade Paperback edition.

## Book Information

File Size: 4059 KB

Print Length: 610 pages

Publisher: Vintage; 2nd edition (July 23, 2010)

Publication Date: September 27, 2010

Sold by: Random House LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B003WUYR9K

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #16,491 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #15 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Classics #18 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Literary Fiction > African American #35 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Classics > American

## Customer Reviews

Ellison, Baldwin and Wright formed the triumvirate of great African American male novelists of the past 200 years. Of the three, Ellison may well prove to be the most timeless. While *Native Son*, *Black Boy* and *Go Tell it on a Mountain* are powerful works, they don't quite measure up to *Invisible Man*, in terms of sheer literary genius. While Ellison wears his influences on his sleeve (Dostoevsky,

symbolist poets, existentialist writers, etc.[he even borrows his title from HG Wells]), his writing never suffers or sinks beneath the weight of literary associations. His was a unique voice and vision. Like Dostoevsky's *Underground Man*, Ellison's narrator has essentially beat a retreat from the world. He holes up in a subterranean room, where he reflects on the the injustices society has dealt him. Dostoevsky's narrator purposely bumps into people on the Nevsky Prospect in order to certify that he is visible and just as important as the next man. Ellison's *Invisible Man* beats and almost kills a white man he confronts on an empty street, also in order to rationalize his own existence. Both the underground man and the invisible man are filled with self loathing. Yet, in Ellison's work, the narrator does achieve a sort of spiritual progress and affirmative self-knowledge. He goes from being a pathetically exploited non-being that must accede to the whims and wishes of the white oppressor (the often anthologized battle royal scene at the beginning of the book), to a point near the conclusion of the book in which he can state he is free to pursue "infinite possibilities." Irving Howe, in an overall favorable review of the novel, took Ellison to task on several fronts.

When I was 12 years old, my father brought home a trunk full of used books from a thrift store. In it was every book imaginable by the leading lights of the African-American literary pantheon. Baldwin, Hughes, Hurston, Wright, Fanon, Brown and of course the weightiest of the tomes at 600-plus pages, Ellison's *Invisible Man*. I read through all the slimmer volumes and never got around to Ellison until I was in college. Even after hearing all the hype about it for years on end, I was still floored by the book. It was the kind of book you backtrack while reading, retracing chapters you just read to see if the initial impact of the words was really that forceful. I empathized with the book and it's protagonist because having just gone through my early adolescence and teens I sensed his feeling of longing...and need for belonging. Nearing the end of the book, I slowed my pace, afraid of what I would find. After finishing it for many days (weeks, months...) afterward the book haunted my quiet times. It haunted me whenever I thought about it for years afterward. Thus, having just bought the "new" Ellison, "Juneteenth" I also bought the new commemorative "Invisible Man" and decided to read it again first. It was more powerful than before. It's tale of a search for identity in a land where your identity is denied rings even truer in this time of assimilation/balkanization. We live in a time where color-blindness (one form of invisibility) is the alleged goal while denial of recognition and privilege (the more prevalent form of invisibility) is still the unfortunate norm. Beyond being a book of the 50's and the civil rights era, it's even more important as a book for the move to a new millennium...

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Invisible Man (Vintage International) The Invisible Library (The Invisible Library Novel) Invisible Man, Got the Whole World Watching: A Young Black Man's Education That Crooked Mirror: A Scary Tale of Cinderella and the Invisible Man (The Scary Tales Book 6) On Ellison's The Invisible Man (Cliffs Notes) H. G. Wells: 12 Novels - The Time Machine, The War of the Worlds, The Invisible Man, The Island of Doctor Moreau, When The Sleeper Wakes, A Modern Utopia and much more... The Invisible Man (Signet Classics) Significant Changes to the International Plumbing Code, International Mechanical Code and International Fuel Gas Code, 2012 Edition International Law and International Relations (International Relations for the 21st Century) VINTAGE CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS: Christmas Cards, Customs, Carols, Legends, Poems, Recipes, Advertisements (Vintage Memories) VINTAGE VALENTINES: Valentine's Day Cards, Customs, Legends & Poetry (Vintage Memories) The Official Vintage Guitar Price Guide 2014 (Official Vintage Guitar Magazine Price Guide) VINTAGE AUTOMOBILE ADVERTISING 5: 1957-1959: OVER 420 FULL SIZE VINTAGE AUTOMOBILE ADS FROM MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS - LARGE ONE-AD-PER-PAGE FORMAT VINTAGE AUTOMOBILE ADVERTISING 3: 1953-1954: OVER 330 FULL SIZE VINTAGE AUTOMOBILE ADS FROM MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS - LARGE ONE-AD-PER-PAGE FORMAT VINTAGE AUTOMOBILE ADVERTISING 7: 1970-1972: OVER 420 FULL SIZE VINTAGE AUTOMOBILE ADS FROM MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS - LARGE ONE-AD-PER-PAGE FORMAT VINTAGE AUTOMOBILE ADVERTISING 4: 1955-1956: OVER 375 FULL SIZE VINTAGE AUTOMOBILE ADS FROM MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS - LARGE ONE-AD-PER-PAGE FORMAT Afghans: Vintage Afghans To Crochet (Vintage Crochet Favorites Book 1) The Complete Vintage Travel Trailer Restoration Manual: Learn Everything You'll Need to Restore Your Vintage Trailer Treasures In Time..."How to Profit Collecting Vintage Watches": "How to Profit Collecting Vintage Watches" Every Man's Marriage: An Every Man's Guide to Winning the Heart of a Woman (The Every Man Series)

[Dmca](#)