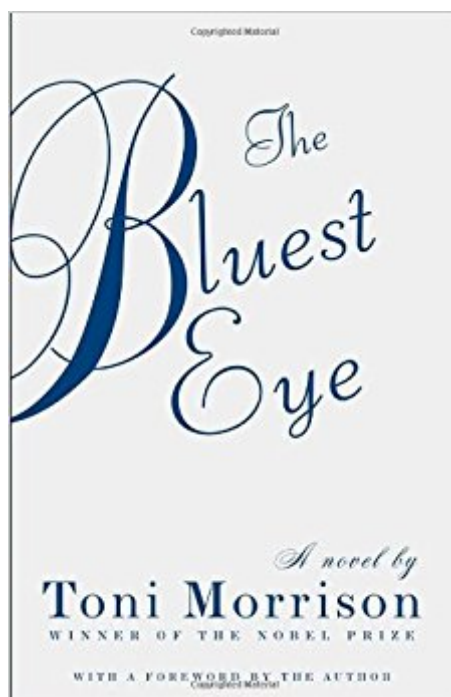


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# The Bluest Eye (Vintage International)



## Synopsis

Pecola Breedlove, a young black girl, prays every day for beauty. Mocked by other children for the dark skin, curly hair, and brown eyes that set her apart, she yearns for normalcy, for the blond hair and blue eyes that she believes will allow her to finally fit in. Yet as her dream grows more fervent, her life slowly starts to disintegrate in the face of adversity and strife. A powerful examination of our obsession with beauty and conformity, Toni Morrison's virtuosic first novel asks powerful questions about race, class, and gender with the subtlety and grace that have always characterized her writing.

## Book Information

Series: Vintage International

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Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (966 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,661 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #114 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Contemporary #206 in Books > Literature & Fiction > African American #353 in Books > Teens

## Customer Reviews

I know this book is considered a classic, but personally, I hated it, to the point where I really wish I hadn't read it. I don't see the point of a book entirely about the abuse of a child - abuse which gets progressively more horrific, graphic and pornographic, including incestual rape, until she goes insane. People say "Oh, it's a powerful story about racism and false ideas of beauty etc." But IMO, there are so many BETTER stories about those themes that DON'T make me want to scrub my eyeballs after reading them. For example, "The Skin I'm In" - that book is about a black girl teased and bullied by her classmates (also black) just because her skin is darker than theirs. Like "The Bluest Eye," "The Skin I'm In" shows how black kids living in poverty in a white society can develop a self-loathing feeling that whiter is prettier - but unlike this book, that one has an admirable protagonist who's able to rise above adversity, and has a sense of hope. Or "Push" by Sapphire (the

book that the movie "Precious" was based on) - that protagonist, like Pecola, was raped and impregnated by her father and had a hateful mother and a horrible life, but then had the opportunity for education, which gave her strength and self-worth. It's an inspiring and uplifting book, despite the protagonist's grim life. Or how about "The Color Purple"? I could go on and on. The difference between those books and "The Bluest Eye" is that those books all have hope in them, whereas "The Bluest Eye" is unrelentingly grim and horrible with no hope at all. Why would I want to read a book like that?

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