



The Skin of Our Teeth: A Play (Perennial Classics)

By Thornton Wilder

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A timeless statement about human foibles . . . and human endurance, this beautiful new edition features Wilder's unpublished production notes, diary entries, and other illuminating documentary material, all of which is included in a new Afterword by Tappan Wilder.

Time magazine called *The Skin of Our Teeth* "a sort of *Hellzapoppin'* with brains," as it broke from established theatrical conventions and walked off with the 1943 Pulitzer Prize for Best Drama. Combining farce, burlesque, and satire (among other styles), Thornton Wilder departs from his studied use of nostalgia and sentiment in *Our Town* to have an Eternal Family narrowly escape one disaster after another, from ancient times to the present. Meet George and Maggie Antrobus (married only 5,000 years); their two children, Gladys and Henry (perfect in *every way!*); and their maid, Sabina (the ageless vamp) as they overcome ice, flood, and war -- by the skin of their teeth.

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The Skin of Our Teeth: A Play (Perennial Classics) By Thornton Wilder Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #75973 in Books
- Published on: 2003-04-15
- Released on: 2003-04-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .44" w x 5.31" l, .34 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 176 pages

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Thornton Wilder (1897-1975) was an accomplished novelist and playwright whose works, exploring the connection between the commonplace and cosmic dimensions of human experience, continue to be read and produced around the world. His *Bridge of San Luis Rey*, one of seven novels, won the Pulitzer Prize in 1928, as did two of his four full-length dramas, *Our Town* (1938) and *The Skin of Our Teeth* (1943). Wilder's *The Matchmaker* was adapted as the musical *Hello, Dolly!*. He also enjoyed enormous success with many other forms of the written and spoken word, among them teaching, acting, the opera, and films. (His screenplay for Hitchcock's *Shadow of Doubt* [1943] remains a classic psycho-thriller to this day.) Wilder's many honors include the Gold Medal for Fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and the National Book Committee's Medal for Literature.

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