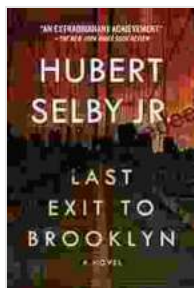


Last Exit to Brooklyn: A Haunting Journey into the Underbelly of New York City



Last Exit to Brooklyn: A Novel (An Evergreen book)

by Hubert Selby Jr.

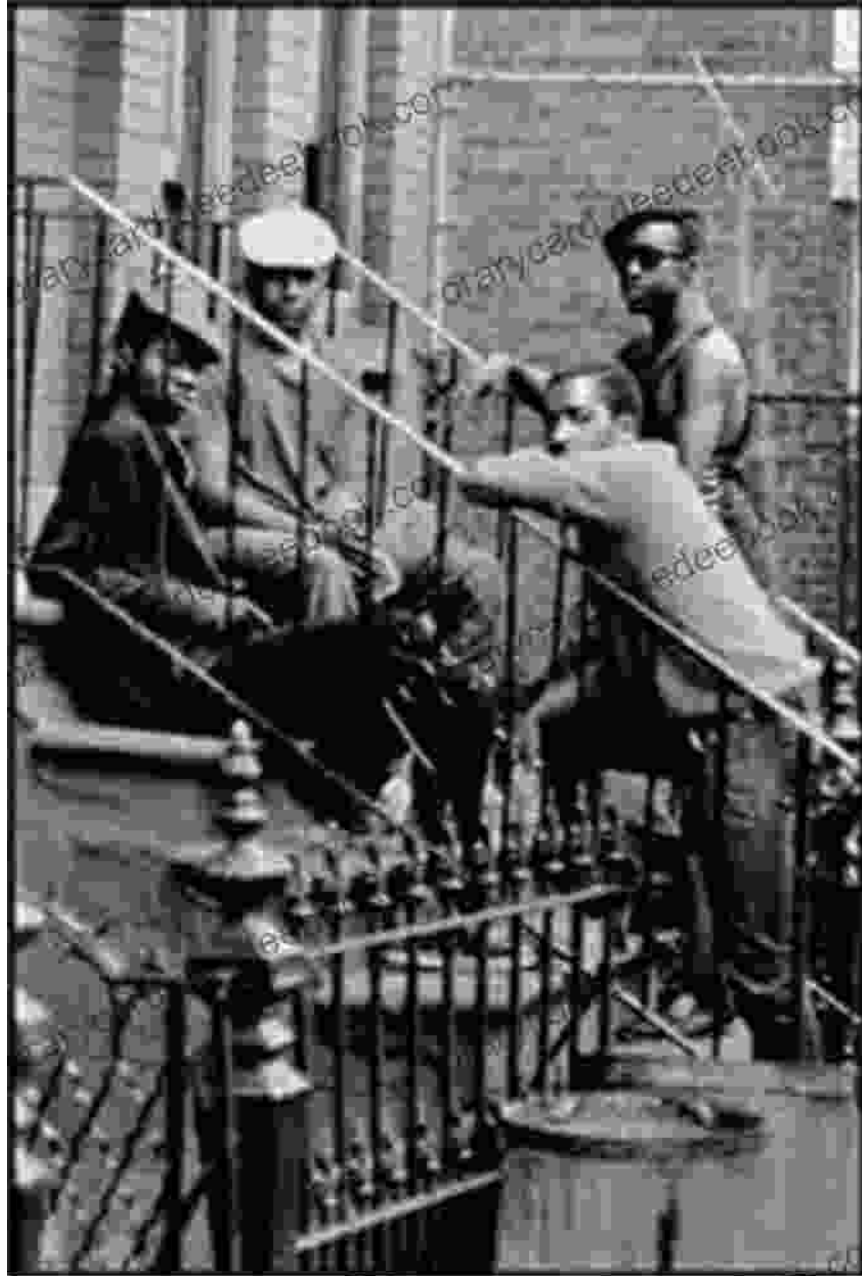
★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 9821 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 433 pages



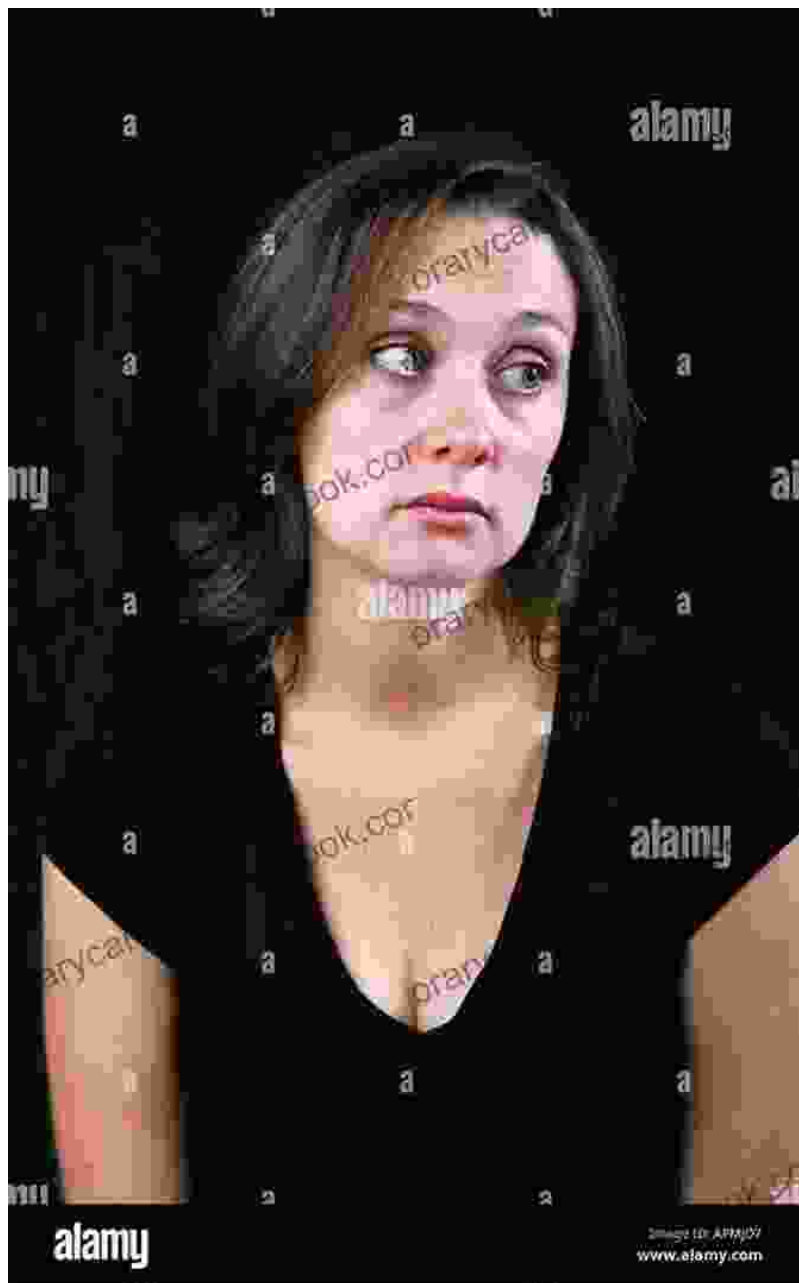
Hubert Selby Jr.'s seminal novel, *Last Exit to Brooklyn*, is a literary masterpiece that has both fascinated and repelled readers since its controversial publication in 1964. Set in the gritty streets of Brooklyn, the novel unflinchingly depicts the lives of the marginalized and forgotten, exposing the raw reality of urban poverty, violence, prostitution, and drug addiction.

Raw and Unflinching Realism



Last Exit to Brooklyn is renowned for its unflinching realism, which some critics have described as "brutal" and "horrifying." Selby's writing style is raw and uncompromising, painting a vivid portrait of the harsh conditions and desperate lives of his characters. The novel's unflinching portrayal of violence, sexual abuse, and addiction has made it a polarizing work, but it is also a testament to Selby's commitment to authenticity.

Haunting Characters



The characters in *Last Exit to Brooklyn* are not easily forgotten. They are complex and flawed, often driven by desperation and despair. Selby's portrayal of their struggles and resilience humanizes the marginalized people who are often overlooked or stigmatized. Readers are drawn into the lives of characters like Tralala, a prostitute who dreams of a better life;

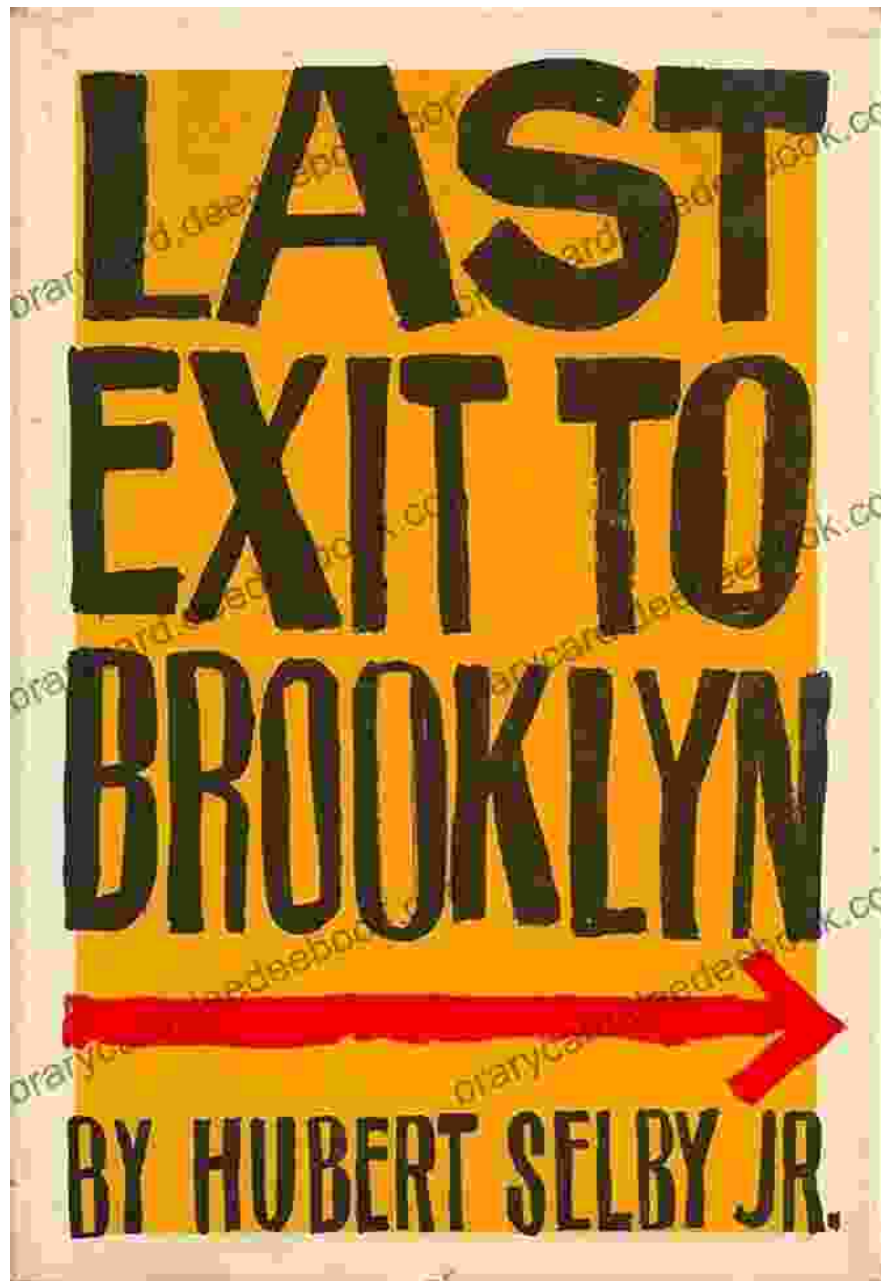
Harry Black, a violent and unpredictable bully; and Georgette, a young woman whose innocence is brutally shattered.

Exploration of Dark Themes



Last Exit to Brooklyn delves into some of the darkest aspects of the human condition. It explores the themes of violence, poverty, addiction, and alienation. Selby does not shy away from the bleak realities of life, but he also shows the occasional glimmer of hope and compassion among his characters. Through its unflinching examination of these themes, the novel serves as a powerful indictment of societal failures and a reminder of the resilience of the human spirit.

Controversial Reception



Last Exit to Brooklyn was met with widespread controversy upon its publication. Critics praised its literary merit but also denounced its graphic content and explicit language. The novel was banned in several countries and faced legal challenges in the United States. Despite the controversy, the novel has continued to be read and discussed by generations of readers.

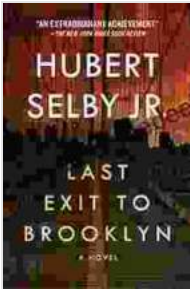
Legacy and Impact



Last Exit to Brooklyn has had a profound impact on literature and society. It is considered a classic of American realism and has influenced generations of writers. The novel's unflinching portrayal of marginalized communities has helped raise awareness of social issues and has challenged societal norms. Selby's uncompromising style and commitment to authenticity have also inspired other writers to push the boundaries of literary expression.

Hubert Selby Jr.'s *Last Exit to Brooklyn* is a groundbreaking and unforgettable novel that continues to challenge and provoke readers. Its unflinching realism, haunting characters, exploration of dark themes, and

controversial reception have made it a literary masterpiece that has stood the test of time. Through its unflinching portrayal of the marginalized and forgotten, the novel remains a powerful indictment of societal failures and a testament to the resilience of the human spirit.



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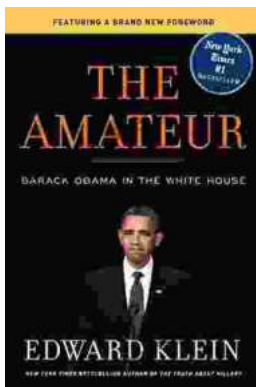
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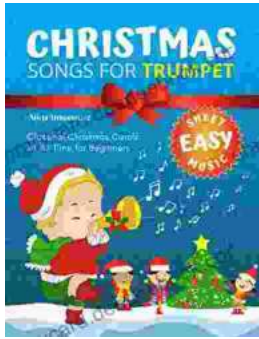
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