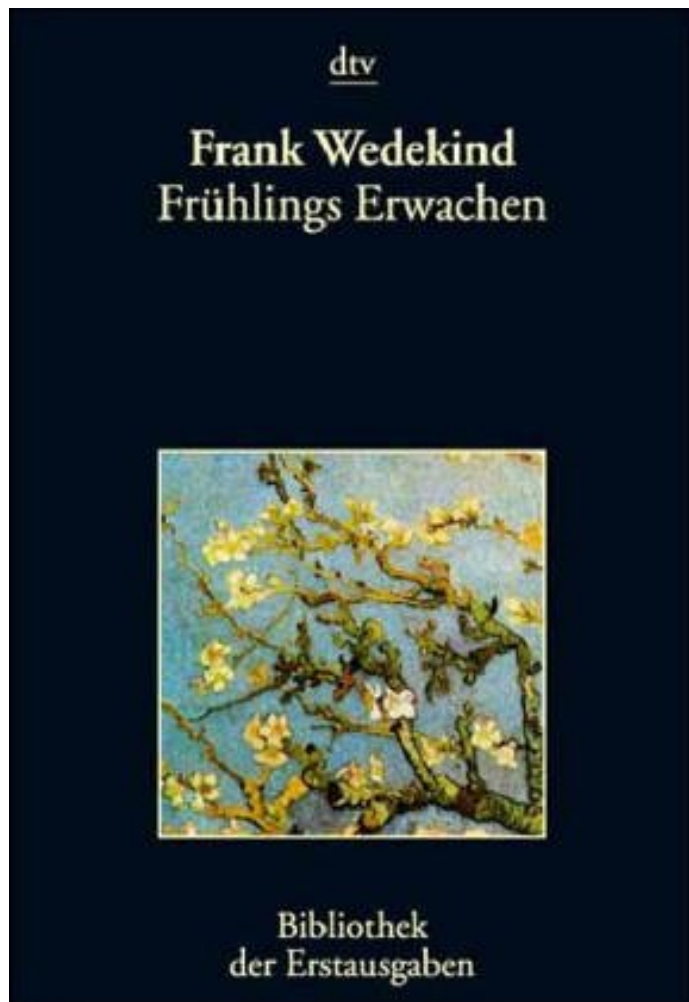

Frank Wedekind

Frühlings Erwachen



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Description

Originally published in 1892, this play is the basis for the Broadway musical, *Spring Awakening*. It follows pubescent youth through sexual discovery and the hardships that accompany it. This edition of the book is available through Project Gutenberg.

Insightful reviews

Lori: This play has it all: teenage sex/rape, abortion, masturbation, homosexual acts, suicide, bad grades!!! And it's all the grown-ups' fault!!!

Sizes May Vary: This time my reading experience was different. Usually, the original writing style weighs more than anything for me. This fact has a simple explanation: themes and ideas are rarely original and truly genuine; that is why the manner, the approach, the attitude, the design (of writing) is more important.

"The Awakening of Spring" is special as way of communicating information. It has educational purposes acknowledged by reader through a series of life experience examples in very young people (age above 14). Only this time education is for the adults. For the morally suffering adults. For parents which are incapable to explain natural changes in young human body and mind and, guided by absurd moral piousness, distort children's understanding of the world.

The characters seem sketched and their soul sense of existence is to illustrate human stupidity and the absurdity of morality overuse.

The main question this play poses is: why do human beings have to fight their natural desire to discover, explain, understand life and hover instinctual/bodily normality with MORALITY, with moral precepts: false, hard to understand, not inherent, not one's own.

There were a lot of audacious artists which made our so-called freedom possible. Wedekind is one of them.

Juushika: A controversial play published in 1891, not performed until 1906, and adapted into a musical in 2006, *Spring's Awakening* is the story of children facing the beginning of adolescence within the repressed culture of 1892 Germany. This edition, translated and edited by Bentley, contains a number of mini-essays by the editor on everything from the play's timeline to some of its key themes. This commentary is interesting if artless (and, combined with the sprinkling of typos, begs for an editor), providing an adequate introduction to the play and plentiful food for thought. To those that have seen the Broadway adaptation, the original play will be familiar—and that does no harm to either version. The musical updates (without losing) the play's historical setting and rounds out the rest of the cast (in particular its women), making it more approachable, broadening and highlighting its essential truths: it's a catchy, intense, relevant performance and, with a few exceptions, a successful adaptation. The original play, meanwhile, is deeply invested in its historical setting and the youth of its characters, and offers stronger protagonists foiled by a shallower, utilitarian supporting cast; despite being blatantly

controversial it relies on understatement and implication, a combination that gives the reader pause and the story depth.

And where the ending of the musical falters, dissolving into a saccharine musical number that simply shoves aside the play's themes, the original final scene is brilliant: Melchior's conversation with Mortiz and the Man in the Mask is a somewhat more concrete, much more ambiguous, complex conclusion which develops the play's themes—its relationships, social and biological, between life, sexual awakening, and death—while refusing to tie them up in a neat, completed package. This difference may be the reason to prefer, or at least explore, the source material, but familiarity with the musical is hardly the only reason to pick up the play: *Spring's Awakening* is a swift read (although I'd love the chance to see it performed on stage), but it lingers on the mind. It has its weaknesses, as do Bentley's essays, but the birth of life bringing all its dangers of death, the moribundity of society and the indescribable beauty that arises despite it, approached with irony, humor, and palpable love make *Spring's Awakening* a success—and it doesn't even need to be a show-stopping musical. I recommend it.

Sean: I learn this - the unique German play from the past due 1800's - in anticipation of seeing the fawned-over new musical (which translator Jonathan Franzen is speedy to brush aside as "insipid.") Dark, precise and unfortunately humorous - I might hugely suggest this one to theater people, and warning others that it will probably actually be too nerve-racking to be simply digested. My brain used to be spinning with recommendations of the way you'll degree the play today, and it used to be maybe in simple terms that avoided me from being actually disturbed. Captivating, to be sure.

Emma: Having obvious the west finish construction of this 3 years in the past and loved that, I assumed it'd be worthy to learn the play to work out what the storyline fairly used to be and the way this used to be tailored to the stage. I need to say that the west finish construction was once a reasonably actual copy of the tale right here with a few additional additions in their personal for originality you may presume. Whilst I didn't locate this tale as stunning as probably it is going to were while it was once first published, I will definitely comprehend why it'll were shocking. This is, ultimately, a sad story of parental strain and security that leads kids to develop up in lack of knowledge inflicting their very own downfall. Quite unhappy is the tale of Wendla whose mom had attempted to guard her from the evidence of lifestyles and what eventually may cause the belief of a child. From her mom's manner of keeping off the dialog in keeping with her personal upbringing and this being what her mom instructed her, Wendla's lack of awareness leads her down a slippery slope during which the final word cost is her life. So much telling within the dating of Wendla and her mom is the revelation of the kid and the declare that I haven't performed what you stated could reason this. The younger innocence during this second is either attractive and tragic. Melchior nonetheless faces a special type of tragedy. Accused of offering the fabric answerable for his neighbors death, his mom is manipulated by way of his father into sending him to a correction unit even if she would possibly not wish to. Moritz unearths himself in a pressurised surroundings the place parental expectancies are an excessive amount of and this results in a tragedy of his own. This play is a tragedy. It's a tragedy for the parents, who I am certain the place pondering that what they instructed their children, and the way they handled them, used to be how to convey them up, utilizing their very own youth stories and having grew to become out very well from them. It's a

tragedy for the children, whose loss of understanding, loss of experience, and religion of their parents, results in their person downfalls which every so often seem to be their mom and dad treating them poorly in order that they don't lose face of their community. This play isn't for the faint hearted or emotionally sensitive, when instances have replaced and these items will not be so arguable at the present time as they have been then, Wedekind pulls you into the tale and today's values appear less significant than the location those characters are facing. you're feeling such as you are there, with all of your adventure of today, eager to inform the characters to not listen, to not do it that way, to not be so naive, and its heartbreaking as you keep on with the characters journeys. A needs to learn for someone who enjoys plays, controversy, and appreciates how various things are at the present time to how they were.

Nina at Death Books and Tea: Review: past due 1800s Germany. Schoolboys and ladies observe sexuality. It particularly doesn't cross well. between different things, Wedla Bergmann doesn't know how infants are made, Moritz Stiefl is plagued by erotic dreams, and Melchior Gabor, having examine sex, now believes in nothing. In a sequence of scenes, we persist with the teenagers as they struggle to navigate growing to be up. You could have heard of the rock musical that received tailored from this play. It's the debatable one who offers with rape, suicide, baby abuse, and abortion. whilst the play first got here out in 1906, it was once criticised for sexuality, puberty, and homosexuality as well, yet to be honest, that's the least of everyone's problems. As a person who really loved the musical and enjoys reading/seeing resource material, I knew I'd need to learn it someday. I felt that a few characters have been fairly underdeveloped. Martha's tale is simply pointed out in passing, most women don't get any characterisation past fancying Melchior, and that i didn't rather take care of what occurred to the men except Melchior and Moritz. We do get reliable characterisation for the 3 major characters, and we did get to understand what a few humans have been pondering intimately (see subsequent paragraph). it may possibly were larger though. Giant monologues. Ugh. i do know monologues are a customary a part of drama, and that i don't brain a couple. yet they appear to pull on and on and on, Hanschen's "have you prayed tonight, Desdemona" one in particular, and if I have been seeing this live, i'd most likely wish the actors to only be quiet. The plot is usually pushed through refined symptoms of what's happening. There are usually not that many degree directions, and if I didn't recognize the tale from the musical, I'd have needed to reread a number of scenes to ensure I understood what was once going on. What i love approximately this play is that whereas it was once written to criticise the repression of the 1800s, regardless of a hundred and twenty years passing, it's nonetheless proper today: the children are unprepared for all times end result of the inadequacy of adults. There's a scene after Moritz dies within which the academics are going to begin discussing what to do approximately his death, yet then they spend a long time arguing over what window can be opened, that is the clearest instance of adults failing to take care of younger people, a topic additionally obvious while Wedla's mom doesn't inform her approximately notion until eventually it's too late. The adolescents are sufferers of the society that forces educational wisdom on them (if they're boys), doesn't inform them approximately existence (for virtually everyone) and leaves them to find it on their own, which ends up in tragedy. Overall: energy three tea to a tragedy that showcases completely what occurs while sex-ed fails.

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