

# Our Town, The Matchmaker, and The Skin of Our Teeth: Thornton Wilder's Triptych of American Life

Thornton Wilder was an American playwright who won three Pulitzer Prizes for Drama. His plays are known for their insightful portrayal of American life, their use of symbolism, and their poetic language.



## Three Plays: Our Town, The Matchmaker, and The Skin of Our Teeth by Thornton Wilder

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 3382 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 461 pages



Wilder's triptych of American life consists of the plays *Our Town*, *The Matchmaker*, and *The Skin of Our Teeth*. These plays were written in the 1930s and 1940s, and they explore different aspects of American life during that time.

### ***Our Town***

*Our Town* is a nostalgic look at a small town in New Hampshire. The play follows the lives of the Gibbs family and their neighbors over the course of

12 years. The play is narrated by the Stage Manager, who comments on the action and provides insights into the characters' lives.

*Our Town* is a celebration of small town life. Wilder portrays the simple joys and sorrows of everyday life in Grover's Corners. The play is also a meditation on the passage of time and the inevitability of death.



### ***The Matchmaker***

*The Matchmaker* is a witty comedy about love and marriage. The play follows the efforts of Dolly Gallagher Levi, a professional matchmaker, to find a husband for Horace Vandergelder, a wealthy but miserly merchant.

*The Matchmaker* is a delightful comedy that explores the complexities of love and marriage. Wilder's characters are well-developed and relatable, and the play is full of humor and heart.



A scene from Thornton Wilder's play *The Matchmaker*.

### ***The Skin of Our Teeth***

*The Skin of Our Teeth* is a more experimental play that deals with themes of war, family, and identity. The play follows the Antrobus family as they struggle to survive the Ice Age, the Great Flood, and World War II.

*The Skin of Our Teeth* is a complex and challenging play, but it is also a rewarding one. Wilder's play is a meditation on the human condition and the resilience of the human spirit.



Thornton Wilder's triptych of American life is a remarkable achievement. These three plays explore different aspects of American life with insight, humor, and compassion. Wilder's plays are essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the American experience.



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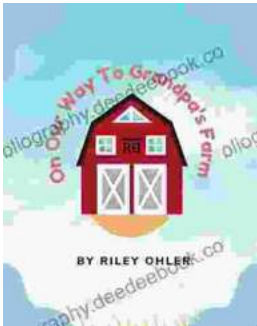
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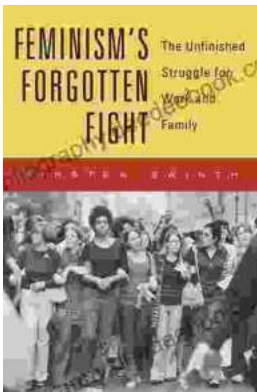
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