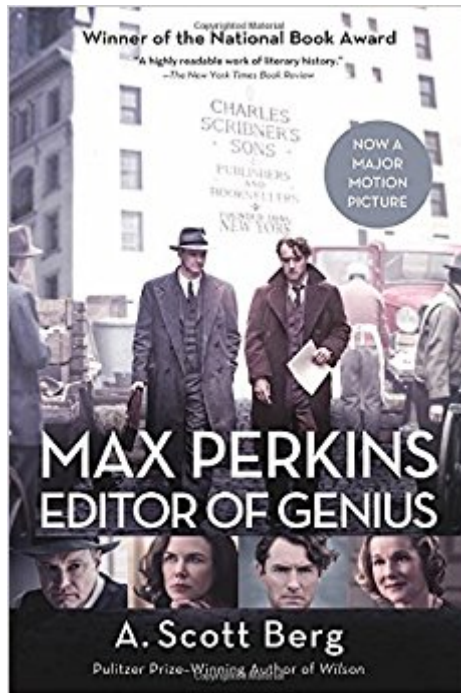




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Max Perkins: Editor Of Genius



Synopsis

Now the Major Motion Picture *Genius*, Starring Colin Firth, Nicole Kidman and Jude Law. The National Book Award winner from Pulitzer-Prize winning author A. Scott Berg. "The talents he nurtured were known worldwide: F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, Thomas Wolfe, and numerous others. But Maxwell Perkins remained a mystery, a backstage presence who served these authors not only as editor but also as critic, career manager, moneylender, psychoanalyst, father-confessor, and friend." This outstanding biography, a winner of the National Book Award, is the first to explore the fascinating life of this genius editor extraordinary "in both the professional and personal domains. It tells not only of Perkins' stormy marriage, endearing eccentricities, and secret twenty-five-year romance with Elizabeth Lemmon, but also of his intensely intimate relationships with the leading literary lights of the twentieth century. It is, in the words of *Newsweek*, "a most admirable biography of a wholly admirable man."

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Customer Reviews

The man who invented the modern profession of book editing finally got his due, 31 years after his death, when this revelatory biography appeared. A. Scott Berg's detailed explication of Maxwell Perkins's work on the manuscripts of F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, Thomas Wolfe, and a host of other important American writers shows how much the Scribner's editor contributed to their books, all the while maintaining that he only helped his authors find the best in themselves. This 1978 National Book Award winner is a thorough, carefully considered account of a seminal period in

American publishing. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

• A highly readable work of literary history. • "The New York Times Book Review" • Berg has told this story unobtrusively and with great feeling, and he has (perhaps just in the nick of time) rescued Perkins from permanent obscurity. • "The Atlantic" • [An] exhaustive, penetrating, and wholly satisfying biography...Scrupulous, thoughtful, touching, memorable, and eminently rewarding. • "Jonathan Yardley, The Miami Herald" • Talented, intelligent, and marvelously researched...A work that does honor to the subject. • "Chicago Tribune" • Berg's whole narrative is first-rate • filled with humor and feeling. Max would have published it in a minute. • "Newsweek" • Although Perkins would have been embarrassed by the attention, Berg's tribute would have touched him. • "Time" • A book about Maxwell Perkins? Of course! Why didn't someone think of it before?...Berg has done very well...It's a fascinating and illuminating story. • "Chicago Sun-Times" • As complete a Max Perkins as we will ever need. It's an extraordinary vivid portrait. • "Webster Schott, The Washington Post Book World" • Perkins turns out to have been as fascinating, dark, complex, and sad as any of his golden boys. A lovely book about the age of giants and the extraordinary man in the shadows behind them. • "Russell Baker" • Max Perkins was the best of the best. This book brings him back alive. • "Erskine Caldwell" •

Extremely interesting book about the workings of an editor, and especially interesting as it includes information on, and the friendships he had with such famous authors as Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Thomas Wolf. After reading this book, I want to read more of the classics written by these authors. Quality writing. After reading it, it was fascinating to watch the recent movie "Genius" about Maxwell Perkins.

It's a large read but I am always interested in the people behind the genius's who inhabit this world. They also have their genius that is shown through other people. Max Perkins was one of these people. I also say the movie which I thought was very well done.WDL

A fascinating look into the American literary greats of the early to mid-twentieth century and the man who guided their careers, writings and lives. Thomas Wolfe, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, Taylor Caldwell, Marjorie Rawlings are a few of the geniuses that genius Max Perkins worked with. A truly engaging biography.

Loved the movie and got this for my husband. He is a Hemmingway fan. Not sure how he will like it. But great service.

I like reading biographies and I found this one fascinating. I had never heard of this man but I read of a movie that will be released this summer based on this book. Max Perkins was the editor for Thomas Wolfe, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and a boatload of other well-known and respected writers in the 20's, 30's and 40's. He was not only an outstanding editor and writing coach but a great friend. I don't know if these writers would have achieved the success they did without him. I'm looking forward to seeing the movie.

He ws such an amazing person and was wonderful to see his contribution to so many great writers. Really loved this book!

I knew very little about Maxwell Perkins other than he was Ernest Hemingway's editor. I'd just picked up this book after I heard about the movie Genius, which was about Perkins relationship with Thomas Wolfe. I expected it to be good written by a Pulitzer Prize winner (for Lindbergh) and I wasn't disappointed. If you're interested in the book editing process there's lots of information, but this is also a great biography stuffed with personal reminiscences and the how-did-they-write it backstories of some classic novels (the battle over profanity in *The Sun Also Rises*; The struggles with the *Great Gatsby*, among others) that make this a page turner. Perkins is as interesting and human (perhaps more so) an individual as the giants he discovered, befriended and gave his best for. This is the best tribute he could have wished for.

Definitely not Berg's best biography, but a very creditable effort on a difficult subject. Not only does, the author give a good feel for Perkins, but he does so largely through his interaction with a small number of his high-profile authors, mainly Fitzgerald, Wolfe, and Hemingway. Of the three, by the way, Hemingway was by far the most stable! Berg does a masterful job of using those three writers and the incidental people in their lives to paint very clear pictures of the tumultuous writing careers and, ultimately, of Perkins. Well worth the read.

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