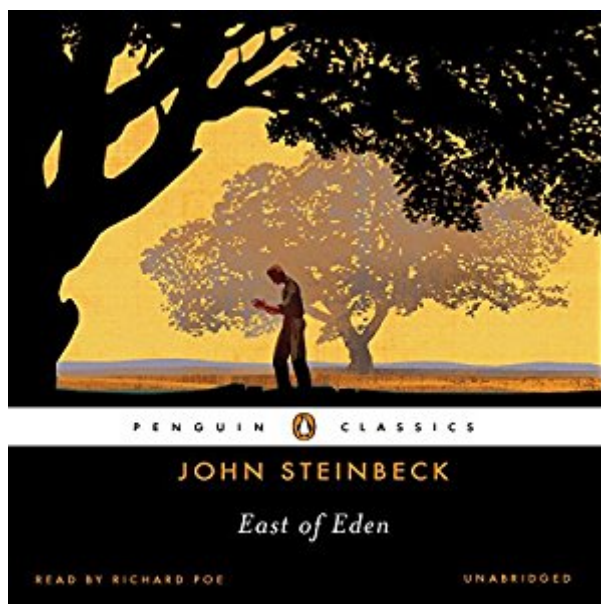


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# East Of Eden



## Synopsis

This sprawling and often brutal novel, set in the rich farmlands of California's Salinas Valley, follows the intertwined destinies of two families - the Trasks and the Hamiltons - whose generations helplessly reenact the fall of Adam and Eve and the poisonous rivalry of Cain and Abel.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 25 hours and 28 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

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Audible.com Release Date: June 15, 2011

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

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Best Sellers Rank: #31 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Classics #120 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Classics #133 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Family Saga

## Customer Reviews

John Steinbeck's *EAST OF EDEN* was not well received by critics when it debuted in the 1950s, and although passing years have seen several re-evaluations it is still regarded as secondary to the likes of *GRAPES OF WRATH* and *OF MICE AND MEN*. It is true that the novel is flawed: it is a great big rambling thing crammed with obvious allegory, metaphor, and allusion, loosely structured to say the least. And yet, in a odd sort of way, the very rambling, the looseness, the obviousness of the work gives it a tremendous grandeur that Steinbeck's more tightly structured work lacks. The novel is as broad and vulgar and lively and provocative as the America it describes--and it is my favorite of Steinbeck's fiction. Any one who comes to the novel from the famous film adaptation starring James Dean will be surprized, for the roots of the novel run much deeper than the film, which is based only on perhaps a third of the novel. This is not so much the story of brothers Aaron and Caleb Trask as it is the story of their parents, Adam Trask and Catherine Ames. And in "Cathy" Ames, Steinbeck creates one of the darkest characters in all of 20th Century American Literature, a creature devoid of virtually anything recognizable as human emotion. Fleeing from a past that includes murder, perversion, blackmail, and prostitution, Cathy assumes an angelic demeanor and

lures the emotionally needy Adam Trask into love and marriage. And when she no longer requires his protection... she destroys him.

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