THEODOR DREISER

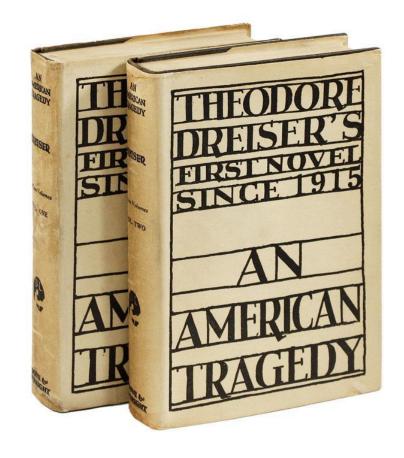




1871-1945

GENERAL INFORMATION

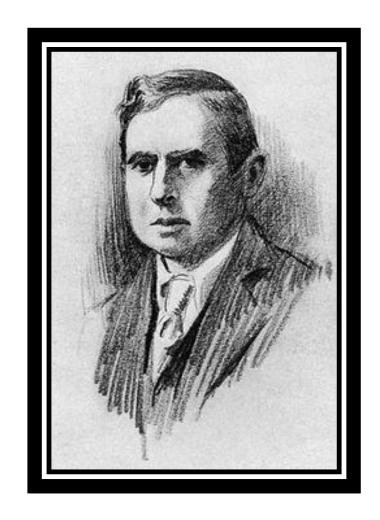
- Theodore Herman Albert Dreiser was a legendary American writer and journalist of the naturalist school.
- He was born on August 27, 1871 in Terre Haute, Indiana, U.S.
- He died on **December 28, 1945** (aged 74) in Hollywood, California, U.S.
- His best known novels are Sister Carrie (1900) and An American Tragedy (1925).





BIOGRAPHY

- 1871 was born
- 1889–1890 attended Indiana University
- 1898 married Sara White
- 1900 published Sister Carrie
- 1911 published *Jenny Gerhardt*
- 1925 published *An American Tragedy*
- 1945 joined the Communist Party
- 1945 died



PEOPLE ABOUT DREISER

• ...stronger than all the others of his time, and at the same time more poignant; greater than the world he has described, but as significant as the people in it.

~ Alfred Kazin

 ...succeeded beyond any of his predecessors or successors in producing a great American business novel.

~ Larzer Ziff

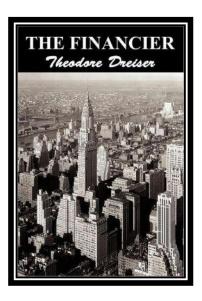
 ...among the American giants, one of the very few American giants we have had.

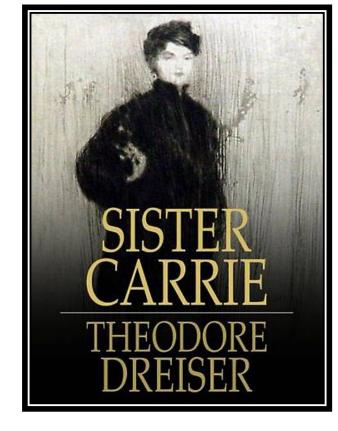
~ Irwing Howe



WORKS

- Sister Carrie (1900)
- Jennie Gerhardt (1911)
- The Financier (1912)
- The Titan (1914)
- The "Genius" (1915)
- Free and Other Stories (1918)
- An American Tragedy (1925)
- Chains: Lesser Novels and Stories (1927)
- The Bulwark (1946)
- The Stoic (1947)







AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY

• The novel is based on the notorious murder of **Grace Brown** at Big Moose Lake in the Adirondack Mountains, NY by **Chester Gillette**, who was then executed by electric chair on March 30, 1908.



- 10/11/1926 first stage adaptation by P. Kearney at the Longacre Theatre in New York
- 1931 film version (strongly disapproved by Dreiser)
- 1951 film adaptation A Place in the Sun
- 12/02/2005 an opera by T. Picker, premiered at the Metropolitan Opera starring Nathan Gunn in New York
- 03/24/2010 a musical by C. Strouse, premiered at Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION