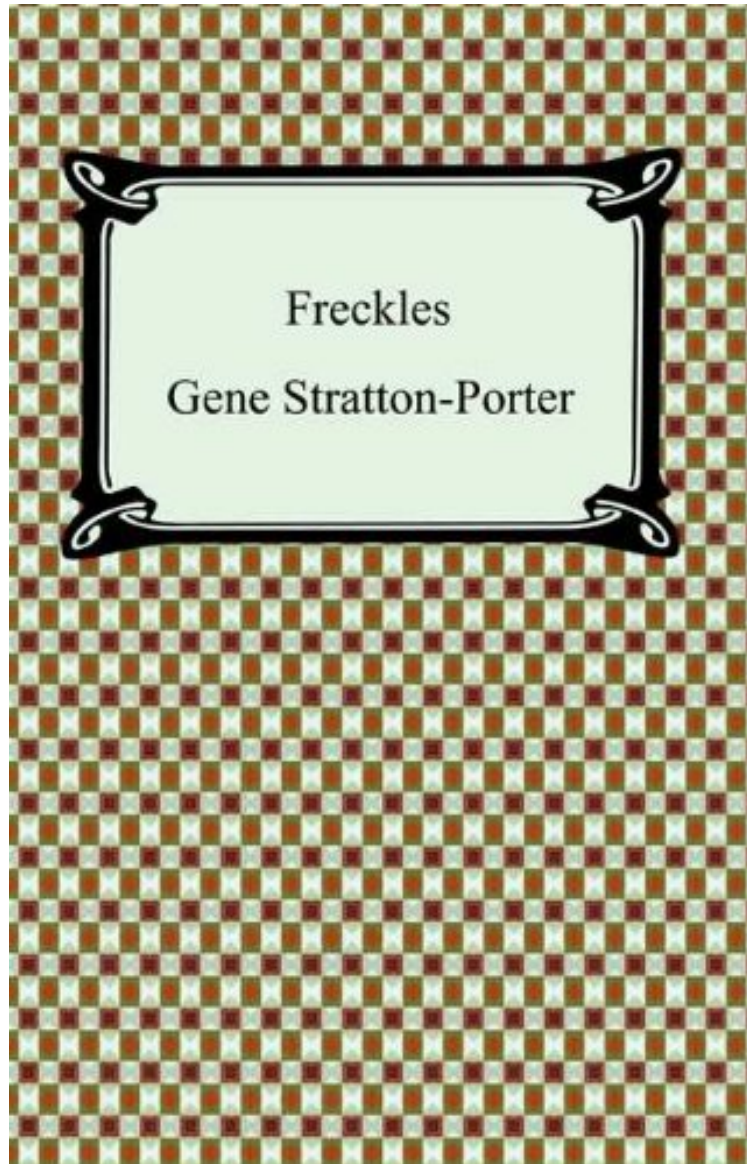


[Pdf free] Freckles [with Biographical Introduction]

Freckles [with Biographical Introduction]

Von Gene Stratton-Porter
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Von Gene Stratton-Porter : Freckles [with Biographical Introduction] before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Freckles [with Biographical Introduction]:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A lone dissenting voiceVon S. C. MitchellLooking at the reviews here, I see that I'm apparently the only person who seriously disliked "Freckles." I expected to like it. Parts of it are memorable. But overall, it combines an awareness of the natural world, a joyous fascination with all forms of wildlife, with a distressing anti-democratic elitism, and a

disturbing notion that it's literally not possible to rise above the station in life that you're born to. The hero is a foundling, raised in a Chicago orphanage. Since infancy, he's never heard any language but American English. Yet we know he's Irish -- because he speaks with (Stratton-Porter's notion of) an Irish accent. And not just *any* Irish accent: one character, on hearing him, is certain that "somewhere before accident and poverty, there had been an ancestor who spoke cultivated English." "Freckles" -- he refuses to use any other name, because the name he was given in the orphanage isn't "really" his -- falls in love with a beautiful girl, whose name we never learn (she is referred to only as "The Swamp Angel"; her father is "The Man of Affairs." Stratton-Porter was strange about names). But he refuses to marry her, or even to admit his love, because his birth-mother apparently beat him, cut his hand off, and abandoned him on the steps of the orphanage. What has this to do with his love for the Angel? Why, that he *cannot* rise any higher than what his ancestors were. And if his mother (and father, but the unspoken implication is that only an illegitimate child would be abandoned by its mother) could do such a thing, that makes her child -- who never knew her -- automatically unworthy of love. It is regarded -- by Freckles, by all the other characters, and clearly by the author -- as much better for him to make himself *and his love* unhappy, than to court her "without knowledge of honorable birth." The Swamp Angel does manage to convince him that he is worthy of love. How? By convincing him that his *parents* were upright, upstanding, and probably well-to-do people: that his talent for singing is incontrovertible evidence that "somewhere in your close blood is a marvelously trained vocalist," that his "tact and courtesy" are "a direct inheritance from a race of men that have been gentlemen for ages, and couldn't be anything else." Even his rejection of the Angel, his determination that it's better to make them both suffer than to love her as the lowborn foundling he thinks he is, is regarded as evidence of his "fineness." And yes, in the "happy" ending, Freckles does find that he's the nephew of "Lord O'More," and *thus* worthy of the Swamp Angel's love. Never -- not once -- is it suggested that he prove himself worthy of her, *regardless* of what his ancestors may or may not have been. Merely being *himself* a good, decent, upstanding human being is not enough. And there lies the central theme of the novel. You are, and can only be, what your *ancestors* were. It's an almost medieval notion of the Great Chain of Being, a notion that it's utterly wrong and inappropriate to try and rise above your proper "station" in life, to improve yourself or your situation in any way. The "good" characters in the book are divided into two groups: the ruling class, elites such as Freckles's employer ("The Boss had never exacted any deference from his men, yet so intense was his personality that no man of them had ever attempted a familiarity. They all knew him to be a thorough gentleman, and that in the great timber city several millions stood to his credit") and the Swamp Angel's father; and the "lowborn," like the Duncans, the humble happy hard-working peasantry who protect Freckles and provide him a foster-family in the lumber camp, but who "know their place" and do not presume to try and rise above it. In "Freckles," we see the first hints of the profoundly elitist attitude that, for Stratton-Porter, reached its zenith in the disgusting racism of "Her Father's Daughter."

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A true love story
 Von Ein Kunde
 Suffering from the "unfairness of life" a young man makes choices. Abandoned at birth with only one arm, Freckles chooses to love....and love He does! He finds the world about him the object of his intense love. He finds the people about him worthy of love. Finally, he finds himself not worthy to love one special girl and is surprised in the end with her response. We are led into a magical world where love is not yet tarnished with selfishness. A joy to read again and again and a very special foundation to preteen and teen training in love.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. My Father's favorite book as he grew up.
 Von Ein Kunde
 My father was born in 1906, in 1910 his father died, and he was sent to be raised by an Aunt and Uncle. While he was there he was horribly injured, and never returned home. He found and read "Freckles" during this exile, and felt very strong empathy for this loney young man, raised separate from his birth family, maimed ,and sure no woman would ever love him, as he was. He learned many of the important lessons of life from this classic book, honesty, perserverence, hard work and most of all, that there is a wonderful woman waiting somewhere that would judge him, not by his scarred body, but by what is in his heart. It was always his favorite, as it shall always be mine.

Kurzbeschreibung
 Set in the Limberlost Swamp area of Indiana, "Freckles" is American writer and naturalist Gene Stratton-Porter's 1904 novel about a one-handed adult orphan who takes a job guarding timber in the swamp. While there, he becomes enchanted by the beauty of the wildlife in the swamp and of a nameless young woman that he meets there, whom we know only as 'The Swamp Angel'. Our main character, whom we know only as 'Freckles' is challenged by the mystery of his past and parentage. While he is loved and admired by all he meets, he feels unworthy of Angel's love and must struggle to overcome this feeling of lowliness.

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feeling of lowliness. Synopsis "Freckles" is the beautifully written story of an orphaned boy who gets a job as a timber guard in Limberlost. The protagonist is handicapped by one hand but still very courageous. He falls in love with the beautiful Swamp Angel. A tale about class differences and the challenges faced by the 'low-born' who believe they can rise above that prejudice. Captivating!