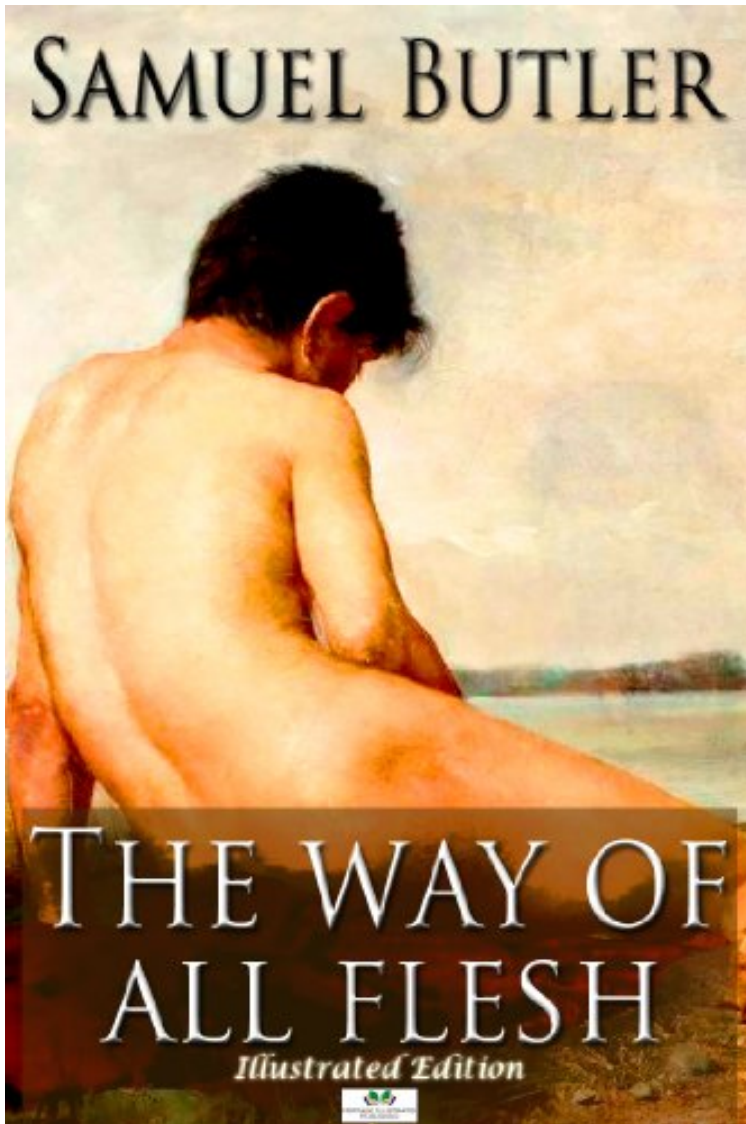


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The Way of All Flesh (Illustrated Edition) (English Edition)



Par Samuel Butler
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Description :

Prsentation de l'diteur- Beautifully illustrated with atmospheric paintings by renowned artists, The Way of All Flesh is Samuel Butler's powerful semi-autobiographical novel that attacks Victorian hypocrisy. His criticism was so fierce that he didn't dare publish it during his lifetime - it was published in 1903, a year after his death.- The Way of All Flesh was ranked 12th on the Modern library's list of the 100 best English-language novels of the twentieth century.- Just as accessible and enjoyable for today's readers as it would have been when first published over a century ago, the novel is one of the great works of English literature and continues to be widely read throughout the world.- This meticulous digital edition from Heritage

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Biographie de l'auteur Samuel Butler (1835-1902) was an iconoclastic Victorian author who published a variety of works. Two of his most famous pieces are the Utopian satire *Erewhon* and the posthumous novel *The Way of All Flesh*. He is also known for examining Christian orthodoxy, substantive studies of evolutionary thought, studies of Italian art, and works of literary history and criticism. Butler also made prose translations of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* which remain in use to this day. Butler belonged to no school, and spawned no followers during his lifetime. A serious but amateur student of the subjects he undertook, especially religious orthodoxy and evolutionary thought, his controversial assertions effectively shut him out from both of the opposing factions of Church and science which played such a large role in late Victorian cultural life. His influence on literature, such as it was, came through *The Way of All Flesh*, which Butler completed in the 1880s but left unpublished in order to protect his family. Whether in his satire and fiction, his studies on the evidences of Christianity, his works on evolutionary thought or in his miscellaneous other writings, however, a consistent theme runs through Butler's work, stemming largely from his personal struggle with the stifling of his own nature by his parents, which led him on to seek more general principles of growth, development and purpose: "What concerned him was to establish his nature, his aspirations and their fulfillment upon a philosophic basis, to identify them with the nature, the aspirations, the fulfillment of all humanity and more than that with the fulfillment of the universe . . . His struggle became generalized, symbolic, tremendous." The form that this search took was principally philosophic and given the interests of the day biological: Satirist, novelist, artist and critic that he was, he was primarily a philosopher, and in particular a philosopher who sought the biological foundations for his work: His biology was a bridge to a philosophy of life which sought a scientific basis for religion and endowed a naturalistically conceived universe with a soul. Indeed, "philosophical writer" was ultimately the self-description Butler himself chose as most fitting to his work.