



Oil!

By Upton Sinclair

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***There Will Be Blood* wins a 2008 Golden Globes Award. Read about it here.**

***There Will Be Blood* wins two 2008 Academy Awards. Read about it here.**

Penguin Books is proud to now be the sole publisher of *Oil!*, the classic 1927 novel by Upton Sinclair. After writing *The Jungle*, his scathing indictment of the meatpacking industry, Sinclair turned his sights on the early days of the California oil industry in a highly entertaining story featuring a cavalcade of characters including senators, oil magnets, Hollywood film starlets, and a crusading evangelist.

This lively and panoramic book, which was recently cited by David Denby in the *New Yorker* as being Sinclair's "most readable" novel, is now the inspiration for the Paramount Vantage major motion picture, *There Will Be Blood*. It is the long-awaited film from Paul Thomas Anderson, one of the most admired filmmakers working today whose previous movies, *Boogie Nights* and *Magnolia* were both multiple Academy Award nominees. The movie stars Oscar-winner Daniel Day-Lewis (*Gangs of New York*, *My Left Foot*) and Paul Dano (*Little Miss Sunshine*).

Paramount Vantage will be releasing the film in New York and Los Angeles on December 26, 2007 and go nationwide in January. This is the same company responsible for *Babel* and *A Mighty Heart* and the current releases, *Into the Wild*, *Margot at the Wedding*, and *The Kite Runner*.

As wars rage on in the oil region and as anxiety over natural resources rise, the subject of this book, which celebrates its 80th anniversary in 2007, is more timely than ever.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Sinclair's 1927 novel did for California's oil industry what *The Jungle* did for Chicago's meat-packing factories. The plot follows the clash between an oil developer and his son. Typical of Sinclair, there are undertones here of socialism and sympathy for the common working stiff. Though the book is not out of print, this is the only paperback currently available.

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Review

"A classic tale of greed and corruption"—**Eric Schlosser**, author of *Fast Food Nation*

"[*Oil!* is] probably his second best book and certainly his most readable."—*The New Yorker*

"Anderson's film is a true American saga—one that rivals *Giant* and *Citizen Kane* in our popular lore as origin stories about how we came to be the people we are... Daniel Day-Lewis is at his brilliant best as the story's Daniel Plainview, a man whose humanity diminishes as his fortunes increase."—*Variety*

About the Author

Upton Sinclair (1878-1968) was born in Baltimore. At age fifteen, he began writing a series of dime novels in order to pay for his education at the City College of New York. He was later accepted to do graduate work at Columbia, and while there he published a number of novels, including *The Journal of Arthur Stirling* (1903) and *Manassas* (1904). Sinclair's breakthrough came in 1906 with the publication of *The Jungle*, a scathing indictment of the Chicago meat-packing industry. His later works include *World's End* (1940), *Dragon's Teeth* (1942), which won him a Pulitzer Prize, *O Shepherd, Speak!* (1949) and *Another Pamela* (1950).

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