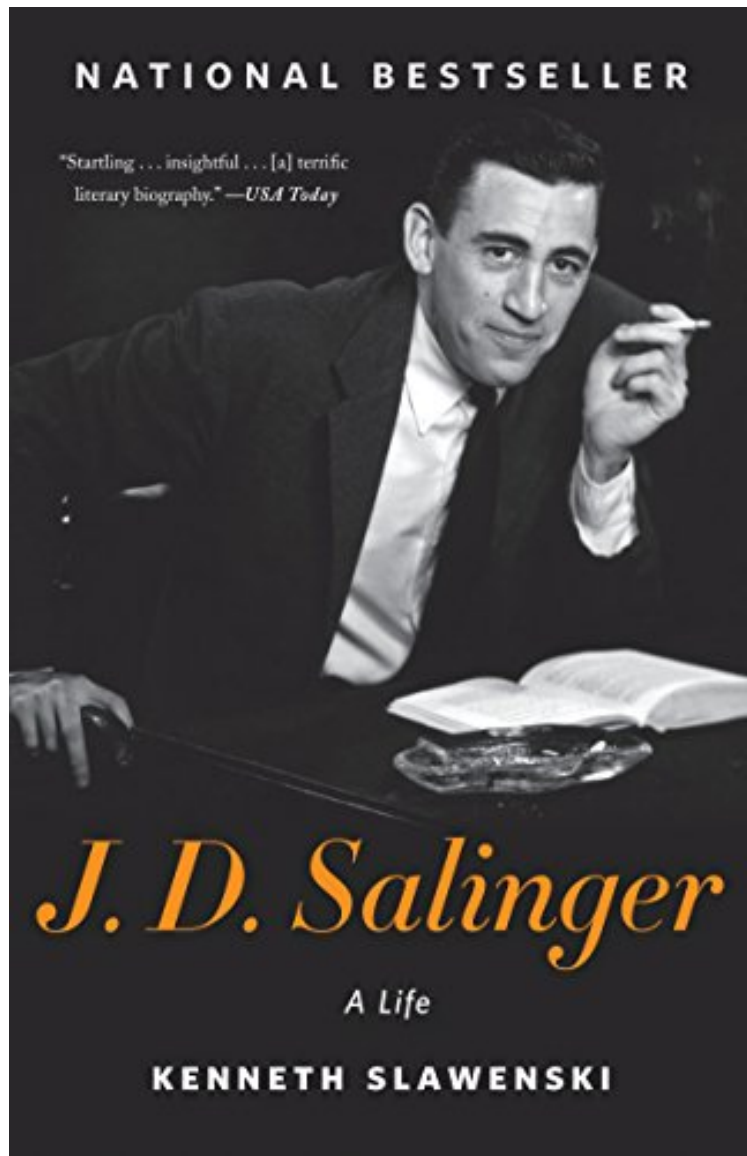


[Read download] J. D. Salinger: A Life

## J. D. Salinger: A Life

Von *Kenneth Slawenski*  
*ebooks / Download PDF / \*ePub / DOC / audiobook*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

Produktinformation -Verkaufsrank: #484212 in eBooksVerffentlicht am: 2011-01-25Erscheinungsdatum: 2011-01-25File Name: B004HFS6TQ | File size: 37.Mb

**Von Kenneth Slawenski : J. D. Salinger: A Life** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised J. D. Salinger: A Life:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. How Do You Write a Biography of Someone Who Wanted Absolute Privacy?Von Donald Mitchell"I am not able to bear all these people alone, because the burden is too heavy for me." -- Numbers 11:14 (NKJV)This biography will be of most value to those who have read little of Salinger's work and know even less about his life. Why? J.D. Salinger undertook

to reduce his public profile in much the same way that a triple agent working for both sides in a war would try to keep the full scope of his or her duplicity secret. As a result, Mr. Slawenski didn't have much to work with. Salinger's writing is appropriately the most eloquent expressions of his life and work. Comments by critics and fans are magnified from such a perspective. What remains of correspondence with editors and publishers is also made larger than life. Occasional run-ins with journalists also shine more than their significance. But J.D. Salinger wasn't always J.D. Salinger. He was a more ordinary person growing up, and this biography provides helpful perspectives on the possible effects of some of his formative influences. I was particularly struck by the careful descriptions of the difficult battle and postwar conditions that Salinger must have experienced in Europe that left him feeling the need to convey what cannot be understood except by experience in his stories. As a biographer, Mr. Slawenski brings some heavy baggage with him. First, he's so much a fan that many times the writing fails to capture the flaws in Salinger's character and attitudes. Second, for my taste he brings more literary analysis to Salinger's work than his personal skills warrant. Third, many of the descriptions of Salinger's spiritual perspectives are superficial to the extreme, failing to even comment on obvious points (such as how Salinger reconciled his Jewish heritage, his attraction to Zen practices, and frequent written references to Jesus Christ). Fourth, much of the writing is repetitious, a failing that's more obvious for someone who is writing about someone who expressed himself sparingly. All in all, I enjoyed the book. Although I have read all of Salinger's published work, I haven't done so in a long time. It was a pleasure to be immersed in the stories and novels again. In fact, I was inspired to check out all the stories and books I could find in the library and start rereading them. In some cases, I haven't read the material in over 50 years so it was quite interesting to see how my reactions had changed. I encourage you to do the same, unless you have read Salinger in the last five years. Thank you for your hard work, Mr. Slawenski. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Viel gelernt! Von ChiChaChucky Salinger ist einer meiner absoluten Lieblingsautoren! Ich habe dieses Werk verschlungen und sehr viel von diesen sehr faszinierenden Menschen gelernt.

**Kurzbeschreibung NATIONAL BESTSELLER** The inspiration for the major motion picture *Rebel in the Rye* One of the most popular and mysterious figures in American literary history, the author of the classic *Catcher in the Rye*, J. D. Salinger eluded fans and journalists for most of his life. Now he is the subject of this definitive biography, which is filled with new information and revelations garnered from countless interviews, letters, and public records. Kenneth Slawenski explores Salinger's privileged youth, long obscured by misrepresentation and rumor, revealing the brilliant, sarcastic, vulnerable son of a disapproving father and doting mother. Here too are accounts of Salinger's first broken heart after Eugene O'Neill's daughter, Oona, left him and the devastating World War II service that haunted him forever. J. D. Salinger features this author's dramatic encounters with luminaries from Ernest Hemingway to Elia Kazan, his office intrigues with famous *New Yorker* editors and writers, and the stunning triumph of *The Catcher in the Rye*, which would both make him world-famous and hasten his retreat into the hills of New Hampshire. J. D. Salinger is this unique author's unforgettable story in full one that no lover of literature can afford to miss. Praise for J. D. Salinger: *A Life Startling . . . insightful . . . [a] terrific literary biography.* USA Today It is unlikely that any author will do a better job than Mr. Slawenski capturing the glory of Salinger's life. *The Wall Street Journal* Slawenski fills in a great deal and connects the dots assiduously; it's unlikely that any future writer will uncover much more about Salinger than he has done. *Boston Sunday Globe* Offers perhaps the best chance we have to get behind the myth and find the man. *Newsday* [Slawenski has] greatly fleshed out and pinned down an elusive story with precision and grace. *Chicago Sun-Times* Earnest, sympathetic and perceptive . . . [Slawenski] does an evocative job of tracing the evolution of Salinger's work and thinking. *The New York Times* *Presses* *stimmen* *Startling . . . insightful . . . [a] terrific literary biography.* USA Today It is unlikely that any author will do a better job than Mr. Slawenski capturing the glory of Salinger's life. *The Wall Street Journal* Slawenski fills in a great deal and connects the dots assiduously; it's unlikely that any future writer will uncover much more about Salinger than he has done. *Boston Sunday Globe* Offers perhaps the best chance we have to get behind the myth and find the man. *Newsday* [Slawenski has] greatly fleshed out and pinned down an elusive story with precision and grace. *Chicago Sun-Times* Earnest, sympathetic and perceptive . . . [Slawenski] does an evocative job of tracing the evolution of Salinger's work and thinking. *The New York Times* A first-rate book which is especially good on the links between Salinger's fictions and their thematic developments . . . The passages on Salinger's own war show that Slawenski can be an excellent storyteller himself, as he follows his subject through the thick of the horrors from D-Day to the Battle of the Bulge. *The Daily Telegraph* A welcome trove of information. Partly through exhaustive biographical research (especially into the early years) and partly through porings over almost unknown, uncollected stories, Slawenski enthrallingly illuminates what turned Salinger into an extraordinary literary phenomenon. *The Sunday Times* Slawenski sets about his task with such unblushing love and zest that his book is as irresistible to me as Salinger himself. . . . Slawenski has a priceless humility and a sympathy with his subject which is unstinting though not unqualified. As a result, I think you get from him a rather better idea of what Salinger was really like and why he lived his life as he did than you might from a biography which is licensed to

describe itself as scholarly or authorised. . . . If you can imagine Salinger having a soft spot for any book about him . . . then Slawenski might be the one. *The Spectator* Diligent, respectful, resolute in its refusal to include gossip, always ready to acknowledge the point at which evidence ends and speculation begins. *The Mail on Sunday* Kurzbeschreibung NATIONAL BESTSELLER The inspiration for the major motion picture *Rebel in the Rye* One of the most popular and mysterious figures in American literary history, the author of the classic *Catcher in the Rye*, J. D. Salinger eluded fans and journalists for most of his life. Now he is the subject of this definitive biography, which is filled with new information and revelations garnered from countless interviews, letters, and public records. Kenneth Slawenski explores Salinger's privileged youth, long obscured by misrepresentation and rumor, revealing the brilliant, sarcastic, vulnerable son of a disapproving father and doting mother. Here too are accounts of Salinger's first broken heart after Eugene O'Neill's daughter, Oona, left him and the devastating World War II service that haunted him forever. J. D. Salinger features this author's dramatic encounters with luminaries from Ernest Hemingway to Elia Kazan, his office intrigues with famous *New Yorker* editors and writers, and the stunning triumph of *The Catcher in the Rye*, which would both make him world-famous and hasten his retreat into the hills of New Hampshire. J. D. Salinger is this unique author's unforgettable story in full one that no lover of literature can afford to miss. Praise for J. D. Salinger: *A Life Startling . . . insightful . . . [a] terrific literary biography.* *USA Today* It is unlikely that any author will do a better job than Mr. Slawenski capturing the glory of Salinger's life. *The Wall Street Journal* Slawenski fills in a great deal and connects the dots assiduously; it's unlikely that any future writer will uncover much more about Salinger than he has done. *Boston Sunday Globe* Offers perhaps the best chance we have to get behind the myth and find the man. *Newsday* [Slawenski has] greatly fleshed out and pinned down an elusive story with precision and grace. *Chicago Sun-Times* Earnest, sympathetic and perceptive . . . [Slawenski] does an evocative job of tracing the evolution of Salinger's work and thinking. *The New York Times*