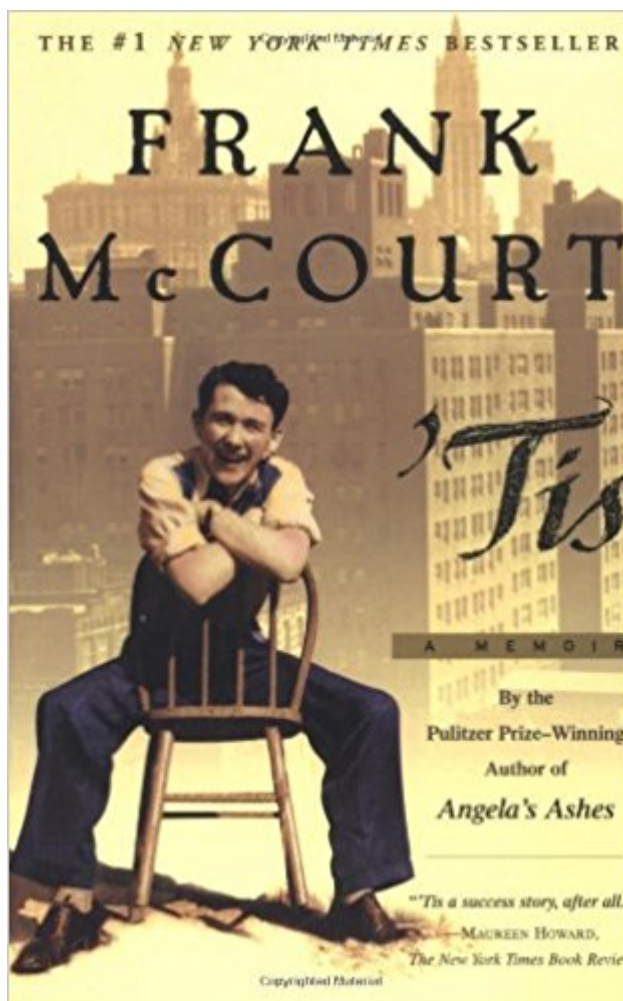


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# 'Tis: A Memoir



## Synopsis

A #1 New York Times bestseller and the eagerly anticipated sequel to the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Angela's Ashes*, this masterpiece from Frank McCourt tells of his American journey from impoverished immigrant to brilliant teacher and raconteur. Frank McCourt's glorious childhood memoir, *Angela's Ashes*, has been loved and celebrated by readers everywhere for its spirit, its wit and its profound humanity. A tale of redemption, in which storytelling itself is the source of salvation, it won the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Los Angeles Times Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize. Rarely has a book so swiftly found its place on the literary landscape. And now we have *Tis*, the story of Frank's American journey from impoverished immigrant to brilliant teacher and raconteur. Frank lands in New York at age nineteen, in the company of a priest he meets on the boat. He gets a job at the Biltmore Hotel, where he immediately encounters the vivid hierarchies of this classless country, and then is drafted into the army and is sent to Germany to train dogs and type reports. It is Frank's incomparable voice—his uncanny humor and his astonishing ear for dialogue—that renders these experiences spellbinding. When Frank returns to America in 1953, he works on the docks, always resisting what everyone tells him, that men and women who have dreamed and toiled for years to get to America should stick to their own kind—once they arrive. Somehow, Frank knows that he should be getting an education, and though he left school at fourteen, he talks his way into New York University. There, he falls in love with the quintessential Yankee, long-legged and blonde, and tries to live his dream. But it is not until he starts to teach—and to write—that Frank finds his place in the world. The same vulnerable but invincible spirit that captured the hearts of readers in *Angela's Ashes* comes of age. As Malcolm Jones said in his *Newsweek* review of *Angela's Ashes*, it is only the best storyteller who can so beguile his readers that he leaves them wanting more when he is done...and McCourt proves himself one of the very best. Frank McCourt's *Tis* is one of the most eagerly awaited books of our time, and it is a masterpiece.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

'Tis a blessing that the author narrates his own work. McCourt follows up his Audie Award-winning performance in *Angela's Ashes* with another brilliant reading as he chronicles his return to post-World War II New York. Like all good storytellers, McCourt has good stories to tell; 'Tis pulses with grim adversity and quiet triumphs--character-shaping moments that gain the listener's empathy. What makes McCourt a great storyteller is his ability to give these moments just the right amount of humor and perspective. His lyrical tones are wise but not weary; he's survived life's challenges to tell his tale. And while it may be trite to credit McCourt's verbal skills to his Irish heritage, these war stories were undoubtedly polished amongst friends in the pubs. 'Tis is Grammy material, and a perfect example of how an author's voice can enhance the written word. (Running time: 6 hours, 4 cassettes) --Rob McDonald --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The appeal of McCourt as a reader of his own memoirs (*Angela's Ashes* flourished commercially on audio, in both abridged and unabridged formats) lies in his ability to express a sustained sense of wonder at the world around him. Also, his brogue is classic, an Irish species unto itself. Here he takes up where he left off in his last book, arriving in America. He is first guided by an Irish bartender who tells him to go to the New York Public Library and read Samuel Johnson. Thus assimilated, he becomes a supply clerk for the army, stationed in postwar Germany, then a warehouse laborer living in a rooming house, before earning a college degree at NYU and settling down as a teacher at a rowdy vocational high school in Staten Island. Along the way come romance and immigrant's-eye life observations aplenty, and a growing sense of knowingness develops even as McCourt's hopes are dashed against disillusion. Simultaneous release with the Scribner hardcover. Also available unabridged and on CD. (Sept.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Shows struggles of poverty stricken youngster and how an immigrant made it in America in the late 1940's - 1950's.

This was such a wonderful honest book. I felt like I was listening to an old man I just met at a coffee shop. He tells you the story of his life in such a wonderful way. I cannot imagine the things that he grew up with. I find his honest revelry regarding his own struggles with alcohol heartbreaking. He did what he knew. He spoke of alcohol being the curse of the Irish, that his father ruined his childhood because of drinking and yet he himself couldn't control it. One thing that stuck out was his struggles with religion. It saddened me when he said that he didn't know how to have a conversation, direct prayer with The Lord. Through his struggle he became something, and I think that's what everyone needs to know!

I enjoyed reading "Angela's Ashes" not only the plot keeps you absorbed but the way Frank McCourt tells you in a very simple way, without any unnecessary boring details. This is a continuation of the first book and I have not finished it all yet but I liked the writer and how he depicts the era and drags you down there. Not too many writers understand the reader skips uninteresting details about the weather, surroundings or physical appearances of characters. Good writers avoid that and it is good to not use unknown phrases, heavy words or clichés. The good part of reading on Kindle is an unknown word can be quickly checked for the meaning for which I'm much obliged for Kindle Paperwhite and glad I owned one.

Great

Very interesting writing style with quite long sentences that turn and wander and allow interjections but end up right where they should, and do so without much aid of punctuation. It was like being inside the author's mind, listening to his thoughts as they occurred, with his words flowing as though they were music. This was my introduction to Frank McCourt. Because some other reviewers who had read his first book seemed to be disappointed with this book, I opted to read this one first. No disappointment here! I can't wait now to read Angela's Ashes. I am hopeful of finding as much provocation to thought in that book as I found in *Tis: A Memoir*. I highly recommend this book.

I read Angela's Ashes and enjoyed it. But in this book Frank just sort of bumbles through life. According to my iPad I'm 72% of the way through the book and I don't see that he's made much headway. Sure he has a job but little else. I'm going to delete this book as soon as I finish this review.

I really enjoyed "Angela's Ashes," and like this book even more. You basically could combine the two into one big book, as one is just a continuation of the other. Both are written in McCourt's unique style and both are a pleasure to read. I think "Tis" gets the extra star from me because, whereas "Angela's Ashes" really kept you feeling bad for the boy throughout, "Tis" is a story of hope and promise. Much happens to Frankie McCourt once he gets to the U.S. and the life he leads here keep you both interested and wondering just how he would be able to turn his fortunes for the better. This, as was "Angela's Ashes," is a very honest book. In no way does McCourt attempt to cover up his flaws or missteps. In no way does he try to paint himself a hero. You get the real deal here, and many times I found myself closely relating to what he was thinking at any given moment. I highly recommend this book.

I had to get Frank McCourt's second book after reading his first one. (Angela's Ashes) I really appreciated this author's way of telling his "story" about his rough Irish upbringing. 'Tis was a continuation of his first book. I had to read up and find what happened to Frank. Did his lot in life improve? the book was in like new condition. price excellent. shipped in a timely manner. the mailing packaging was excellent. no damage to book during shipment. I really appreciate this. I would recommend this seller to family and friends. thank you

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