

Zeno's Conscience

By Italo Svevo

Unabridged

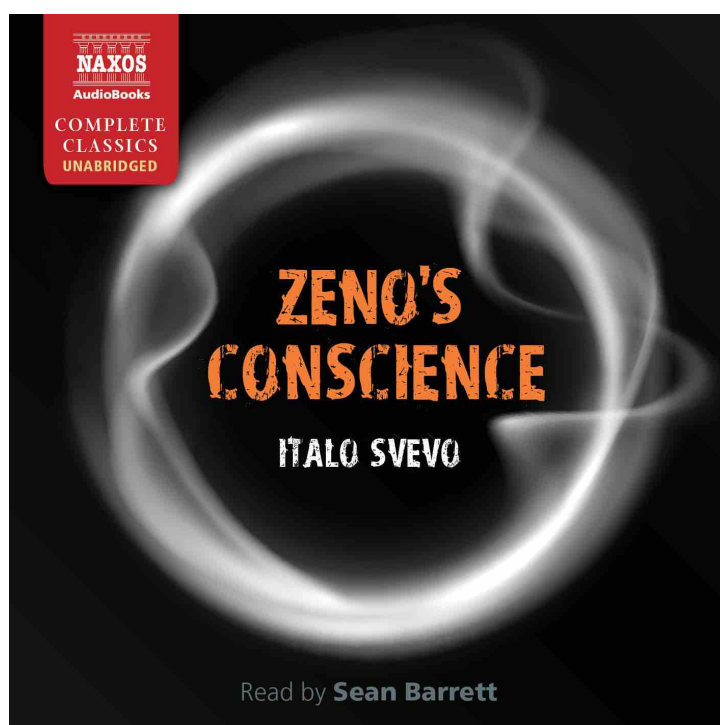
Read by Sean Barrett

DESCRIPTION

Known for inspiring James Joyce's Leopold Bloom from *Ulysses*, Zeno Cosini is the bumbling yet charming alter ego of Italo Svevo, who here lays bare a hilarious litany of neuroticisms about his health, friendships, family and women. Having submitted himself to Freudian psychoanalysis, the narrator keeps a diary with the aim of conquering his addiction to smoking. He describes his marriage to the woman he didn't want to marry, how he drives his business partner to despair, and how his 'last cigarette' turns out to be one of many. Zeno is the classic 'schlemiel'; his erratic foibles, his questionable logic and his curious inclination to self sabotage help shine a light on human behaviour in general, and reveal the many subtle half-truths people may tell themselves in order to defend their own actions and egos.

SALES AND MARKETING POINTS

- A world-première recording - never before available in an audio format in English.
- James Joyce was a friend of Italo Svevo and gave him English lessons. *Zeno's Conscience* became popular in France because of Joyce.
- Sean Barrett breathes life into the eccentric character of Zeno, bringing out the inherent humour in the text.



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