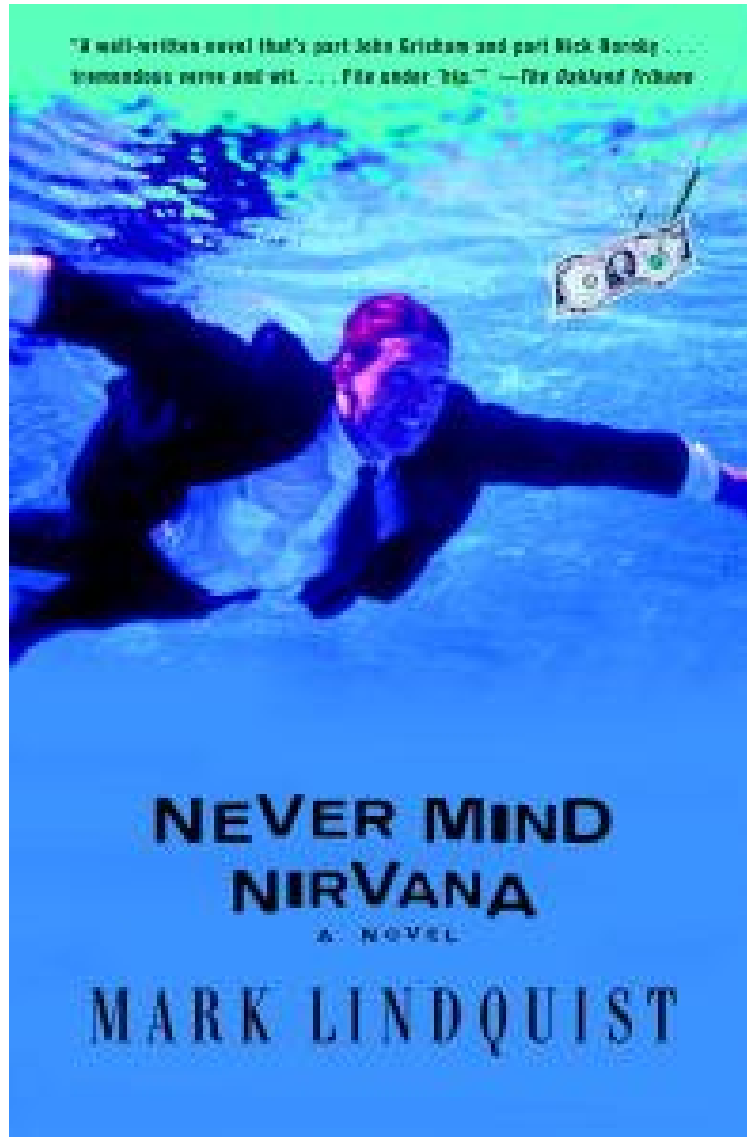


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Never Mind Nirvana: A Novel

Von Mark Lindquist

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Von Mark Lindquist : Never Mind Nirvana: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Never Mind Nirvana: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Never Mind Nirvana Taps into Seattle's Heartbeat, Finds LifeVon Ein KundeMark Lindquist's novel, Never Mind Nirvana, is about several things, really. It's about sex. It's about drugs. It's definitely about rock and roll. But it's also about a few other things. Soul searching. Being lonely. Growing up. Knowing what your next turn off on the freeway of life should

be but not being sure you want to know, or have the guts to take the exit. The book takes the reader on a whirlwind of experiences. The well-written dialogue makes you feel as if you are actually sitting with the characters and listening to their conversations. This could be sitting with them at a table in a well-known Seattle restaurant, at a music-filled strip club in a very different part of downtown, lying on a futon in a spartan Seattle apartment, smoking a cigarette at the Crocodile, hanging out on a bar stool with a Rainier in Pete's mother's sun-drenched kitchen. Be it the neighborhood Seattle bar, a live music show, an "ascetic" loft apartment with a view of the much loved Seattle skyline, a car late at night in the rain with some live Nirvana in the background, a courtroom, a church confessional, or walking the streets of Seattle watching people walking by, you feel as if you are there, experiencing all of it. The "characters" in this novel are much more than one-dimensional, much more than written words. They are brought to life...breathing, heart-pounding, sweat on the forehead and smoke smell in their hair life. This is not so much accomplished with extensive descriptions of their physical characteristics as it is with a real infusing of personality into each person, which shines through their experiences and their conversations, both the words, and the pauses between them. I know what people have said about the book being not completely fiction. And I would agree in part, having met the author briefly and having known as acquaintances a couple of other people upon whom characters in the novel are based. But perhaps this is what lends the characters their very real feel. And I don't think it really matters where the punch in the book comes from, because readers everywhere will be able to enjoy it, and feel as if they are a part of the action, ie: authentic, live, late '90's Seattle. The main character, Pete, is looking for love in all the wrong places. He is an ex-grunge musician who has traded in life in a band for a job as a Deputy County Prosecutor and a Burberry's suit. He's 36 years old, and quite successful as a lawyer. Along comes a date rape case, which on an average day, would be an "easy" case to try. But this one is different. This one accuses a well-known Seattle rock figure of date-raping a young girl (18 yo) who also knows many musicians, but is mainly friends with the new, younger Seattle scenesters. The case asks a lot of Pete. He has to own up to who he is, who he has become, with the knowledge that his own past and current private life really put him on both sides of the case. This plot serves as a background to various escapades and nights out, dates with a couple of his current girlfriends (one of whom is a stripper), encounters with young women in real-life Seattle hot-spots, nights out with friends. As he wanders through these experiences, he faces the growing realization that he may be, deep inside himself and hidden by his partying, live-for-the-moment/beat the sunset ways, aching for lasting love and harboring a desire to find a suitable companion for his later years. The book, then, covers a lot of ground in a straight-forward, simplistic style which keeps the reader interested from page one straight through till the end. Even the chapter titles are clever, lending quiet commentary on the occurrences in the novel, like drumbeats keeping time. Never Mind Nirvana is a must-have for any true music lover, 20-30-something soul-searcher, or anyone who loves the beautiful town that Lindquist so clearly does, Seattle. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An Enjoyable, Quick Read Von Elizabeth Hendry I really liked this book. It's funny, it's interesting, and its enjoyable. It's not a great work of literature, but it doesn't pretend to be. It is the story of Pete, a 36 year old prosecutor who can't seem to let go of his misspent (and possibly more fun) youth as part of a Seattle grunge band, yet he feels the strong pull of adulthood and responsibility. He thinks he may (gasp!) even want to get married, he just doesn't know which of his current or former girlfriends should be the one. His personal conflict becomes a professional conflict, of sorts, when he takes on a date rape case which pits his past life--the Seattle rock scene--against his future--life as a responsible member of society. That description sounds a lot more serious than the book actually is. The characters in this book are really amusing. Pete's commitmentphobia and his fear/dread of aging, being alone, selling out will ring true to anyone in their thirties. This book reminded me a lot of Nick Hornby's High Fidelity (although it doesn't rise to the cult classic-ness of that book) and at times I think it was intentional (i.e., certain breakups make his top ten regrets of all time) For a quick read, there is a lot to chew on in this novel--regret, responsibility, aging, loneliness, commitment. All these serious topics, however, arise in a funny, not so serious novel that is a pleasure to read. It's the perfect book to take to the beach and then lend to all of your friends. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. seattle is not like this Von justinsome of you (especially those from seattle) may recognize this story as being too close to the lead singer's of a band i will refer to here as mediocre mouse. that may be the only similarity to life in the incestuous indie rock scene of seattle, no matter how many names lindquist drops or how many "skinny tall black haired pale skinned" punk rock girls he beds (maybe i'm blind but not every girl i saw while living in seattle was 5'8 and weighed 107 pounds. but i'm a boy and not a tough guy lawyer like the author so what do i know). anyways, he got the drug thing about seattle wrong too. everyone there's an alcoholic. those (like myself) who have harder palates are ostracized, not welcomed into the fold. in fact, being welcomed into the fold comes just a bit too easy in lindquist's book. ah, maybe i'm just bitter. still, the references to seattle (such as the fremont bridge, the aurora bridge..what's this with bridges?) made me nostalgic. oh well. i'm moving to la in two months.

Kurzbeschreibung "Hip deep in music, Never Mind Nirvana is a telling inside view that perfectly captures the rhythms and sights of late-nineties Seattle." Peter Buck, guitarist of R.E.M. Pete Tyler is at a crossroads. Eight years ago he

dropped out of a seminal Seattle grunge band to try his hand at a more grown-up calling. Now he's thirty-six ("almost forty!"), a deputy prosecutor (a suit), still hanging out at the same clubs he played ten years ago (the ones that haven't shut down), and still dating the same kind of girls (except now they tell him how much their older sisters loved his band). Pete decides it's time to get married—he just doesn't know to whom. Possibilities include Beth, his first love, who has disappeared; Winter, his on-and-off stripper girl-friend, who has been living the grunge life too long; and Esme, a Sub Pop AR executive who has some life decisions of her own to make. When a date-rape case lands on his desk—the accused is a local rocker Pete's age, the accuser an eighteen-year-old from the scene—Pete finds his past and present facing him from both sides of the aisle, and he finally has to decide where he stands. Pete Tyler is a cooler version of Everyguy, and *Never Mind Nirvana* is a hilarious and unexpectedly moving story of a man with one foot stuck in adolescence and the other planted in adulthood. Richly textured with references to classic rock and the music of Seattle's legendary alternative rock scene, it is also a fascinating, bittersweet riff on a particularly American zeitgeist. .de

Twentysomething New York had its *Bright Lights, Big City*. Pre-grad L.A. had its *Less Than Zero*. And now thirtysomething, post-grunge Seattle has its *Never Mind Nirvana* (a less-than-clever twist on the title of a seminal album). In Mark Lindquist's third novel, we find Peter Tyler at a crossroads. He's traded in his gig as a bassist with a quasi-successful grunge band for a respectable career in law. Instead of flannel he wears suits, and instead of taking the bus he zips around town in a Volvo. Emotionally, however, this paragon of maturity is still a kid: he hangs in the same bars, treats women merely as potential conquests (only now he's dating the little sisters of the strippers and groupies who used to notch his bedpost), and still slips the same old CDs onto his stereo. In the midst of this adolescent purgatory, a date-rape case lands on Peter's desk, and he finds himself prosecuting an old rock-star friend for committing an act he himself may have committed in the past. Time to grow up? Unfortunately not: throughout *Never Mind Nirvana*, the intricacies and ambiguities of the case often take a backseat to Tyler's drunken angst. When his hero is grappling with the grayest, most subtle aspects of the trial, Lindquist does imbue him with a certain depth and compassion. Otherwise, his novel can seem a mere exercise in name-dropping: the washed-up rock stars who populate Seattle's nightlife, the bartenders who serve their scotch, and the bouncers who toss them out into the rainy streets. And it's no consolation to discover that Lindquist's portrayal of Seattle is technically accurate. Substituting fact for fiction, he's used a map and a phonebook--and not enough imagination. --Tod Nelson.com

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