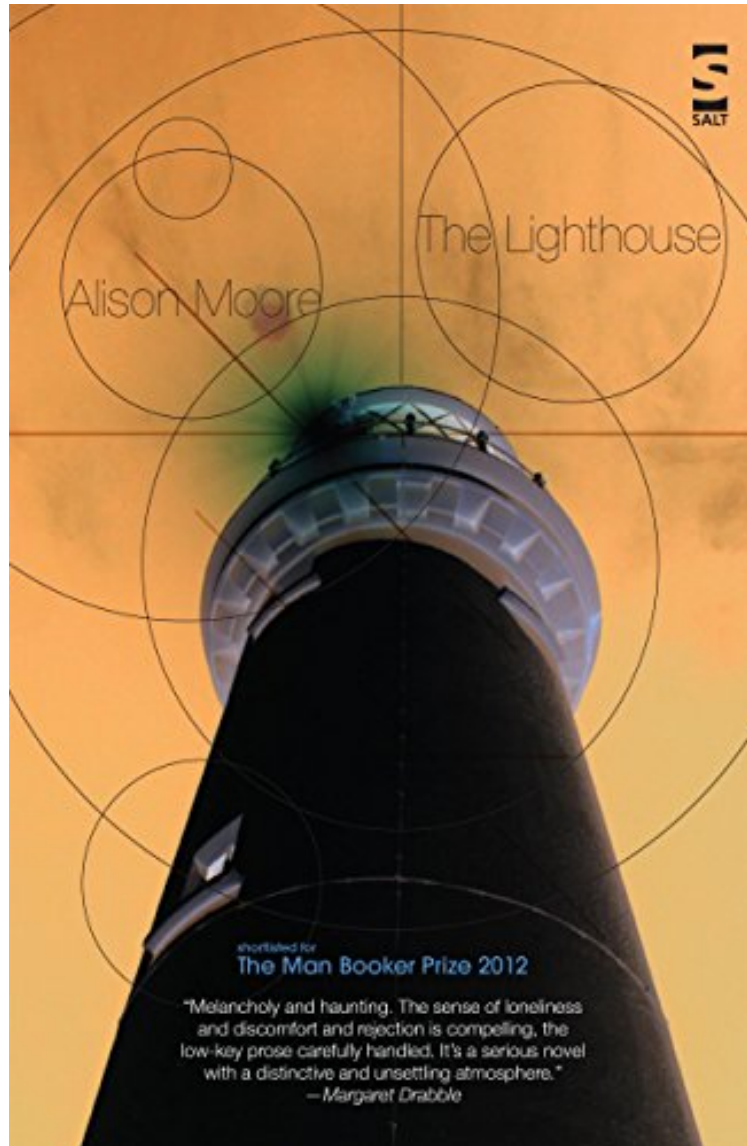


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The Lighthouse

Von Alison Moore

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Von Alison Moore : The Lighthouse before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Lighthouse:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Neue Horizonte des ScheiternsVon Michael Dienstbier"The Lighthouse" ist der Debutroman der 41-jährigen Alison Moore, mit dem sie es gleich mal auf die Shortlist des diesjährigen Booker Prize geschafft hat. Und das nicht ganz zu Unrecht. Die Geschichte des frisch geschiedenen Futh, der, um den Kopf frei zu bekommen, einen Wanderurlaub in der Nhe

von Koblenz verbringt und dabei von zumeist schmerzhaften Erinnerungen aus seiner Vergangenheit heimgesucht wird, wei von der ersten Seite an zu fesseln und kann den Spannungsbogen bis zum unerwarteten Finale halten. Beim titelgebenden Leuchtturm handelt es sich um ein Parfumflakon, welcher einmal Fuths Mutter gekehrte, bevor sie ihn und seinen Vater von einem Tag auf den anderen verlassen hat. Sowohl Form als auch Geruch erinnern ihn an seine Mutter und evozieren oftmals schmerzhaftere Erinnerungssequenzen, die im Roman Stück für Stück enthüllt werden. Parallel zu Fuths Lebens- und Leidensgeschichte stellt der Roman Ester, die Gastwirtin der Pension in Hellhaus, wo Futh zunächst übernachtet, in den Mittelpunkt der Handlung. Ester, vom Leben völlig angedeutet, treibt es mit fast jedem Gast, der sich in die Pension verliert, da sie nur so ihren gleichgültigen Ehemann Bernard noch so etwas wie eine Gefühlsregung entlocken kann. Die Schicksale dieser gescheiterten Charaktere kreuzen sich und eröffnen neue Horizonte des Scheiterns. So packend "The Lighthouse" auch zu lesen ist, so auffällig sind einige doch zu gewollt wirkende Konstruktionen. Dass Futh und Ester beide eine Affinität zu Parfumflakons haben, ist schon ein Arger, aber für die Handlung nun mal notwendiger, Zufall. Dennoch bleibt der Roman durch und durch lesenswert und darf sich durchaus Hoffnungen machen, am 16. Oktober mit dem Booker Prize 2012 ausgezeichnet zu werden. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. random Von Albert G somewhat random story and character development. The characters never caught my real interest and I felt the author is desperately trying to do a "deep dive" into the past to unearth why life has been so complicated without really achieving a great deal of insights. The "lighthouse" in the book is just a rather disconnected tool used to keep random stories half way together...

Kurzbeschreibung Winner of the 2013 McKitterick Prize Shortlisted for the 2013 East Midlands Book Award Shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2012 Shortlisted for New Writer of the Year in the 2012 Speavers National Book Awards The Lighthouse begins on a North Sea ferry, on whose blustery outer deck stands Futh, a middle-aged, recently separated man heading to Germany for a restorative walking holiday. Spending his first night in Hellhaus at a small, family-run hotel, he finds the landlady hospitable but is troubled by an encounter with an inexplicably hostile barman. In the morning, Futh puts the episode behind him and sets out on his week-long circular walk along the Rhine. As he travels, he contemplates his childhood; a complicated friendship with the son of a lonely neighbour; his parents' broken marriage and his own. But the story he keeps coming back to, the person and the event affecting all others, is his mother and her abandonment of him as a boy, which left him with a void to fill, a substitute to find. He recalls his first trip to Germany with his newly single father. He is mindful of something he neglected to do there, an omission which threatens to have devastating repercussions for him this time around. At the end of the week, Futh, sunburnt and blistered, comes to the end of his circular walk, returning to what he sees as the sanctuary of the Hellhaus hotel, unaware of the events which have been unfolding there in his absence. Pressestimmen A haunting and accomplished novel. -- Katy Guest The Independent on Sunday It is this accumulation of the quotidian, in prose as tight as Magnus Mills's, which lends Moore's book its standout nature, and brings the novel to its ambiguous, thrilling end. -- Philip Womack The Telegraph No surprise that this quietly startling novel won column inches when it landed on the Man Booker Prize longlist. After all, it's a slender debut released by a tiny independent publisher. Don't mistake "The Lighthouse" for an underdog, though. For starters, it's far too assured. Though sparsely told, the novel's simple-seeming narrative has the density of far longer work. People and places are intricately evoked with a forensic feel for mood. Its title becomes a recurring motif, from the Morse code torch flashes of Futh's boyhood to the lighthouse-shaped silver perfume case that he carries in his pocket, history filling the void left by its missing vial of scent. Warnings are emitted, too -- by Futh's anxious aunt and an intense man he meets on the ferry. It all stokes a sense of ominousness that makes the denouement not a bit less shocking. -- Hephzibah Anderson The Daily Mail The writing is sublime. Spare, sometimes straightforward and sometimes quite opaque. But regardless of the overall transparency, the immediate images of the room or the street or the cliff-top are crystal clear, conjured from very few but very well chosen words. The people, too, feel real. They have complex emotions and don't always do logical or sensible things, but they always convince. As they move around one another in still, empty spaces they create a dramatic tension that the reader can almost touch. We wish their lives could be better. .com This is powerful writing likely to shine in your memory for a long time. -- Emily Cleaver LITRO Magazine Evocative and beautifully written in a spare and simple prose, this is a haunting, sombre and somewhat unsettling story that pulls you in quietly, yet powerfully; I downloaded this onto my Kindle early this morning and read it from the beginning to the rather surprising end in one sitting. We know it is on the longlist for the Booker Prize; it deserves to make it onto the shortlist and I, for one, very much hope it does. .co.uk "The Lighthouse" is a stunning book. Read it. Then read it again. -- Zoe King .co.uk Alison Moore's writing is exquisite, the prose simple and powerful, but it's the use of imagery which really marks it out as something special. -- Sue Magee The Bookbag In "The Lighthouse" Alison Moore has created an unsettling, seemingly becalmed but oddly sensual, and entirely excellent novel. -- Alan Bowden Words of Mercury Alison Moore's debut novel has all the assurance of a veteran, a strong contender for the prize, its sense of despair will either be its making or its undoing: 9/10. -- Roz Davison Don't Read That Read This Ultimately, what drew me into this bleak tale of sorrow and

abandonment was the quality of the writing -- so taut and economical it even looked different on the page somehow -- and so effective in creating a mounting sense of menace and unease. It never flinches. -- Isabel Costello On the literary sofa This is an incredibly powerful, sad story. A beautiful, if austere book. And an amazingly talented writer. If it is a first novel, I guess it will not be the last because this is the kind of writing that is here to stay -- Josephine Huys .co.uk Moore's writing has a superb sense of the weight of memory. -- Kate Saunders The Times "The Lighthouse" is a spare, slim novel that explores grief and loss, the patterns in the way we are hurt and hurt others, and the childlike helplessness we feel as we suffer rejection and abandonment. It explores the central question about leaving and being left: even when it feels inevitable, why does it hurt so much, and why is this particular kind of numbness so repellent to others? The brutal ending continues to shock after several re-readings. -- Jenn Ashworth The Guardian "The Lighthouse" looks simple but isn't, refusing to unscramble what seems a bleak moral about the hazards of reproduction, in the widest sense. Small wonder that it stood up to the crash-testing of a prize jury's reading and rereading. One of the year's 12 best novels? I can believe it. -- Anthony Cummins The Observer The writing in "The Lighthouse" is spare and deceptively simple -- there is in fact nothing simple about it -- it is the kind of pared down writing that hides a multitude of complexities and leaves behind it an array of images and in this case scents. Upon closing this terribly bittersweet novel, the reader is assaulted by the memory of violets, camphor and cigarette smoke. There are several returning images and motifs in the novel, such as lighthouses, bathrooms, scents and abandonment which are beautifully explored. Heavenali.wordpress.com This is a book that might have vanished had it not been picked up by the Booker judges. It deserves to be read, and reread. No laughs, no levity, just a beautiful, sad, overripe tale that lingers in the mind. -- Isabel Berwick Financial Times What must have gone some way to earning "The Lighthouse" a place on the longlist, though, is the admirable simplicity of Moore's prose. Like Futh, its without flourishes, yet beneath its outward straightforwardness lies a hauntingly complex exploration of the recurring patterns that life inevitably follows, often as a consequence of one's past. -- Francesca Angelini The Sunday Times "The Lighthouse", Alison Moore's melancholic debut, would eventually have found admiring readers through the great network of word of mouth. That it has been shortlisted, deservedly, for the Man Booker Prize will quicken the process. This is a beautiful short novel sustained by muted urgency, nuance and the exactness with which Moore conveys the paralysing levels of depression that Futh battles. In order to deal with the present he attempts to make sense of his past, which refuses to fade away. His thoughts throb with humiliating episodes from his boyhood, cut short when his bored, dissatisfied mother left, leaving his father to voice his anger at his only audience, the bewildered boy. -- Eileen Battersby The Irish Times A debut novel from a high-achieving independent publisher, "The Lighthouse" has surprised some observers with its place on the Man Booker Prize shortlist. Disquieting, deceptive, crafted with a sly and measured expertise, Alison Moore's story could certainly deliver a masterclass in slow-burn storytelling to those splashier literary celebs who take more pains over a pyrotechnic paragraph than a watertight plot. -- Boyd Tonkin The Independent The originality, structure and neat prose of this first novel justify its shortlisting, but it doesn't do much to lift the soul. -- Kate Green Country Life I am almost reluctant to share anything about Alison Moore's The Lighthouse at this stage, because I don't want to spoil it in any way for others. The Lighthouse is a short novel of only 182 pages, but is -- dare I say it -- perfectly formed. This is a tense, suspenseful work, the plot ticking like a time bomb. -- Megan Dunn The Listener New Zealand "The Lighthouse," Alison Moore's debut novel, is sufficiently strange to win. The third-person narrator is distanced from, but never judges, the weird protagonist Futh, a middle-aged, not particularly attractive, recently separated man going on a walking tour in Germany. He is visiting some places he went to with his newly single father, after his mother abandoned them when he was 12. The people he meets along the way are even less prepossessing than he, but the narrator's tone of voice somehow contrives to make the reader continue to turn the pages. -- Paul Levy Wall Street Journal A man who is newly-separated from his wife but middle-aged, embarks on a walking trip in Germany. At one of the B n B's that he is staying at the landlady is also contemplating her life and marriage. You could be so easily fooled into thinking that this book is mundane and just captures the hum-drum of their every-day lives, but the author, without writing what happens, is telling you really what is going on! You also have to make up your mind as to what outcomes there are at the end. I can't tell you how brilliantly stunning this book is and I think it's a credit to Booker that this has come from a small publishing company, yet packs one hell of a punch. RBKC Libraries blog The menacing atmosphere Moore builds up is masterful, in that Futh only partly perceives it, through his own preoccupations. A pair of silky knickers he finds under his bed only makes him think squeamishly that the dust on them is 'strangers' dead skin'. Rarely is dullness so dangerous. -- Laura Marsh Literary Kurzbeschreibung Winner of the 2013 McKitterick Prize Shortlisted for the 2013 East Midlands Book Award Shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2012 Shortlisted for New Writer of the Year in the 2012 Speavers National Book Awards The Lighthouse begins on a North Sea ferry, on whose blustery outer deck stands Futh, a middle-aged, recently separated man heading to Germany for a restorative walking holiday. 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