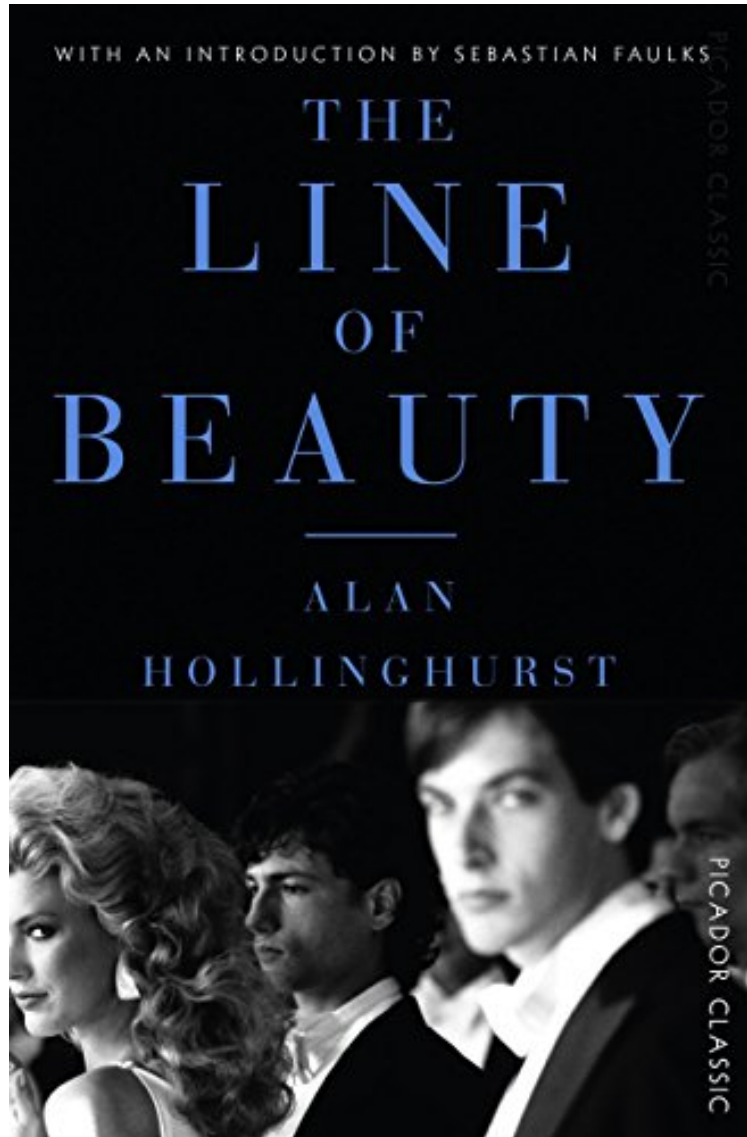


[Library ebook] The Line of Beauty: Picador Classic (English Edition)

The Line of Beauty: Picador Classic (English Edition)

Von Alan Hollinghurst
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Von Alan Hollinghurst : The Line of Beauty: Picador Classic (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Line of Beauty: Picador Classic (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. On the Outside, Looking InVon Donald MitchellOne of the biggest challenges of any novelist is to provide a perspective that's accessible to us and helpful in understanding what's being portrayed. Alan Hollinghurst has achieved remarkable results by stationing his narrator, Nick Guest, outside of all the worlds he inhabits. Guest is like a spirit rising amused

over the action that can draw us a picture while recording every sound that's created or uttered. Here are the worlds that Guest helps us explore: -Tory MP life during the Thatcher years - Young Oxford graduates looking for a place - A young man exploring his homosexuality - Wealthy British on the make for more - Middle-aged married life - Inner life of a young manic-depressive

The book's overall theme is about everyday hypocrisy and the large price that has to be paid by those who pretend to be other than what they are and believe. The story evolves in three time periods: 1983, 1986, and 1987. In all three years, Nick Guest resides with the family of an Oxford friend where the father is a rising conservative MP. Nick has an unofficial role as low-cost lodger to keep an eye on the friend's troubled sister. The family knows that Nick is looking for a boy friend and is open about accepting his sexuality. The three years give us a chance to learn more about the characters and to see how their relationships change. The 1987 period brings all that had been known in private into public with large consequences for all. The book is filled with great scenes where nuances of knowledge, awareness, perception, accent, and perspective separate and unite the characters. Often, contrasting scenes occur back-to-back so that the contrasts are even more obvious. You'll gain a deeper insight into British society than you could on your own. Ultimately, I feel that a work of fiction must be judged by how successfully it takes you into a world you have never been in before and allows you to understand that world much better. Any novel that can help me understand what it's like to be gay during the AIDS epidemic while giving me a strong sense of Thatcher's leadership has to be pretty terrific because those dimensions are outside my experience and normal reading. As a person who enjoys art, I was most impressed by the way that the ogee was worked into the story to provide a connecting metaphor for our common humanity. Bravo!

4 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Macht verdirbt den Charakter! Von Michael Dienstbier "In the Line of Beauty", Gewinner des Booker Prize 2004, wirft einen kritisch-ansichten Blick auf das Leben der Oberklasse im Großbritannien von Maggie Thatcher. Der zwanzigjährige homosexuelle Nick Guest zieht 1983 nach London und wohnt als Untermieter bei der Familie Fedden. Gerald ist ein neugewählter Abgeordneter der Tories und sein Sohn Toby ein alter Freund von Nick. Der Roman beginnt mit den ersten sexuellen Abenteuern des Protagonisten. Den schwarzen Endzwanziger Leo lernt er bei einem Blind Date kennen. Schon nach dem ersten Treffen lassen es die beiden so richtig krachen: "The love he had felt for Toby 10 minutes before migrated into a sudden hungry imagination of Leo [...] his shaving rash and the wonderful shaped depths between the cheeks of his arse" (72). Nach diesem amourösen Beginn beschäftigt sich der Roman mit der Dekadenz der Reichen und Schönen in den 80er Jahren. Während Nick dank eines millionenschweren Liebhabers keine finanziellen Sorgen hat und sich von einer Orgie zur nächsten kokst, betrügt Gerald seine Frau mit seiner Sekretärin wogegen seine Tochter Catherine sich von einem mentalen Zusammenbruch zum Nächststen schleppt. Gleichzeitig erkranken immer mehr von Nicks Liebhabern an AIDS und zerstören den Schein eines sorgenfreien Lebens. Ein Urlaub in Frankreich enthüllt die ganze Heuchelei der Thatcher. Fazit: Gut zu lesende, unterhaltsame und spannende Analyse einer moralisch verkommenen Gesellschaft. Aber neu ist das alles nicht. Koksende, selbstverliebte und karrieregeile Millionäre waren schon das fterer Thema in diversen Romanen. Lesenswert bleibt "In the Line of Beauty" aber trotzdem.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Oh that title, so misleading! :-)

Von Denise I saw a preview of the TV-Series and I just wanted to read the book. After I bought it I took it everywhere with me and one day I was taking the train and the conductor said to me: "The title of the book suits you" I was of course very flattered, but then I thought to myself smiling " If he had any idea, what this book was about, he wouldn't have said that!" A great portrait of that time and still an very intimate window into the struggles of the gay-community, not only back then, but also now!

Kurzbeschreibung With an introduction by Sebastian Faulks Winner of the Man Booker Prize, *The Line of Beauty* is a classic novel about class, politics and sexuality in Margaret Thatcher's 1980s Britain. There was the soft glare of the flash twice three times a gleaming sense of occasion, the gleam floating in the eye as a blot of shadow, his heart running fast with no particular need of courage as he grinned and said, 'Prime Minister, would you like to dance?' In the summer of 1983, twenty-year-old Nick Guest moves into an attic room in the Notting Hill home of the wealthy Feddens: Gerald, an ambitious Tory MP, his wife Rachel and their children Toby and Catherine. Innocent of politics and money, Nick is swept up into the Feddens' world and an era of endless possibility, all the while pursuing his own private obsession with beauty.

The Line of Beauty is Alan Hollinghurst's Man Booker Prize-winning masterpiece. It is a novel that defines a decade, exploring with peerless style a young man's collision with his own desires, and with a world he can never truly belong to.

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