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The Lovers Dictionary: A Love Story in 185 Definitions

Von David Levithan

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THE LOVER'S DICTIONARY

a novel

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banal beguile better
cadence candid carrot
covet defunct dumbfounded
finances  fluke flux garnet gingerly guise
happenstance healthy hiatus I idea jaded
jerk justice kerfuffle backluster leery
love macabre misgivings narcissism
obstinate only perfunctory potency
qualm rage  rest rubbiness
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Von David Levithan : The Lovers Dictionary: A Love Story in 185 Definitions before purchasing it in order to
gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Lovers Dictionary: A Love Story in 185
Definitions:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Sandra
W.Von GretaLiebe David Levithan. Ein sehr spannendes Buch indem er mit Sprache und der Liebe herum

experimentiert. Schn finde ich, dass man wenig ber die beiden erfahrt. Es knnten 1 Mann und 1 Frau sein oder auch 2 Mnner oder 2 Frauen. Das macht das ganze interrrasant und lsst dem Leser Spielraum fr die eigene Fantasie.2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. I've Never Read Anything Like This Von x"The Lover's Dictionary" tells the story of two people and how they fell in love. It's not a retelling of how they met but rather a collection of quick moments in their lives that, some more, some less, shaped them as a couple. Due to the fact that the story isn't told in a linear way, it is somewhat difficult to keep up with the story and it takes some getting used to. Levithan manages to make the reader connect emotionally to the narrator without even revealing his name. This is actually one of the best cases of extremely sporadic but great character building I've read about. I imagine this to be of essential help for aspiring authors - this is how you build characters, you give them personality and not appearance, you give them quirks and not a tragic backstory. I was engaged in the story and invested and I wanted desperately to know what was going to happen. I rooted for the story to continue the traditional way, marriage, kids et cetera, but again Levithan stays far away from the norm. That's what I love about his novels, that he doesn't try but always ends up on the unconventional, unexplored pathways. The special thing about this novel isn't the fact that the two proatgonists remain nameless, but the format. It's told in dictionary entries. While this might sound extremely strange and make people back away from this novel, I can assure you that you're missing something. When I discovered it in the bookstore and saw the name of the author on it, I just knew that I had to take the risk - because Levithan knows what he's doing and hasn't disappointed me so far. "The Lover's Dictionary" can't really be described, it's not a story, it's more of a feeling. It's not your typical everyday novel that's why this review is lacking individual ratings. It can be read in a day or over the course of weeks, the effect stays the same. I fell in love with the characters the way they fell in love - entry after entry. Levithan uses mostly difficult words in this, I was lucky to be reading the novel in a foreign language anyways, so I didn't have to look anything up, because it was all translated from English. Some of the words I never would have understood because they're sometimes extremely old-fashioned and even pretentious, but the effect stays the same. I was a bit sad that the entire plot revolves only around their love, not because it's boring to read about, but because I longed for being able to dive in more into their world. This is definitely worth a read, maybe even multiple. Some passages were so poetic and probably even foreshadowing and I think that it is impossible to get all the references during your first read. Overall: Do I Recommend? Yes I do. I know this novel might not be for everyone, this is why I don't explicitly put this on my recommendations page, but I know that for everyone that is a risk-taker - this might be exactly what you're looking for. "The Lover's Dictionary" is poetic, it's more an artwork than a novel and it leaves you wirh a weird feeling. Maybe it's love. I wouldn't know. Rating: - See more at: [...]1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Was ganz anderes Von Villette "The Lover's Dictionary" erzht die Liebesgeschichte zweier New Yorker: der Erzher selbst und sein Geliebter bzw. seine Geliebte. Namen und Geschlechter werden nicht ausdrcklich genannt. Die Geschichte bekommt man nicht, wie gewohnt, chronologisch oder berhaupt zusammenhngend erzht, sondern anhand von Wrterbucheintrgen. Man muss sich die Fetzen selbst zusammensuchen, ein Ganzes daraus zu machen wird trotzdem nicht gelingen. Der Eindruck bleibt fragmentarisch, schon weil man nur eine Seite, also eine Perspektive, lesen kann. Die Stichwrter, unter denen die kleinen Eintrge stehen, scheinen ziemlich willkrlich und haben auf den ersten Blick mit Liebe selten was zu tun. Auf den zweiten Blick aber schon, da der Erzher mit ihnen immer etwas assoziiert, was ihm in seiner persnlichen Liebesgeschichte passiert ist. Mal geht es um das Ende der Beziehung, mal um die ersten Treffen, mal um die Fehler des Geliebten, das eigene Ungengen, Freunde, die man teilt, Verluste, die man teilt etc. Alles, was eben in so einer Liebe stattfindet, und trotzdem ganz persnlich. Dass man am Ende als Leser ziemlich unbefriedigt zurck bleibt, weil alles viel zu fragmentarisch ist, ist sicher gewollt. Dafr wird man mit vielen schnen Gedanken belohnt.

Kurzbeschreibung How does one talk about love? Do we even have the right words to describe something that can be both utterly mundane and completely transcendent, pulling us out of our everyday lives and making us feel a part of something greater than ourselves? Taking a unique approach to this problem, the nameless narrator of David Levithan's *The Lovers Dictionary* has constructed the story of his relationship as a dictionary. Through these short entries, he provides an intimate window into the great events and quotidian trifles of being within a couple, giving us an indelible and deeply moving portrait of love in our time. Pressestimmen Levithan brings ingenuity and a wry edge to his first adult novel. . . Among the novel's pleasures are micro-stories that speak volumes, reminiscent of Lydia Davis' work. . . There's plenty of reflection, not just on the relationship but on the attempt to distill and describe such complex feeling, including this: Trying to write about love is ultimately like trying to have a dictionary represent life. No matter how many words there are, there will never be enough.' That, by the way, is Levithan's definition of ineffable. Heller McAlpin, NPR.org 'The Lover's Dictionary' is clever and poetic and, sigh, sad. . . The brief entries are like poetry; poetry with a gravitational pull back to the central narrative, which is two people falling in love. The fact that the pieces hold together so well is testament, not only to Levithan's light hand and gracious writing but also to the power of this universal story. Susan Salter Reynolds, Newsday Young-adult novelist David Levithan doesn't list this entry

under the V in the alphabetically headed (and arranged) chapters of *The Lover's Dictionary*, his charming short novel about a love affair and its bittersweet evolution from first flirt to shaky domesticity, for lovers of all gender persuasions . . . Surrounded by large amounts of white space--which may be useful for readers as we walk through these dictionary-like entries for musing on our own loves and losses--the spare number of words in Levithan's novel may be just enough . . . But allow me to exclaim. Without ellipsis. (and some white space) Here is a lovely Valentine's Day gift for lovers! Alan Cheuse, *San Francisco Chronicle* Levithan crafts a love affair as sharp, funny, and sad as any you'd find in an epic novel. . . *The Lover's Dictionary* isn't about how lessons were learned, and in what order--it's a documentation of facts, memories, war wounds. And anyone who has been in a romantic relationship will recognize themselves in Levithan's lovers, from the tiniest details of merging bookshelves and quiet afternoons to the largest anxieties of sexual inadequacy and romantic reciprocity. Levithan's rhapsody is just that: an ode to desire written as an account of the traces such desire leaves behind. Jessica Freeman-Slade, *TheRumpus.net* David Levithan makes every word count . . . Levithan gives readers the kind of love story that Billy Pilgrim in *Slaughterhouse-Five* would have appreciated: unstuck in time, reliving moments in unpredictable order and in varying emotional colors. . . an equal opportunity romance with wit and rue, kisses and tears, that anyone can enjoy. Jim Higgins, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* From aberrant' to zenith,' David Levithan's latest creates a relationship in short scenes, packed with lyrical language. Entries slip back and forth in time as they unfold through an alphabet of romance, anger, forgiveness and tenderness to make up one particular relationship . . . The entries manage to be both intently focused and hinting at the larger picture. They read more like a well-crafted series of poems than a linear story line. Each word is defined and captured in a moment of the relationship. Levithan moves from romance to heartbreak to flirtation to devotion, in alphabetical order. Elizabeth Willse, *Star-Ledger* Interestingly, each definition is told from the point of view and in the first-person voice of only one of the partners. The other partner's voice remains silent throughout except as quoted by the narrator. Nevertheless, both come wonderfully alive, emerging as complex, multidimensional human beings, happy and unhappy, ebullient and angry, sweet and sour, and so--delightfully--forth. Happily, the order of the alphabet does not dictate the order of the story, which moves backward and forward in time. Thus, the dramatic necessity of conflict arises from one partner's infidelity, the impact of which is then explored at various points in the history of the partnership. Nothing is cut-and-dried, however, for as Levithan demonstrates, intimacy is sometimes enigmatic and, as he notes under ineffable, "No matter how many words there are, there will never be enough." So you must clearly pick and choose which to use, an act that Levithan has accomplished artfully and satisfyingly. Booklist (starred review) Levithan attains some heartbreaking moments as well as pitches of hilarity with his concise, polished writing. Inherent in such an endeavor is an adorableness thankfully grounded by Levithan's wit. Publishers Weekly *Pressestimmen* 'Teasing, intriguing and easy to devour in one go.' *Cosmopolitan* 'Romantic, quick, clever, funny. Read it in one sitting.' *Sunday Times Style* 'Like all good love stories, this one is both unique and universal; it's impossible not to nod along in recognition! It is a refreshingly grown-up story of a love affair between adults! Levithan is a generous, warm-hearted writer, and his conceit feels original! A Valentine's gift? What could be better?' *Observer* 'Covers everything from delight to desolation' *Time Out*