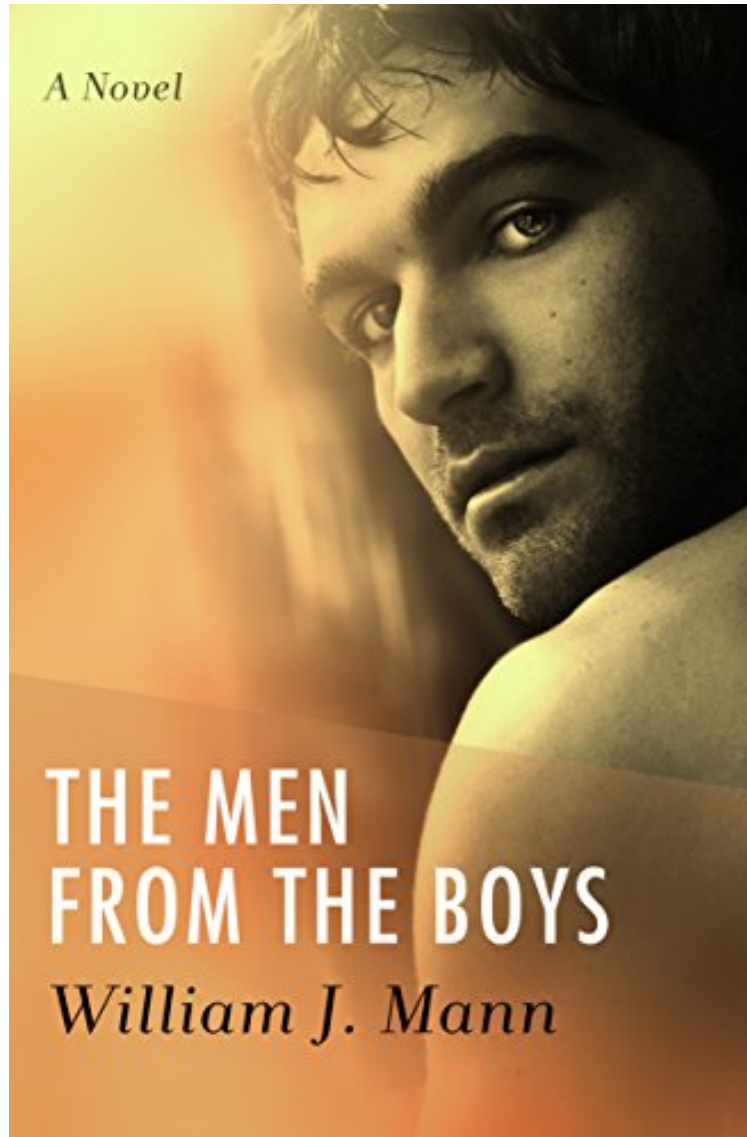


(Download) The Men from the Boys: A Novel (English Edition)

The Men from the Boys: A Novel (English Edition)

Von William J. Mann

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Von William J. Mann : The Men from the Boys: A Novel (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Men from the Boys: A Novel (English Edition):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Doesn't Rise Above Cliches Von Joseph J. Schultz After reading (mostly) glowing reviews, I decided to give this book a try, despite the tired subject matter cited in the cover blurb. The fluid writing kept me expecting more than the book actually delivered. Gay ghettos, open relationships, youth-obsessed culture... Anyone who's ever picked up a single

issue of Genre or Out knows enough about these subjects to have written this novel. The language and the structure are strong, but not strong enough to carry the thin plot, wherein the protagonist mostly laments the fact that he can't have a deeply satisfying relationship with every beautiful man he meets. Supporting characters, most of whom spend time finding and discussing what "paths" they should follow, don't do any more growing than the main character. This lack of character growth was my main problem with the novel. The characters rehash every conversation that has been part of the urban gay forum for the last ten years, but only from the perspective of people who are in the urban gay life. That the (exclusively sex-driven) culture of the novel is the only possible culture is taken for granted by all characters, thereby removing any real tension between opposing viewpoints. When an open relationship between the protagonist and his primary partner begins to lack "passion" for the partner, the question of whether opening the relationship is part of its downfall is never seriously considered. Similarly, the problem of youth-obsession is solved through anonymous sexual encounters at roadside rest stops, where the protagonist is still made to feel young. Less "sophisticated" - but equally valid - views such as monogamy never provide a contrast for the characters to make compelling arguments for their current, unfulfilling lifestyles. One minor character, introduced near the end as a sort of "voce ex machina," has had what he feels is a full life and beautiful relationship, but is introduced so artificially, and briefly, that it doesn't have much impact beyond distraction. And in the end, distraction - from one man to the next, from one self-imposed dramatic episode to the next, is all these characters seem to desire or achieve. They don't need to find all the answers, but the story itself should ask more questions. The writing is promising enough that I wouldn't hesitate to pick up another book by Mann, if the novel had more perspective than the characters. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. This book gets popped to the top shelf. Von James The only gay novel I have yet read that even compares to "Men From the Boys" is Forman Brown's "A Better Angel" (written published originally in 1933). Nothing compares to Wm. Mann's searching novel. I have rarely read anything better, and I have never read anything sadder. Yes, the character is self-absorbed, but his own blindness makes him that much more interesting to watch as he develops in maturity and even wisdom. In "Creed for the Third Millennium", when Colleen McCullough's character is told to 'write a book', I almost threw down the novel in disgust. Writing a book will NEVER save the world. When Wm. Mann's character struggles to write his book, it's his attempt to save his soul, the perfect forum for this kind of venture. The book is full of moments like this one, as each character in turn struggles to find his way through his life and its challenges. Structurally, this novel was phenomenal. The way the back-and-forth of time and space spins around left me SPINNING. Masterfully done, a great story with lively characters, this is one book I'm glad I had passed on to me, and I recommend this to anyone interested in man's struggle to find his own soul. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. stuck on a plane, couldn't stop reading. Von Ein Kunde grabbed this while in an airport (san francisco) and needed something to read. didn't expect to be so thought provoked. i read a great deal, so i'm not sure why this one hit me, but it did. william mann has managed to capture that painful time when a relationship is neither here nor there, neither broken nor working, neither fulfilling nor empty - and it needs to pick a direction. the two characters - neither of whom are particularly enjoyable - have enough aspects, that you will identify with at least one. the story is told from jeff's point of view and flashes back and forth in time. the juxtapositioning of past and present is an interesting effect and mann avoids having it become tedious. it's an interesting effect. the relationship and it's problems brought many thoughts to mind and i found myself often travelling on introspective tangents. i also found myself speaking out loud to several of the characters. fairly embarrassing on a crowded flight. worth the time and effort. an extremely commendable first effort.

Kurzbeschreibung This classic novel by bestselling author William J. Mann features a gay man trying to come to terms with sex, friendship, aging, and falling and staying in love. This stunning slice of gay life at the turn of the millennium introduces thirtysomething Jeff O'Brien. After six years, his lover, Lloyd, has just announced that the passion between them has died. Terrified of ending up alone, Jeff turns his eye toward other men. But the anonymous, impersonal encounters leave him feeling sordid and used. In search of love during this last summer in which I am to be young, he finds romance with a beautiful houseboy named Eduardo. At twenty-two, Eduardo is the same age Jeff was when he began a relationship with the older David Javitz, a leading activist now gravely ill with AIDS. But David became more than a lover to Jeff, who wasn't yet out of the closet. He was his mentor and cherished friend. Narrated by Jeff, who's caught between the baby boomers and generation X, the novel shuttles between summers in Provincetown and winters in Boston. *The Men from the Boys* is about the illusive nature of love and desire, the magic that happens across a dance floor, leaving you forever young.