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Breaking the Mold of a Traditional Hero Results in a Gripping Tale of Fiction... First-time author soars with his spellbinding story of a man fighting with human nature... Residing in a country where beautiful people are considered superior, Addison Hall is an anomaly. A mildly repugnant man, he is forced by the twisted hierarchy of his dictator to live in less than adequate living situations. The days become increasingly arduous as he toils in an unpleasant job, stricken with the disappointment of his current situation. Besides the dark comedy of his disastrous attempts at romance and his friend's antics, Addison's life is fairly dull. Then he meets Otka, a beautiful woman who owns the local coffee shop. After witnessing a chance encounter where Addison risks his life to save the life of a dog, Otka takes an obvious interest in him. Addison is perplexed by her reciprocated intrigue. Past experiences with such a valued creature of the opposite sex has left him tainted and doubting her motives. Jeffrey Onorato sensationally draws us into his world of relatable characters and witty dialect. He victoriously shatters the conventions of the true-blue hero to create a story that has both depth and originality. The Sin of Addison Hall entrances the reader with delicious conflicts of human wanting and wavering uncertainty with an ending that will leave you begging for more.

The SIN of Addison Hall Details

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Author : Jeffrey A. Onorato

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From Reader Review The SIN of Addison Hall for online ebook

Vicki says

An excellent addition to the dystopian genre. Onorato create a future world that is both frightening and funny.

A thought provoking and sometimes startling novel, the author has presented a futuristic world where the strong and beautiful are privileged and apotheosized, while the rest of the population are suppressed and ridiculed.

While the Holocaust has become one of the most-studied period in the history of mankind where an evil dictator was allowed to come to power, this futuristic tale reminds the reader that given the right set of conditions and mindset belief of a people, it could happen again.

Melissa says

Cover:

I liked this cover. My first impression was the book may be about a killer getting rid of targets and after finishing the book, it turns out in a roundabout way I was right about what the book would be about.

Storyline:

Jeffrey Onorato writes about a futuristic world where a corporation takes over everything and plans to make their own version of a perfect society. This of course parallels the Holocaust, and that made it interesting as a reader. Was the author trying to say that we should go back to that, or try to show how easy it was for the world to fall into that again? Thankfully it was the latter.

When I began reading the book there was a sense of the entire topic being really funny and how "Yes! I want a world of people only wearing red shirts!" As the book continues however, you really get a sense as to how quickly discrimination gets out of hand and the mob mentality that takes over (again, think about Germany).

I think the story line is good, brings up some good points and helps you think about where our current culture is going. While the book was written in a futuristic world, are we really that far from something like this happening?

Editing:

I have to be honest. While I enjoyed this book, the writing was a bit difficult at times. I'm not sure if the author is Irish (it mentions he frequents Irish pubs) but some of the language used doesn't mesh well with how we are used to speaking. Because of this, there were times where I found myself re-reading sentences in order to make sense of them. So while I was enjoying the book while reading it, I found the stop and re-read made me get my mind out of the book.

Overall:

I enjoyed this book. It's a topic that I have always enjoyed reading (I took several courses on Nazi Germany)

and this book didn't let down. The stop and go that I mentioned above, while a bit distracting, doesn't take away from the story line and shouldn't be a reason not to pick this one up.

Mike says

Good read and the ending had me shocked, which is not easy to do nowadays! The historic themes shine through. I enjoyed this book and hope the author publishes more!

Michael Quinn says

The SIN of Addison Hall creates a parallel between a sort of fascist Nazi type culture of superiority and eugenics where instead of a certain race being superior, it is good looking or attractive people who are superior, and ugly and unattractive people who live lives of a slave like nature, where they are deemed less intelligent and less worthy of being called human. This parallel is so ideal and interesting because it captures the modern world we live in where good looking people do receive preferential treatment in comparison with the less attractive, especially in a sort of Hollywood or commercial sense, and how people strive to make themselves more like that attraction introduced to them through the media. It also captures mans capacity to attach rank of humanity unfairly based on something as un telling

Addison is in a lower caste, where he is called a 'burdened.' The highest caste is called a blessed, because they are genuinely more attractive, and therefore treated better throughout their daily life. The character of Addison is ideally similar to so much of what is inside all of us that his transformation is both understandable and tragic throughout the course of the novel, which teaches a lesson that we could all use knowledge of.

Susan Hynes says

A really wonderful political satire that once you get started you will read right through! This book keeps drifting back to think about it long after you have finished reading.

Ariel Lynn says

If I could, I would probably give this book 2.5 stars. It was definitely between "it was OK" & "I liked it."

What bothered me:

Even though Onorato disguised it in the "language of the Blessed" (an overly complex & verbose dialect specific to that caste), making them sound new & humorous at times, the author constantly used cliches like "needle in a haystack," etc. He took them to a different place, but they were still obvious &, as always, all dried up.

Typos; specifically, repeatedly using the wrong caste name within 1-2 pages. These mistakes, however minor, will always yank me out of the reverie of good storytelling & just generally piss me off. It shows that

the final text wasn't read carefully by the author or his editors.

The obvious references to Germany & the Third Reich. Even calling the elite security guards "SS" & the method of governing "Face-ism." If it had been more subtle, maybe I would have liked it. I go back & forth on how I feel about this; sometimes, it was well-executed, sometimes trite.

All that said, it was engaging & I wanted to keep reading. The ending was disappointing, but thought-provoking at the same time. What is it that makes a good person? Can a person who is focused on appearances, perhaps even to the detriment of health, be a good person? Does the constant social recognition of external features somehow make us need it just as constantly?

Abby says

This book was ok but it was at times too complex and at others too simple. I wanted it to be more and was at the end left unsatisfied.

Jelios Ataliakrouso says

A society mandated and ruled by the likes of the Blessed whom are the most beautiful and intelligent beings, and by simpletons otherwise known as the Favored and trust me, that is better then the coming burdensome lot, and the disgust placed among the Cursed. Very much a case system in the most, well, in what I believed the following letters would paint quite an amusing picture for most men...How? Questionable circumstances that lead up to such a disturbing rearrangement of society in America otherwise known as U.S.A, can be directed to a deep depression thus eluding to poverty and easily enough to public-wide discontent. One can easily guess how the rest went. Happened in Germany, don't forget Italy, even in ancient Rome, who is the most famous?

Well I dare say Roosevelt. After all, he didn't proclaim himself a caesar nor did he position himself for popular dictatorship.

To most, this would seem like a nightmare, and in truth, it is torture. The author did a splendid job in demonstrating the flaws and the dark characteristics of such a social system by which can rival that of the Varna caste system in India. He very much guided the reader to understanding the social order without limiting himself to not only exploit his main character but also the president whom by this time around is announce a dictator as discontent grows among the last two tiers of the case system.

A course to top the whole realism that the gifted author has already established, molded the main character to be one whom, many readers will be discontent and even so much as hate him, Hell, I hated him. I liked the fact that i didn't fathom his actions nor his thoughts. Though I'll be lying if I said it didn't make the book better. This is truly a book proposing a not so radical view of society and its, "poison," that fester though the minds of its followers, believers, participants call them what you want. It does not matter if they want to follow the social order, all the same, they'll be subdued to a degree where an effect will inevitably develop a keen sense of judgment. such in the present day in America, the word beauty is already widely accept to be a skinny person, which only cause more disturbing change of society, such as diets... which some can be seriously damaging and even life threatening, pregnant women whom wish to remain "skinny" taking supplements that will devastate the baby's own health.

This book is not too far out there... we harbor close by some sense if not the other. overall, it discussed

interesting selection of topics thought the book, a consistent use of higher speech(vocabulary) and a clear writing style. Sadly my opinion did not make for the fifth star because the sense of urgency was a missing thrill as i engaged in the precluding climax, nor did the immediate threat bearing down the the main character was ever efficient in seizing me to sympathize with him. Never the less, it gave one the feeling of spectator thought the novel.

Kristy says

I received this book for free through Goodreads First Reads.

This book was a nice change for me since I typically read Romance and Suspense. I would recommend it to others.

Jeffrey says

This is my first novel, released by Bryant Park Press on 8/3. Some reviews:

"With echoes of Vonnegut, The SIN of Addison Hall conjures a chilling dystopia where beauty rules. Even more frightening is how close to home this world hits".

Shari Goldhagen, author of Family and Other Accidents

"Artfully wrought and full of strong imagery. Onorato has crafted a world where how you look is how you live. This is a story that demands to be read".

Brett Ellen Block, author of The Lightning Rules

"Onorato creates a world that I am glad to know is fiction".

P.J. Campbell, author of 101 Author Tips

Jena Colon says

I really enjoyed reading this book. I could see something like this actually happening. With the way that our world is now.

I liked this book so much that I just lent it out to my father to read also.

Doreen Dalesandro says

Kindle freebie, 2/14/13

Lee says

3.5 Stars

A pretty good bargain on Amazon. This is a strange, odd tale of the future. This felt a little like A Brave New World and the concept behind the story is a piss take on our obsession with sex and appearance. Which given last weeks news that some celebrities nude pictures were stolen has had more condemnation and outrage than the fact that over 100,000 children starved to death in Somalia in the last couple of years makes this story very poignant.

So a government gets in and sits you down for a physical. This becomes your SIN score. The lowest you can score is 9. Which is 1 for each of the 9 categories. There are four categories, Blessed, Favoured, Burdened and Cursed. Our friend Addison is a Burdened and burdened he is with self doubt and loathing at his mis-shaped smile, facial growth and lack of muscle. However, he is not cursed, so he gets to work in the camps that are designed to 'help' the cursed, usually the obese, become fitter and more healthy. The story here now references Hitlers campaigns against the Jews. The cursed are interned, then driven into camps, then experimented on (new teeth or a nice mop of hair anyone?) and the Burdened are glad it isn't them. But now the burdened are being blamed for the economy and assisting their ugly co-conspirators. So on it goes.

The story is well written, it is completely over the top in parts, but given the context of a Vogue magazine government it works well. It is a clever piece of writing, which won't get the recognition of Brave New World or Animal Farm, but one that deserves a bit more attention.

Given that you can get it cheap as on Amazon, I think it worthy of a read.

Michael Flanagan says

The SIN of Addison Hall is a breath of fresh air in the crowded Dystopian genre. The reader is taken in to a world preoccupied with beauty so much that your looks determine your place in society. The citizens are placed in a caste based on their looks from the cursed to the blessed. Your caste determines every aspect of your life from the food you can eat to the jobs you can undertake.

It is in this world we meet our hero of sorts Addison Hall. Addison is a member of the second lowest caste the Burdened. This Burdened bumbles from day to day suffering the injustices of his caste. One day he learns that his caste is set for extermination, as the leadership blames them and the cursed for the society's woes. Sound familiar? Well it should as this a leaf out of the Third Reich's book. As a WWII geek I loved how the author uses mistakes of our past to link us to his created world. It goes so far that the people in power are called Face-ist instead of Fascist, a fact that gave me a great chuckle.

This book does not follow your traditional narrative but this is what gives the book its freshness. The characters are well developed and have many a flaw that ingratiate them to the reader. Never has self-depreciation been used so well in a book. The end of the book is truly amazing and leaves many questions unanswered. Usually this annoys me as a ploy by the author to ensure you buy their next book. But in the SINS of Addison Hall this is a very fitting end to the book and leaves you pondering the question of what entail true happiness. Well done Mr Onorato on a stellar debut I see big things in your future, maybe a bit of Botox may smooth the way.

