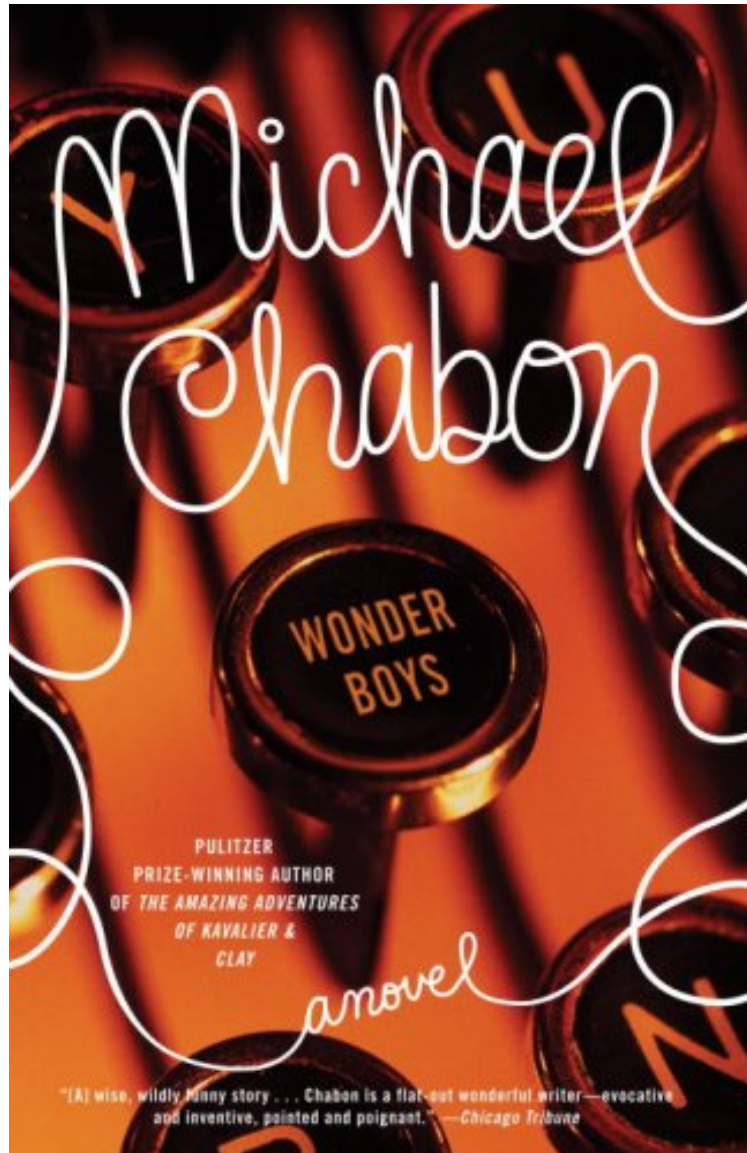


(Download) Wonder Boys: A Novel

Wonder Boys: A Novel

Michael Chabon

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Michael Chabon : Wonder Boys: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wonder Boys: A Novel:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Chabon Delivers -- Wood 5 minute review By Darlene S. Wood I am so glad I gave this author a second chance, after appreciating, but being so frustrated by The Yiddish Policemen's Union. The reader hops on a roller coaster ride for a drug-infused, lost weekend of failing novelist, Grady. It was

laugh-out-loud funny, poignant, and bizarre, beginning with Grady picking up his publisher and his new transvestite friend at the Pittsburgh Airport. Miraculously, Chabon manages a satisfying end despite Grady's disastrous 48 hours. I saw none of the indulgent metaphors that I disliked in the other book. Now I must read *Mysteries of Pittsburgh*. (And see the movie!) 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good read
By Todbiker
Saw the movies *Mysteries of Pittsburgh* and *Wonder Boys*, the latter is a favorite. Both films took liberties with the story, the books ring truer, are much less sanitized than the films and resonated more during the read. Glad I took the time to take a closer look at the characters and various subplots touched on by the film. Both books were hard to put down once I was invested in the first 50 pages. I'll likely check out more Chabon novels in time. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. By midpoint, you just want it to be over
By Another customer
The good: excellent writing. Great descriptions; wonderful and pithy one-liners and short commentary.
The bad: not much there, there. Stretches a very slight plot to the point of breaking, by spending many pages on stuff that is too loopy to carry the weight.. Too much like PG Wodehouse-meets-TC Boyle. James Crumley does it better.

A modern classic, now in a welcome new edition, *Wonder Boys* firmly established Michael Chabon as a force to be reckoned with in American fiction. At once a deft parody of the American fame factory and a piercing portrait of young and old desire, this novel introduces two unforgettable characters: Grady Tripp, a former publishing prodigy now lost in a fog of pot and passion and stalled in the midst of his endless second book, and Grady's student, James Leer, a budding writer obsessed with Hollywood self-destruction and struggling with his own searching heart. All those who love Michael Chabon's *The Yiddish Policemen's Union* and his Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay* will find the same elegant imagination, bold humor, and undeniable warmth at work in *Wonder Boys*. "[A] wise, wildly funny story . . . Chabon is a flat-out wonderful writer— evocative and inventive, pointed and poignant."—*Chicago Tribune* "Whether making us laugh or making us feel the breathtaking impermanence of things, Michael Chabon keeps us wide awake and reading."—*All Things Considered* "Beguiling and wickedly smart . . . There is first-rate satirical farce in Chabon's novel but essentially it is something rarer: satirical comedy."—*Los Angeles Times Book Review*

From *Publishers Weekly* Mixing comic?even slapstick?events with the serious theme of bright promise gone awry, Chabon has produced an impeccably constructed novel that sparkles with inventiveness and wit neatly permeated with rue. The once-promising eponymous "wonder boys" are Grady Tripp and Terry Crabtree, friends since college, where they both determined to make their mark in literature. Now they are self-destructive adults whose rare meetings occasion an eruption of zany events. Narrator Grady, a professor/novelist whose unfinished work-in-progress, *Wonder Boys*, stands at 2000-plus endlessly revised pages, has destroyed three marriages through compulsive philandering and a marijuana habit. Terry is a devil-may-care, sexually predatory editor who has patiently endured Grady's writing block but who tells Grady, when he arrives at the annual literary conference at Grady's small Pittsburgh college, that he expects to be fired momentarily from his job. Grady and Terry, later joined by the campus's newest potential "wonder boy," a talented but mendacious student named James Leer, set in motion a series of darkly funny misadventures. Farcical scenes arise credibly out of multiplying contretemps, culminating in a stoned Grady's wild ride in a stolen car in whose trunk rest a tuba and the corpses of a blind dog and a boa constrictor. All of this affords Chabon a solid platform for some freewheeling satire about the yearnings, delusions and foibles of writers and other folk. Throughout, his elegant prose, breathtaking imagery and wickedly on-target dialogue precisely illuminate his characters' gentle absurdities. The pace of this vastly entertaining novel never abates for a second, as we watch Grady slide inexorably into emotional and professional chaos. Above all, though, this is a feast for lovers of writing and books, with the author's fierce understanding of what Grady calls "the midnight disease," the irresistible, destructive urge of a writer to experience his characters' fates. Author tour. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From *Library Journal* Chabon himself is something of a wonder boy; his first novel, *The Mysteries of Pittsburgh*, presided on the *New York Times* Best Sellers list for 12 weeks. Here, his eponymous heroes are Grady, an aging author attempting to write his chef-d'oeuvre, and his randy editor, Tripp. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From *Scientific American* The young star of American letters ... a writer not only of rare skill and wit but of self-evident and immensely appealing generosity.