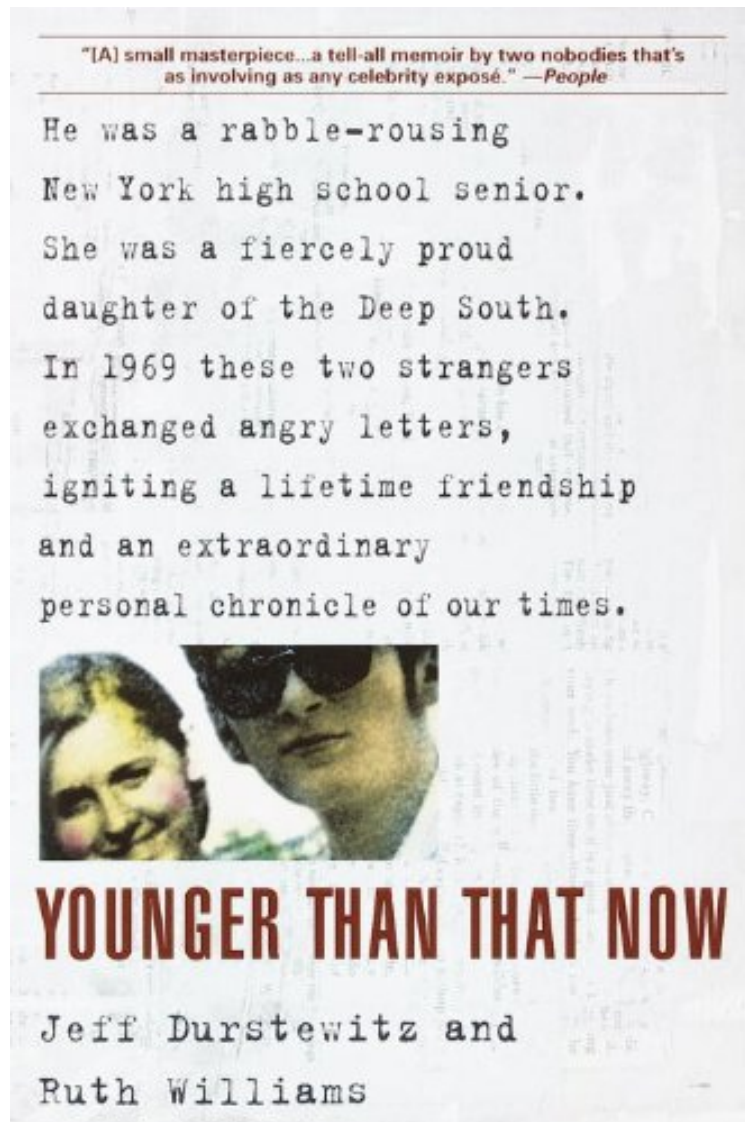


[Free read ebook] Younger Than That Now: A Shared Passage from the Sixties

Younger Than That Now: A Shared Passage from the Sixties

Von Jeff Durstewitz, Ruth Williams

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Von Jeff Durstewitz, Ruth Williams : Younger Than That Now: A Shared Passage from the Sixties before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Younger Than That Now: A Shared Passage from the Sixties:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Coming back homeVon Nancy R. WilliamsYounger Than That Now was, for me, a personal journey with kindred spirits back to the fire of my youth. Ruth and Jeff have generously opened up their most impressive friendship to the reader describing with both poignant earnestness and incisive humor their personal success at transcending differences. If

they had merely focused on the amazing accomplishment of a heterosexual male and female managing a platonic friendship over time and space, it would have been newsworthy. But they wove in familiar names of our generation who have combined the social ideals of the 60's while honing entrepreneurial savvy reflective of our times (is there anyone who has NOT succumbed to the lure of Ben Jerry's ice cream?) coupled with a delicious recounting of the regional idiosyncratic differences between northerners (ok, Yankees) and southerners, and threaded with the yarn of historical perspective. The writing reflected rich, descriptive prose that hung sensuously like the moss on a live oak coupled with clean, crisp journalistic insights. This book was a sheer delight to read. As a (yes, I admit it) born and raised Yankee--and middle-aged baby boomer--who has lived my entire adult life in the South, I felt like I had truly come home in the pages of this book both in the people that I met there and the places they inhabited. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Growing up North Growing up South Von Robert C. I bought the book expecting a clash between characters reflecting the liberal north and the conservative south of the 60s through today. Was surprised at the actual reversal of roles. The book operates on several levels. First, there is the evolution of the main characters over time. Quite interesting in itself. Second, there is the interaction of the main characters and supporting casts from 1969 to the present. A study of enduring friendship. Third, is a somewhat choppy backdrop of how the above two fit in recent history and the regions. Definitely worth the read - a unique journey. A bit uneven and patchy in some aspects - seems to result from the reliance on the actual letters between Ruth and Jeff, supplemented with some annotation, and essays to fill in the gaps - several of which went unfilled. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A book worthy of a generation Von Campbell Armstrong This is probably the one we've been looking forward to for a long time - a moving, no-holds-barred, enriching, open-hearted account of coming of age in America in the late 60s and early 70s. Jeff D and Ruth C W bring the times to life in a hundred ways, smells and sights and the half-forgotten names of politicians and rock bands and faded belief systems and hopes that were crushed or altered by the weight of time. In its own way it is an epic journey, personal and private, and public too, dealing with the small things in life as well as the big issues. Sad and funny, with whacky characters and eccentrics and originals and sweethearts, it's not a book to miss, if you remember the Steve Miller Band and Credence - and even if you don't, read it anyway for its humanity.

Kurzbeschreibung He was a rabble-rousing New York high school senior. She was a fiercely proud daughter of the Deep South. In 1969 these two strangers exchanged angry letters, igniting a lifetime friendship and an extraordinary personal chronicle of our times. She was a conservative Mississippi girl. He was a self-styled firebrand from New York. In 1969, in an America torn apart by differences, two very dissimilar teens put their hearts on paper and began a friendship that would span thirty years. Now, in this collaborative memoir, they tell an unforgettable story that is a testament to who we were yesterday...and who we are now. It began when a group of bored Long Island high school newspaper reporters wrote, for a lark, an obnoxious note to Ruth Tuttle, the editor of a Deep South school paper. The New York teens included a future documentary filmmaker, a concert violinist, and the founders of Ben Jerry's ice cream--but in those days they were typical high school seniors, quick to imagine they knew all about a girl they'd never met. The ringleader, Jeff Durstewitz, impulsively dropped the letter into a mailbox, never suspecting that within a few days he'd receive an electrifying response. In the following flurry of letters, genteel Southern Ruth and brash Jeff explored their feelings--sometimes heatedly--about God, race, sex, and life. Within a month of receiving Ruth's first letter, Jeff was planning a Yankee invasion of Yazoo City, Mississippi. Spring break brought a wild drive from New York to Yazoo City with his two friends in a psychedelic VW Bug, a "Heat of the Night" encounter between a cop and these three headstrong teens, and a culture clash in Ruth's living room that neither she nor her proper parents would ever forget. It was a night that shattered stereotypes--and their hopes for a romance. But it didn't derail the long-distance friendship that would sustain them both through thirty years of love affairs, heartbreaking disappointments, social change, divorce, and the loss of a cherished friend as they negotiated the passages from youth to middle age. And with each move, the packet of precious letters traveled, too. These letters form the heart of a wonderful memoir that captures not just the hopes of a generation and the soul of the South on the brink of inexorable change, but the experience of being young, bright, and passionate. Younger Than That Now is as achingly expressive as Janis Joplin singing "Me and Bobby McGee," as revealing of youth's wild yearnings as a Woodstock documentary. It is sharp, funny, and true, a mirror for a generation--both then and now. From the Hardcover edition. de In 1969, when 17-year-old Jeff Durstewitz and some friends wrote a smart-alecky letter to Ruth Tuttle (now Williams), these suburban New York kids assumed she must be "some sort of prototype Southern-belle-racist" because she edited a Mississippi high school newspaper. What they got back was a smart, gracious reply from a nascent rebel desperate for companionship beyond the restrictive confines of Yazoo City. Jeff wrote back apologetically, and an intense relationship was born. The pair found after Jeff's awkward first visit to Mississippi that they weren't destined to be lovers, but nevertheless the friendship endured. Their early letters, surprisingly mature and touchingly vulnerable, remind us how late the '60s started in the South, where Ruth struggled to express more enlightened racial attitudes and

protest the Vietnam War without alienating her conservative parents. Jeff's experiences are more conventionally countercultural, right down to the fact that his high school buddies Ben and Jerry grew up to be the famed ice cream moguls. Yet both Jeff and Ruth's lives follow the pattern of many of their generation, beginning with radical politics and grungy communal living and ending in a tentative return to the mainstream and middle-aged settling down. Their correspondence, supplemented by the authors' present-day recollections, evokes with pleasing specificity an era that seems at once very recent and amazingly long ago. --Wendy Smith.com

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