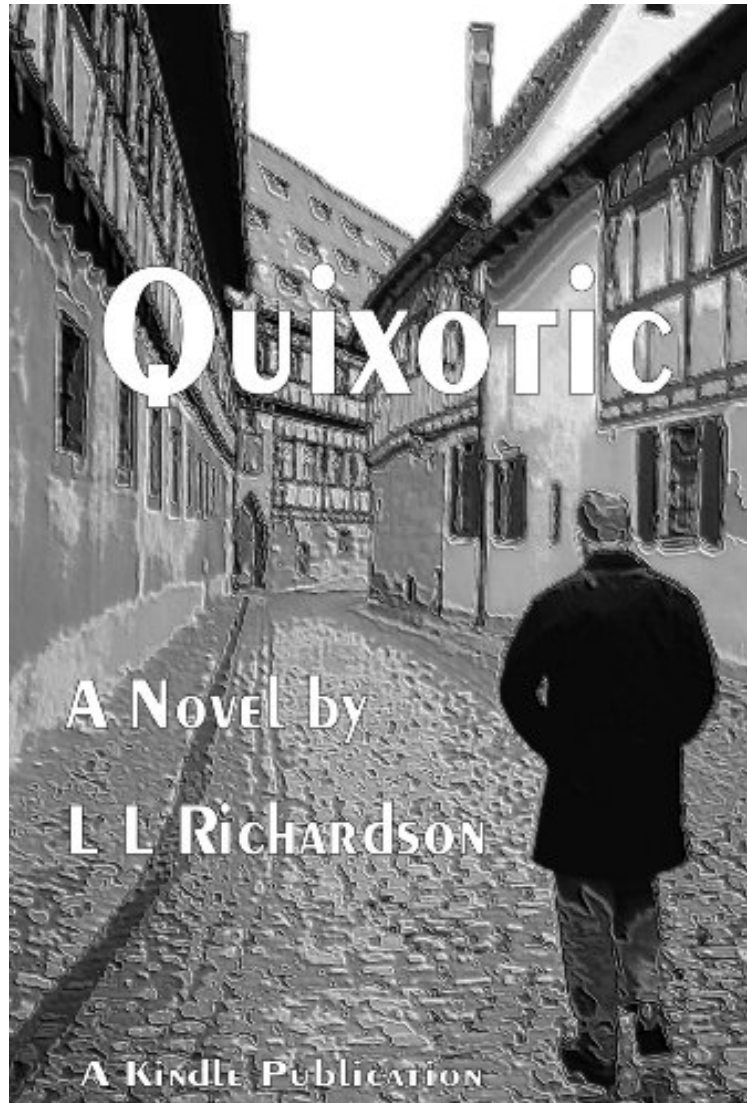


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Quixotic (English Edition)

Von L L Richardson

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Von L L Richardson : Quixotic (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Quixotic (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Love beyond good and evil?Von Philip BlainThe beginning of Quixotic sees the main protagonist, Michael Lex, return to Germany 30 years after Uncle Sam first sent him there to serve his country. As the plot unfolds, we learn that while he may have avoided the killing fields of Nam, Michael's work for US Military Intelligence in post-war Germany was not quite as simple as the nave young student had imagined. The fresh-faced GI who starts his jaunt round Cold War

Germany as a modern Don Quixote, trying to do his job but harm no one in the process -- to "spill beer not blood" -- is drawn into his own minefield of moral and deeply personal conflicts. Even now, three decades later, he cannot even begin to tell Johanna, the love of his life, what really happened back in 1970 and why he was forced to abandon her without a word. "If time heals all wounds, does it erase all scars?" he asks Johanna at one point. No, comes the reply. Scars memorialize wounds. Michael can expose his scars only in the form of two manuscripts, which he writes for Johanna in an attempt to explain his years of silence and neglect. What follows is a morality tale wrapped up in a cold-war spy romp and a heart-rending love story. The paradox at the novel's core is one that will resonate with any reader who has tried to do the right thing - and failed. Quixotic is one of the most well-written and fascinating novels I've come across recently. This is intelligent fiction with a lot to say, but without moralizing or preaching. The author's love of language shines through on every page and takes you right to the heart of Michael and Johanna's world. A big first novel that leaves me hoping that the author won't make us wait too long before his next offering.

Kurzbeschreibung He didn't see it coming. No one did. And now he's too ashamed to look into the eyes of the woman he loves more than life itself--ever again. Quixotic is a quirky tale of lost love that unfolds in the year leading up to 9/11. In the spring of 2000, a mega midlife crisis launches a knight errant on a daunting quest with fiasco written all over it. Professor Michael Lex yanks up his stateside life by the roots and jets to Frankfurt to make amends to the distinguished journalist Johanna von Kleist. What does a man say to the jilted beauty to explain away several lifetimes of pin-drop silence? Spoken words fail him, so the aspiring novelist writes them. As the erstwhile lovers get reacquainted ever so gingerly, he labors over two manuscripts. The first recounts what happens in Frankfurt in 1969 when a disaffected GI working undercover for US Army Intelligence falls madly in love with an emerald-eyed pacifist with hip-length raven hair. The second narrates the twists and turns leading up to a soul-searing night in Hamburg in 1970. In one calamitous hour, Michael learns more about himself than he ever wanted to know, but it takes him thirty years and two manuscripts to confess it to Johanna. The core of the novel is a morality play in which a good man does his best to do good but, well, he's only human . . . and a walking, talking paradox at that. He preaches "Thou shalt not harm" but lies and spies for the US Army. He means it when he says, "I love you, sweetness. See you tomorrow," but tomorrow stretches into decades. The most disturbing paradox of all lies buried in his hardened heart under layer upon layer of shame. Kurzbeschreibung He didn't see it coming. No one did. And now he's too ashamed to look into the eyes of the woman he loves more than life itself--ever again. Quixotic is a quirky tale of lost love that unfolds in the year leading up to 9/11. In the spring of 2000, a mega midlife crisis launches a knight errant on a daunting quest with fiasco written all over it. Professor Michael Lex yanks up his stateside life by the roots and jets to Frankfurt to make amends to the distinguished journalist Johanna von Kleist. What does a man say to the jilted beauty to explain away several lifetimes of pin-drop silence? Spoken words fail him, so the aspiring novelist writes them. As the erstwhile lovers get reacquainted ever so gingerly, he labors over two manuscripts. The first recounts what happens in Frankfurt in 1969 when a disaffected GI working undercover for US Army Intelligence falls madly in love with an emerald-eyed pacifist with hip-length raven hair. The second narrates the twists and turns leading up to a soul-searing night in Hamburg in 1970. In one calamitous hour, Michael learns more about himself than he ever wanted to know, but it takes him thirty years and two manuscripts to confess it to Johanna. The core of the novel is a morality play in which a good man does his best to do good but, well, he's only human . . . and a walking, talking paradox at that. He preaches "Thou shalt not harm" but lies and spies for the US Army. He means it when he says, "I love you, sweetness. See you tomorrow," but tomorrow stretches into decades. The most disturbing paradox of all lies buried in his hardened heart under layer upon layer of shame.