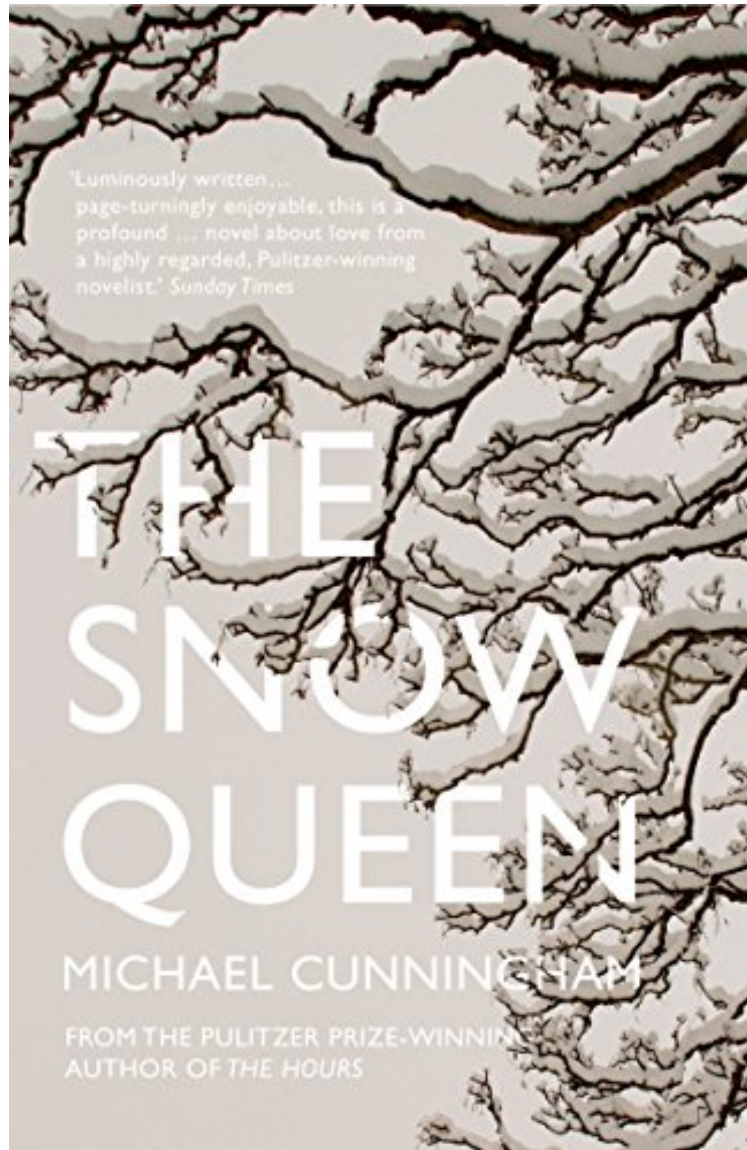


[Get free] The Snow Queen

The Snow Queen

Von Michael Cunningham

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Von Michael Cunningham : The Snow Queen before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Snow Queen:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Cunninghams most emotionally strong book Von Helpful Advice The Snow Queen written by Michael Cunningham, a previous Pulitzer Prize winner, a story in which are mixed humor and tragedy, emotions and fairy tale beauty, is a novel that confirms Cunningham status as one of the best storytellers of today's generation. The author didnt

accidentally chose a name for his story, because just like in a children tale which bears the same name he manages to show how love can do everything, even melt the heart that seems forever frozen. Same as was the case with previous Cunninghams works, he again uses three main characters and their stories and interweaves them into a single story. This time these are two brothers Barrett and Tyler, and Tylers ill girlfriend, who has recently been diagnosed with terminal cancer. Barrett is near his forties; he works in clothing store and he broke up recently with his brother Tyler, a drug addict. Tyler is a musician who never managed to sell anything, his life becoming even more miserable after learning that his girlfriend is dying. The reader will find out that the two brothers became close after the tragic death of their mother, and that despite their age, actually both of them have never found themselves, thus figuratively speaking about one lost generation that exists today, just struggling to survive, without any specific purpose in life despite their talents. Around these three characters the author will build a story in which interweaves psychology, humor and tragedy of life - people who are equally friends and lovers, colleagues and family. On the other side, this story is a kind of allegory for finding meaning in middle age after we spent adolescence on anything particular, and now looking for some purpose of our existence, the reason for which we would be able to look back once at our life and consider that we did not spend it in vain. The Snow Queen is so far Cunninghams most emotionally strong book, novel that vividly describes New York in the second half of the 2000s, novel about our sense of belonging and purpose, novel that can certainly be recommended to his previous fans, but also for everyone else who by reading it along will likely become ones.

Kurzbeschreibung A vision appears in the sky above wintry New York and seems to exert an influence over two brothers, in this luminous, compassionate novel from the author of *The Hours*. Barrett Meeks, having lost love yet again, is walking through Central Park when he is inspired to look up; in the sky he sees a pale, translucent light that seems to regard him in a distinctly godlike way. Barrett doesn't believe in visions or in God but he can't deny what he's seen. At the same time, in nearby Brooklyn, Tyler, Barrett's older brother, a struggling musician, is trying to write a song for Beth, his wife-to-be, who is seriously ill. Tyler is determined to write a wedding song that will not be merely a sentimental ballad but an enduring expression of love. Barrett, haunted by the light, turns unexpectedly to religion, while Tyler grows increasingly convinced that only drugs can release his creative powers. Cunningham follows the Meeks brothers as each travels down a different path in his search for transcendence. In subtle, lucid prose, he demonstrates a profound empathy for his conflicted characters and a singular understanding of the human soul. Beautiful, unexpectedly comic and truly heartbreaking, *The Snow Queen* proves again that Cunningham is one of the great novelists of his generation. Pressestimmen "Arguably Mr. Cunningham's most original and emotionally piercing book to date." --Michiko Kakutani, "The New York Times" "Michael Cunningham's best novel in more than a decade." --Megan O'Grady, "Vogue" "At its best, the novel is Cunningham in his sweet spot, compassionate, emotionally exhilarating, devilishly fun." --Maria Russo, "The New York Times Book" (Editors' Choice) "That voice, Cunningham's inimitable style, is the real miracle of *The Snow Queen*.... Remarkable." --Ron Charles, "The Washington Post" "The miraculous returns to earth in sentences so gorgeous that we can barely feel the wheels touch down.... This is a masterful performance." --John Freeman, "The Boston Globe" "Michael Cunningham writes some of the most beautiful prose in contemporary American fiction, and his gorgeous way with words is on full display in his new novel, *The Snow Queen* . . . The author is tender with his characters even when they're obnoxious or dumb. And he's particularly tender with Tyler, a self-deluding drug addict who is also that quintessential Cunningham protagonist, the artist struggling with his muse. As in his Pulitzer prize-winner, "*The Hours*," Cunningham writes with specificity and intimate knowledge about the desire 'to make something ... marvelous, something miraculous.' Failure is not a threat inevitably overcome; it happens. The wedding song Tyler composes for Beth is, he knows, 'more sentimental than searing.' His wincing analysis of the song's weaknesses gives a much truer portrait of the artistic process than the gauzy romanticism we usually get. Art is Cunningham's deepest faith, the Big Subject he approaches with a passion and conviction . . . There aren't any final answers in Cunningham's hauntingly inconclusive novel, which fittingly enough, closes with a question." --Wendy Smith, "The Daily Beast" "Cunningham weaves an ode to the immortal city of New York and its artistic souls and lost citizens. His books remind us that the mythologies we imagine about our lives stem from seemingly ordinary moments and seemingly ordinary people . . . With elegant prose that peeks into the most private thoughts of his characters, Cunningham challenges the reader to imagine a pervasive, indifferent god--if any god even exists." --Allie Ghaman, "The Washington Post" "Like "*By Nightfall*" (2010), Cunningham's elegant and haunting new novel examines the complex dynamics among a couple and a brother. In this configuration, Barrett Meeks, a poetically minded man in his late thirties who has just been dumped by his most recent boyfriend via text message, shares a Brooklyn apartment with Tyler, his older musician-bartender brother, and Beth, Tyler's great love. Beth and Barrett work in Liz's vintage shop. She's 52; her current lover, Andrew, is 28. Beth is undergoing full-throttle treatment for cancer. Tyler is struggling to write the perfect love song for their wedding, and breaking his promise not to do drugs. Barrett, long afflicted by his flitting interest in everything, remains in an altered state after seeing a

strangely animated 'celestial light' over dark and snowy Central Park. As his characters try to reconcile exalted dreams and crushing reality, Cunningham orchestrates intensifying inner monologues addressing such ephemeral yet essential aspects of life as shifting perspectives, tides of desire and fear, 'rampancy' versus 'languidness,' and revelation and receptivity. Tender, funny, and sorrowful, Cunningham's beautiful novel is as radiant and shimmering as Barrett's mysterious light in the sky, gently illuminating the gossamer web of memories, feelings, and hopes that mysteriously connect us to each other as the planet spins its way round and round the sun." --Donna Seaman, "Booklist" (starred review)"The omniscience that runs throughout the novel's narration allows readers to not only glimpse, but take deep and heart-wrenching looks into the lives of these very tangible characters . . . 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