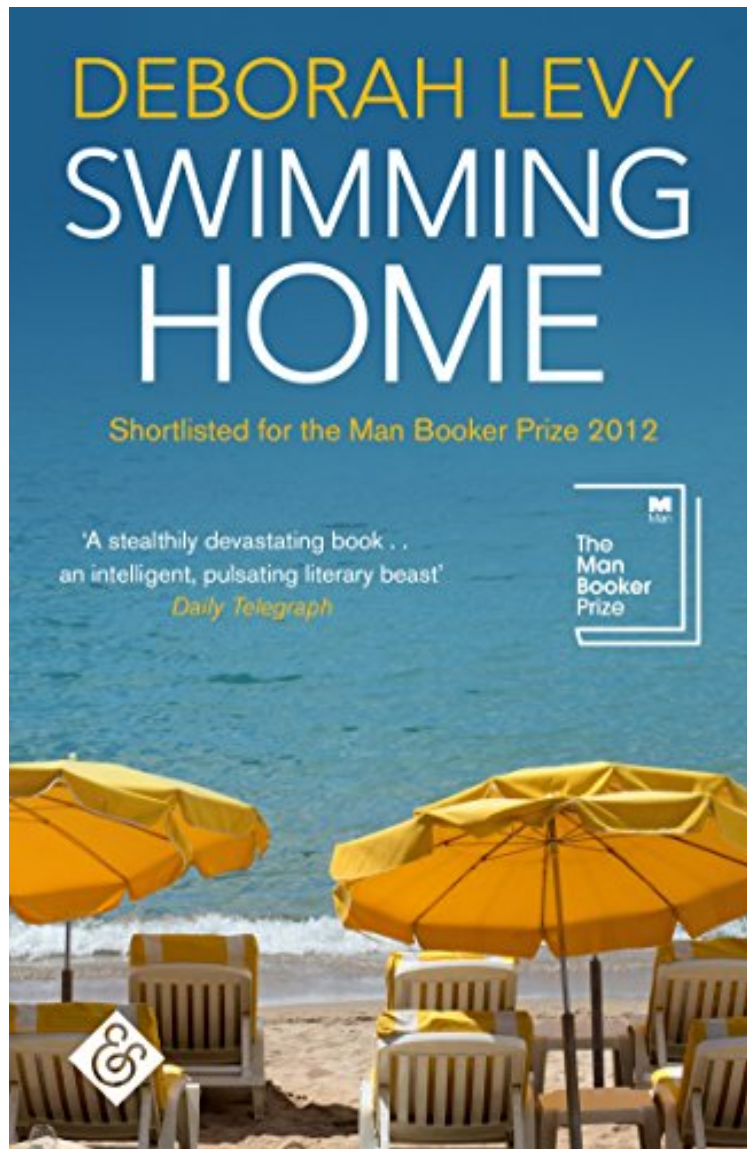


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Swimming Home

Von Deborah Levy

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Von Deborah Levy : Swimming Home before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Swimming Home:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen5 von 8 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. "Life is something she has to do but she doesn't want to do it" (134).Von Michael DienstbierEs ist ein erster Satz, der viel erwarten lsst und eine dster-spannende Atmosphre kreiert: "When Kitty Finch took her hands off the steering wheel and told him she loved him, he no longer knew if she was threatening him or having a conversation" (3). Der

renommierte Dichter Joe Jacobs urlaubt mit seiner Frau Isabel und der gemeinsamen Tochter Isabel in Sdfrankreich. Zwei Bekannte aus der Familie und ein dauerbekiffter Hausmeister komplettieren die Urlaubsgemeinschaft. Plötzlich tummelt sich eine junge nackte Unbekannte im Pool der Ferienvilla. Kitty Finch gibt an, dass es offenbar bei der Reservierung eine Verwechslung bezglich des Buchungstermins gegeben hat und sie jetzt ohne Bleibe darstehe. Spontan bietet ihr Isabel das Gstezimmer der Villa an. Ein schwerer Fehler, wie sich bald zeigen soll. Schnell offenbart Kitty Finch ihren dster-destruktiven Charakter, der droht, sie und andere mit in den Abgrund zu reißen. Deborah Levy hat in "Swimming Pool" eine Ausgangssituation mit viel Potential geschaffen. In eine eh schon angespannte Familienkonstellation platzt eine undurchsichtige Person, die lange unterdrückte Konflikte an die Oberfläche bringt. Leider schafft es Levy nicht, diesen Beginn zu einem spannenden Roman weiterzuentwickeln. Gerade der Charakter der Kitty Finch htte so viele Mglichkeiten geboten, doch Levy bleibt nur an der Oberfläche und verrt uns nichts ber die Ursprnge von Kittys Dmonen und lsst den Leser auch nicht an ihrem Innenleben teilhaben. Auch sonst wirkt der Roman in Teilen berkonstruiert. Wieso laden die Jacobs eine ihnen wildfremde Person ein, in ihrem Haus zu bleiben? Wieso lassen sie diese zunehmend labil wirkende Person mit ihrer 14-jhrigen Tchter allein? Schwchen wie diese und ein Ende, das vom Himmel flt, fhren dazu, dass "Swimming Home" auf ganzer Linie enttuscht. Fazit: "Swimming Home" hat es auf die Longlist des diesjhrigen Booker Prize geschafft. Die Grnde hierfür sind mir schleierhaft; vielleicht wollte die Jury dem neuen Verlag "other stories" zu mehr ffentlichkeit verhelfen. Das ist ein durchaus nobles Ansinnen, ndert jedoch nichts an der unterdurchschnittlichen Qualitt des Romans.

KurzbeschreibungAs he arrives with his family at the villa in the hills above Nice, Joe sees a body in the swimming pool. But the girl is very much alive. She is Kitty Finch: a self-proclaimed botanist with green-painted fingernails, walking naked out of the water and into the heart of their holiday. Why is she there? What does she want from them all? And why does Joe's wife allow her to remain? Swimming Home is a subversive page-turner, a merciless gaze at the insidious harm that depression can have on apparently stable, well-turned-out people. Set in a summer villa, the story is tautly structured, taking place over a single week in which a group of beautiful, flawed tourists in the French Riviera come loose at the seams. Deborah Levy's writing combines linguistic virtuosity, technical brilliance and a strong sense of what it means to be alive. Swimming Home represents a new direction for a major writer. In this book, the wildness and the danger are all the more powerful for resting just beneath the surface. With its biting humour and immediate appeal, it wears its darkness lightly. Swimming Home was also shortlisted for the New York Times Notable Book of 2012 and the Jewish Quarterly-Wingate Prize 2013. Shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2012 and National Book Awards Author of the Year 2012. Pressestimmen 'Swimming Home is as sharp as a wasp sting ... Witty and poignant, its pages melt away like an unsettling yet familiar dream.' Sunday Times ----- 'Deborah Levy has made something strange and new ... spiky and unsettling. In this novel, home is elusive, safety is unlikely, and the reader closes the book both satisfied and unnerved.' The Guardian ----- 'A stealthily devastating book ... Levy manipulates light and shadow with artfulness. She transfixes the reader: we recognize the thing of darkness in us all. This is an intelligent, pulsating literary beast.' The Telegraph ----- 'Swimming Home is a beautiful, delicate book underpinned by a complexity that only reveals itself slowly to the reader.' Financial Times ----- 'This amazing novel is a haunting exploration of loss and longing. It has an epic quality.' The Independent ----- 'A statement on the power of the unsaid. Magisterial ... Themes, phrases and images recur in rhythmic cycles through this fugal novel. Levy's cinematic clarity and momentum convey confusion with remarkable lucidity.' Times Literary Supplement ----- 'As the reader is drawn beneath the placid surface of her characters' experiences, Levy reveals a more urgent world humming with symbols.' Literary ----- 'Exquisite ... Levy's sense of dramatic form, as she hastens us toward the grim finale, is unerring, and her prose effortlessly summons people and landscapes.' New Yorker ----- 'Readers will have to resist the temptation to hurry up in order to find out what happens ... Our reward is the enjoyable, if unsettling, experience of being pitched into the deep waters of Levy's wry, accomplished novel.' New York Times ----- 'Elegant ... subtle ... uncanny... The seductive pleasure of Levy's prose stems from its layered brilliance.' Washington Post ----- 'Here is an excellent story, told with the subtlety and menacing tension of a veteran playwright.' Wall Street Journal

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