



Dreams Die First

Harold Robbins

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California in the 1960s is a time of free love and peace on Earth. But the times, they are a'changing, and Gareth Brendan is trying his best to keep up. When his wealthy, powerful uncle gives him control of an underground newspaper, Gareth finds an outlet for all the radical thoughts and ideas he's kept inside. Suddenly, he's the head of an empire of casinos and clubs, movies and magazines, surrounded by models and pimps who cater to the ultra-rich.

Dreams Die First is an explosive story of one man's vision of liberated sexuality and how he turns that vision into a life of fame and fantasy. But all that power comes at a price, as a ruthless underworld syndicate seeks to topple Gareth's throne.

Harold Robbins, the world's bestselling novelist, does it again in Dreams Die First, a tale of power and passion that transports readers to another place and time.

Dreams Die First Details

Date : Published January 27th 1999 by Pocket Books (first published January 1st 1978)

ISBN : 9780671874872

Author : Harold Robbins

Format : Paperback

Genre : Fiction, Thriller, Romance, Literature, American

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From Reader Review Dreams Die First for online ebook

Rupesh Goenka says

The book is about sex & drugs.. Disappointing..

Said Nazari says

Skip the erotic scenes and it will become a decent read.

Don McNay says

Most Robbins fan's hate this book but I tend to favor as it is loosely based on Larry Flynt and Robbins came to my home town to see Flynt up close.

Conor Rafferty says

Al fin he terminado mi primera novela en el idioma español (aunque sea una traducción). Leí la mayoría en los últimos seis meses, dado que mi nivel de español no me servía hasta para ese entonces. En este tramo, fue fácil mantener mi interés, porque es un libro que no se puede dejar. Había mucho nuevo vocabulario (como p.ej. una palabra en cada página) pero el mismo vocabulario suele aparecer una y otra vez, entonces lo recomiendo como libro por estudiantes del español como lengua extranjero. Gracias Xiomara por el regalo inicial!

Enelita Hermens-Latoza says

A GOOD READ from Harold Robbins. An explosive compilation of drama, action, wits and 15 shades of Gareth.

Curlyhair says

Enjoyed this, way back when I read it.

Dennis Thompson says

Was a good book. Could picture it as I read it.

Philip says

First read upon publication in 1977 - this book continued the downward spiral of Robbins's novels begun with THE INHERITORS in 1969. Subsequent books would be even worse, with Robbins almost redeeming himself only once, with his next book, MEMORIES OF ANOTHER DAY (1980).

4/24: Not quite as bad as I remember it as being, but then again, I don't remember much about it in the first place - obviously one of HR's more forgettable efforts.

4/26: Upon original publication uch was made of Robbins featuring a bisexual male character at the forefront, but Gareth Brendan is really bisexual only when it's convenient for him, and Robbins was far too much of a raging heterosexual to portray any of the gay characters as anything more than the traditional two-dimensional image that had appeared in popular fiction - it's all pretty much caricature here (particularly his take on - what else? - a gay hairdresser), and by the time he gets around to giving us a sex scene between two men, it's fairly perfunctory and really rather Robbins-traditional, with anatomy the only real differential (but not too much, really: one of the participants throws "himself on the bed lying on his back, his legs raised in the female position").

One of the truly amazing things about this novel is how slow on the uptake the protagonist is: even halfway through, the reader has a far better idea of what's going on than he does. Maybe if Gareth Brendan weren't spending so much of his time smoking pot, snorting coke, or having sex, he'd be more aware.

I wish the GoodReads rating system allowed for half-stars - if it did, I'd give DREAMS DIE FIRST a **1/2 rating rather than ** - the extra 1/2 would be for readability. That's really about the only thing it has going for it.

Michael says

Hell's bells, what a hot mess this potboiler was. With a little research, I discovered it was the sixth bestselling novel of 1979. It was pretty evident that Mr. Robbins could've only made up a plot as preposterous as this by chucking out ideas as he went along. Was this a great ride: no. Was it a fun ride: for the most part. It was certainly never dull, but Robbins is sometimes hit or miss for me. His library is extensive and there's little doubt he was hitting the hardcore drugs later in life. Dreams Die First is a good example of that.

Jennifer Gonzalez says

I have read this book more than a few times and always understand it a little better each time. A harsh book but a good read!

Debarati says

I think I had read the novel at the age of 15 or 16 and trust me I was unaware of more half of the american

slanks used in the story. But I had a good time reading and Robbin is a great storyteller. One thing about the characters is that you can never hate them inspite of many loopholes.

ana jenneli cortez cortez says

in this book i was able to see how cruel or harsh the world can be...

a rAw aNd pAsSiOnaTe bOok...

Kurt Reichenbaugh says

A novel as first draft, figure-it-out-as-I-type, plotting by Harold Robbins. It's about a guy who takes over a down and out underground newspaper and turns it into something to rival Playboy and Penthouse. Along the way there are some shady mobsters, a sex cult, gay torturers, drug lords, shootouts, karate kicks, coke snorting, pot smoking, drinking, lots of sex and lots of misogyny. It reads quickly and it's trashy, and there is also a dark streak of cynicism between the lines. The wildest thing about the book is that it was a bestseller when first published. If you like 70's trash, you'll probably enjoy it.

Skivvy Jones says

Gareth's bisexuality is portrayed so casually. It reminded me of Fassbinder's Fox and his Friends. Robbins is a master storyteller. It is not the best Harold Robbins but is still 80% better than most works in this genre. Psychedelic pulp with one quite nasty S & M scene.

Michelle Only Wants to Read says

Liked it when I first read it when I was a teenager, loved it now that I'm old enough to understand it.
