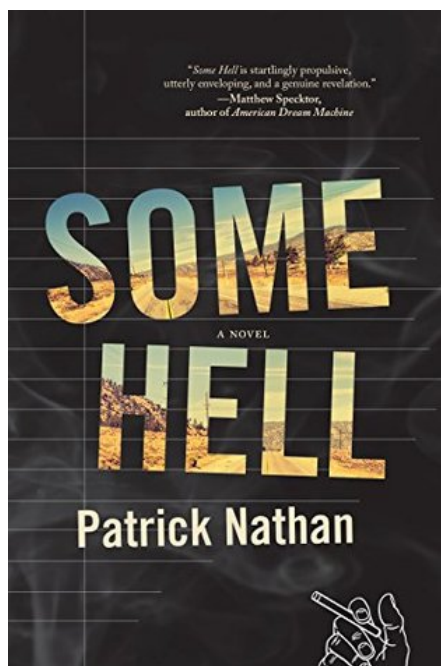




Some Hell: A Novel

Patrick Nathan

Download now

Read Online ➞

Some Hell: A Novel

Patrick Nathan

Some Hell: A Novel Patrick Nathan

A wrenching and layered debut novel about a gay teen's coming-of-age in the aftermath of his father's suicide

Middle school hasn't been going well for Colin. His teenage sister teases him mercilessly, his autistic brother lashes out at him, and he has a crush on his best friend, Andy. But after the tragic night when his father commits suicide, none of that matters. Diane, his mother, seeks solace in therapy. Colin is awash in guilt, and casts about for someone to confide in: first his estranged grandfather, then a predatory science teacher. But nothing helps as much as the strange writing his father kept in a series of notebooks locked in his study. Colin looks for answers there—in fragments about disaster scenarios, the violence of snow, mustangs running wild in the west—but instead finds the writing infecting his worldview. Diane, meanwhile, has a miserable fling with a co-worker, and leans more heavily on Colin for support as things go from bad to worse. But spring is unfolding, and a road trip to Los Angeles gives them a tantalizing glimpse of what the future might hold. In *Some Hell*, a debut novel of devastating intensity and aching, pointillistic detail, Patrick Nathan shows how unspeakable tragedy shapes a life, and how imagination saves us from ourselves.

Some Hell: A Novel Details

Date : Published February 13th 2018 by Graywolf Press

ISBN :

Author : Patrick Nathan

Format : Kindle Edition 351 pages

Genre : Fiction, Lgbt, Young Adult, Novels

 [Download Some Hell: A Novel ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Some Hell: A Novel ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Some Hell: A Novel Patrick Nathan

From Reader Review Some Hell: A Novel for online ebook

Rj says

Just finished reading Patrick Nathan's first novel, Some Hell. The story which is written in a style that leaves the reader feeling the tensions of the characters in the book is about a mid-western family coping in the face of unexpected tragedy. While not a light book it is a slow read, but in the process Nathan captures the entropy of modern lives, especially that of the mother and her youngest son as he comes to terms with his sexuality. He focuses on how pain often leaves us unable to move forward and how sometimes the best we can do is to make it through each day. The story and this narrative in the right hands would make a really moving film, save for the final few pages in which I found myself, disappointed. While the author foreshadows his ending earlier in the book was it really necessary to use such a tired trope in this day and age, especially just as Colin discovers who he is? Reading the final pages left me wondering what was the author's intent? Why did he end it this way? Was this a comment on the character's exploration of his sexuality? I would love to know why the author thought this was necessary.

Kelly ... says

3.5 stars that could have been 5.

I was warned! A booktuber I watch reviewed this book. He spoke in depth about how much he loved the first 2/3 or more of this book, and how the ending completely spoiled it. He was so vociferous. He was so angry. And yet he was also generous and complimentary. Despite his warning I went straight to my Playster app, downloaded the book and started listening.

And here goes... I LOVED the first 2/3 of the book. Actually I loved more than that. But that ending genuinely PISSSED ME OFF. Here is the thing: this book was a beautiful exploration of grief, of family dynamics, of guilt, and of issues of internal homophobia experienced by a young person who is dealing with the thought that he might be gay. All of it was treated with compassion and respect. Nathan allowed his characters to struggle and to be pushed around. He gave the story so much depth. But then he ended the story in a way that feels like a punishment. It feels like it was a gay boy being punished for his sins! It felt like a "you shouldn't have done that and now you are going to die" scenario. It felt judgmental, and I was frankly angry and disgusted. As I write I even feel like the 3.5 rating is generous.

Alyssa Jacunski says

1.5 stars. This was a STRUGGLE to read. Didn't like the writing style and didn't care for the story. I really wanted to like it - a lot. But that, unfortunately, didn't happen.

Josh Hereth says

A devastatingly beautiful read. I think hearing the author speak about the book before reading it helped me really grasp what he was doing here. Most of this novel is so surreal it feels like a dream within a dream. Simply put, I love deep, dark, queer novels and this is EXACTLY that. I love books that delve into a mother-

and-gay-son theme. While the ending left me a little empty at first, I quickly realized that Nathan spoke about playing with a David Lynch inspired world full of insane clichés but with a crazy twist, and that's exactly what he did. I'm fact, it felt incredibly like watching Mulholland Drive.

Armando C. says

This book was really bad.

Miles says

3.5 stars. Some really smart and beautiful passages in here. Truly, some wicked writing that I ate right up. The protagonist Colin embodies a lot of relatable adolescent angst, fear, longing and despair that I found to be Nathan's biggest strength. There are some fun nods to the Twin Cities too (The Blue Pig actually made me laugh out loud). Now... I live for an unexpected ending but I'm going to have to digest this one for a bit longer. Thanks to the author for an advanced copy.

Ray Russolillo says

Beyond Depressing

I read the NYT review of this book and thought, its worth a shot. Sounds interesting. Different. But in fact it turned out to be:

1. Definitely beyond depressing. How can people live like this?
2. Interesting but only in the way of wondering "what's next?"

Its characters are somewhat sympathetic only because they are so pathetic. But in fact, not one character was likeable. You might have cared about the protagonist Colin because he was so young and so much in pain but you ended up despising him for not having the strength of character to face who he was and deal with it.

This book was such a downer that I can not recommend it.

Doug says

You know you're in trouble when the author thanks someone in the acknowledgments for pointing out to him that his sixth draft was boring. Don't know how many more drafts there were before this reached publication, but I hate to break it to Nathan ... it's STILL pretty boring! To be fair, there are passages here and there that are well-done and intriguing - primarily concerning the young boy Colin and the steps to his sexual awakening ... but a lot of it is enigmatically incomprehensible and it just doesn't hold together well. Most of the sections focusing on the mother, Diane, are not only clichéd, but superfluous. A noble effort, but a mess,

nonetheless.

Amy Kett says

Y'all. I don't usually write anything when I finish books, but this one was rough. I don't really know if I liked it or hated it, but I know it will stick with me for a minute. I was uncomfortable almost the whole way through, even almost sick to my stomach with unease sometimes, but I didn't want to quit on the protagonist. I felt like his story was important and no one else was listening. It was such a strange experience to have with a book...

Andy Irwin says

A real wrench to read, and yet within days I'd reached the end. There's something about this portrait of devastation left behind by a tragedy - a portrait drawn by those who have to go on living - which is utterly captivating. Colin's experience of being a teen (not quite ever) coming to terms with his sexuality whilst navigating the loss of a parent and the general experience of being a teenager at home and at school is masterfully written. So is the author's coverage of shame, fear and the internalised homophobia that come with that journey, this is a novel I wish someone had written when I was 14.

The ending can certainly be talked about - and that is probably what endings aspire to - but I'm not sure what the motives were for Patrick Nathan's choices in those final pages. It felt a little like washing away characters I'd grown to feel for, like they were to be ill-judged and cast off by Biblical endings their badly-lived lives deserved. I hope that wasn't the intention. Otherwise it's a rich and compelling novel, a brave and forthright debut.

Jenny Dunning says

I wanted to love this book, and the fact that I didn't probably marks me as more of a romantic than I want to be. Nathan is a talented writer. Many a sentence struck me as brilliant. The phrase that stuck is, referring to the gay, teenaged protagonist, "his endless short life." But the truth is that I struggled to get through this novel. The main characters—Colin and his mother, and through the journals he left behind after his suicide/murder early in the book, Colin's father—are tortured. It's hard to spend time in their heads. Colin blames himself for his father's death because he loaded the gun, despite the fact that the journals clearly show that Alan had been contemplating the act for a long time. Diane is stuck unable to grieve for a man she wanted to leave.

The narrative digs down into the psyche of these characters more than it moves forward. The only thing that kept me reading was the hope of some relief: of Colin and Diane figuring out a way to continue to live, to allow themselves some happiness. And at the very end, they, briefly, do—Colin explores his sexuality in a seedy part of Los Angeles while Diane has a fling. But a page later, they're both dead in an earthquake/tsunami event. End of book.

Nathan did build in a warning: the opening scene of the novel in which Colin's older sister weirdly predicts that Colin will die in 3 years, a prediction made when she is so high she doesn't seem to remember making it later. But rather than making me feel that satisfaction of completeness at the end of a book, I only wished I

hadn't kept reading.

Katie B says

Colin is doing his best trying to get through middle school but it doesn't help matters that he has a sister who either teases him or won't give him the time of day, an autistic older brother who can get violent, and he has a crush on his best friend, Andy. Things take a tragic turn when Colin's father commits suicide and the family is left trying to cope the best way they can. While Colin's mother, Diane, turns to therapy, Colin becomes closer to his grandfather and a teacher at school. Over a year has passed since the suicide and life hasn't seemed to get any easier. So Diane and Colin embark on a road trip to California with the hopes of finding a brighter future.

A book about a young teen dealing with a parent's suicide is obviously going to be sad but I honestly wasn't prepared for how heartbreaking of a story this was and how emotionally invested I became with Colin. While the book alternated between Diane and her son, the real story that emerged was Colin coming to grips with the fact he is gay. The sign of a good story is when you really feel for the character(s) and Colin's story is one that I will be thinking about for a long time. I highly recommend this book for anyone looking to read a powerful book in the young adult genre.

I won a free copy of this book from Graywolf Press but was under no obligation to post a review. All views expressed are my honest opinions.

Ryan Michael says

This book had it's good pointed. First, I'll say that I thought Nathan's writing was very engaging and I found myself rereading some sentences that I loved, solely based on how they were written. I also thought the premise was a good one and one I thought I'd have interest in. However, this book felt like it had blood going to it but in the wrong directions. By that, I mean it lacked a certain atmosphere that I thought the main themes of the book needed in order to successfully bring all aspects together. I think there are some out there that can and will really enjoy this book, and even more than will enjoy the way Nathan writes, I just wasn't really one of them.

Judith says

I have to admit that I didn't give this a fair chance. It was so tedious and the style so annoying that I quit it before my usual 50 pp. It's a book written from a child's perspective and this kid sees his dad playing with a revolver in his office. So the kid sneaks into the office and loads the revolver with bullets. The next thing you know dad is dead. What a surprise. Meh.

Tyler Goodson says

I'll need some time to process this one. Truly a descent into darkness and horror, to the private world of grief we can lose ourselves in if we're not careful, with writing that is beautiful and shockingly lucid. Oof.

