

A Perfect Scar and Other Stories By Trebor Healey

Sublime short stories bound together by folly fate and passion A Perfect Scar and Other Stories is a whimsical sly and slightly crazy collection of short stories from award-winning novelist poet and songwriter Trebor Healey. This sometimes poignant sometimes erotic assortment of fauns punks cowboy dykes old men with swollen prostates young men with criminal records and gangsters doomed by their own beauty and grace are bound together by folly fate and passion in their search to find some semblance of peace in the world. Why is it that so many Catholic cultures breed gangsters like lice? Not that Vietnamese is a Catholic culture any more than I'm a gangster but I wasn't reared in Belfast either. for a newspaper and a cup of coffee; at noon for a sandwich and a six-pack to get me through the afternoon and lay a foundation for an early evening nap that would prime me for club-hopping by 10 which required one more stop for the requisite pint of Gilbeys or Old Crow. A Perfect Scar and Other Stories Awarded the 2013 Publishing Triangle Ferro Grumley Fiction Award for A Horse Named Sorrow Trebor Healey is also the recipient of the Lambda Literary Foundation's 2013 Duggins Outstanding Mid Career Novelists Prize and a Violet Quill Award for his first novel Through It Came Bright Colors. His other work includes a collection of poetry Sweet Son of Pan and three short story collections A Perfect Scar Other Stories Eros Dust and the just released Falling as well as the speculative fiction novel Faun. Awarded the 2013 Publishing Triangle Ferro Grumley Fiction Award for A Horse Named Sorrow Trebor Healey is also the recipient of the Lambda Literary Foundation's 2013 Duggins Outstanding Mid Career Novelists' Prize and a Violet Quill Award for his first novel Through It Came Bright Colors. His other work includes a collection of poetry Sweet Son of Pan and three short story collections A Perfect Scar Other Stories Eros Dust and the just released Falling as well as the speculative fiction novel Faun. Incredibly well written and imaginative the author delves into the minds of his characters and their experiences in life love death and humanity without fear or limits and those looking for an exceptionally unusual collection exploring a range of themes but utterly fascinating should definitely read these stories. The tone of the collection is set by the opening story A Perfect Scar which is about a man obsessed with an Asian gangster even though the man is used as the gangster's prostitute. The dark obsession mixed with edgy alcoholism and the sense of purpose Ben didn't have prior to meeting Tran set the level of intensity rather high not only in that story but within the collection. The language of the stories is consistent from telling to telling depicting clearly one author with a very distinct voice and style and is often different sometimes weird sometimes bizarre and sometimes moving and emotional. There is a lyrical quality to the writing that is almost at odds with the subject matter yet blends with the thoughtful musings and observations the characters have about themselves and the world around them. There is certainly love devotion need desire and a wealth of emotion both positive and negative as the various themes are explored all through the eyes and minds of the characters. It's difficult to pick favorites within the wealth of imagination and evocative imagery but the humor of A Boy and His Dog certainly stood out just as the complexity of father/son relationships did in A California Death. The voice of Seamus in The Mercy Seat stood out amongst the rest with its glimpse into the unbalanced mind of grief need and loss just as the tattoo's within Winter Count are vivid and graphic without needing to actually see the art. Within just a few pages the author managed to convey entire histories backgrounds heartbreaks all designed to draw you into the story and be glad it was only a few pages as the level of emotion was hard to sustain. Most of them are queer-themed - the odd one out is A California Death which doesn't have any queer characters but is about a widower who is alienated from his two sons in different ways. Captain Jinx sort of a California Western version of Sarah Waters-style lesbian historical fiction is not entirely successful because of some stylistic hiccups but it's an interesting experiment, These 12 tales cover a lot of ground including AIDS aging death eroticism tattoos and multiculturalism--all told with humor insight and Healey's rich lyrical touch: After all what's Christianity got to do with Christ? I came up with rationalizations like all religious types. I was generations removed and though this tale might whore itself to a handful of stereotypes they hide as much as they reveal: Homosexuals don't need to be

Irish to have drinking problems that's for sure, I could find my way to the corner liquor store At 8 a. It began with a cigarette in this case--and it sure didn't end there: Turning it over? The higher power? Tran was the higher power: As an editor he has co edited two anthologies: Queer Catholic and Beyond Definition: As an editor he has co edited two anthologies: Queer Catholic and Beyond Definition, {site_link} This collection of eleven short stories is intense and dark exploring themes and emotions that are not always comfortable and easy. However these stories are without a doubt clever sly witty sometimes tongue in cheek graphic unique different and some are just flat out weird: Tran's death at the end similarly marks the ending of many subsequent stories where death is often the ending occasionally from disease, The very prose doesn't attempt to be anything but vivid and harsh without flowery words yet still frequently makes more analogies than actual observations. This collection of short stories is almost homage to the tricks turns and sometimes uncommon musings of a person's mind, Many of the characters are gay often gaining insight into the early 1990's in San Francisco when AIDS was just beginning to make it's presence known among the gay community: Not always comfortable to read but the sentiments involved are darker deeper and rarely limited by categorization. Many of the characters in the stories died or simply left each a brief insight or recapping of an important event, From fantasy elements with Fauns to tattoos sex aging politics death cancer AIDS even a hail of bullets and blood are part of the themes explored within this collection. While many of the stories have gay characters and an intimate knowledge of the San Francisco gay scene the stories themselves should not be labeled as merely gay fiction, The themes have wide range and appeal to a variety of readers and I easily recommend this different and very unique collection: Winter Count gives us a vignette of tattooed Denny dying of AIDS (Pansy Division's song Denny is based on one of Trebor's poems:) Faun and Skin and Bone have some cool queer magical realism: It's a shame that Harrington/Southern Tier has gone out of business - one more queer-centric publisher gone; they disappeared shortly after publishing this book, 1560236744 The story about the gay dog is worth the cover price alone. From A Perfect Scar: It always begins with cigarettes. I don't even smoke. I don't even respect smoking. I don't think it's cool. As if what I thought would even matter with Tran. Smoking is sexy yes. But cool no. Sex isn't really cool either. I found that out courtesy of Tran. Sexy perhaps but cool no. Need is never cool. It wasn't even about him really. It rarely is. I got him like religion. Same difference. But in the end it was about faith. And faith can't be explained. Tran was the man plain and simple. What we had in common in fact was our religion. And that was it. Catholic Tran. Which didn't prevent me from being a drunk. But let's blame the Irish for that. But you could say I knew the territory all the same. Had a knack for it.m. They say it begins with one drink blah blah blah. Sure thing. He lives in Los Angeles and Mexico City. For information visit {site_link} www.treborhealey.com. He lives in Los Angeles and Mexico City. For information visit {site_link} www.treborhealey.com. Remarkably rarely are the deaths tragic but more so sad. 1560236744 A solid collection of short stories. 11 stories in all. 1560236744

