



## Outside Providence

*Peter Farrelly*

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## Outside Providence Peter Farrelly

*Outside Providence* is a hilarious yet melancholy novel of a young man's coming of age in the 1970s. When Timothy Dunphy, native of working-class Pawtucket, Rhode Island, is packed off to a fancy prep school, he finds that the privileged elite is hardly immune to life's screwups. Dunphy must reconcile his pedigreed schoolmates with his mongrel friends back home--including Drugs Delaney, whose diet consists mainly of vitamin Qs (Quaaludes), and Bunny Cote, who thinks New England is a state.

Not far below Dunphy's comic demeanor churn powerful fears of abandonment by those he loves best: his mother, his girlfriend, and his closest friend. And he must come to terms with his complex relationship with the person he hates most, his father. As he struggles to live with the paradox of somehow loving the same man he blames for his family's tragedies, Dunphy begins to understand and accept life's betrayals, and learns how to trust in love.

## Outside Providence Details

Date : Published October 6th 1998 by Main Street Books (first published April 1st 1988)

ISBN : 9780385490580

Author : Peter Farrelly

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## From Reader Review Outside Providence for online ebook

### **Jeff Guertin says**

Having grown up in Rhode Island, I really liked this movie, and it took a while to get my hands on a copy of the book from which the movie was based.

I was a bit surprised to see how different the book is from the movie, and although I think some aspects of the movie are actually better than the book (i.e. the storyline with Jane), overall I thought the book was a nice change from what I was expecting.

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### **Chris says**

Seriously one of my favorite books ever. One of the few books I truly never wanted to end.

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### **Jessica says**

It wasn't a bad book, it just didn't do anything for me. 3/4 through the book, I thought why am I still reading this. It never really captured my attention. I finished it because it was a short book and I was almost done but I guess I didn't really get the point. I didn't really think it was funny either. Oh well.

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### **John Marr says**

I picked up this one as part of my Brat Pack hate read project, and with all due respect to SPY NOTES, this is no Brat Pack novel! It certainly has the right setting, a dead mother and an appropriate amount of degenerate behavior, but it's completely lacking in the other essential elements of the genre: the incessantly whining protagonist, the mediocre minimalist style, the sense of pervasive pretentiousness.... And he doesn't even blame mommy's suicide!

Guess I'll have to pick up another Janowitz to get my weekly mocking in.

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### **Scott says**

I've seen the movie a number of times and always loved it. The book is pretty radically different, much darker, but just as funny and, of course, far less Hollywood. Filmmaker books, you usually expect a novelized screenplay, but this was nothing of the sort. Very good, read it in a day.

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## **Printable Tire says**

An interesting deviation from the book to the movie:

The kid's father in the movie (played by Alec Baldwin) gives him advice something along the lines of "making love is like ordering chinese food- you're not done until you both get the fortune cookie."

In the book, the advice the old man gives is, "Life is like a shit sandwich: the more bread you got, the less shit you gotta eat."

I always thought the latter was a great line, and I'm puzzled why they changed it to the mediocre line in the script. Was it possibly ripped-off of something? Was it "too racy?" I don't know, but it's bugged me.

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## **Michael Malone says**

Likeable, if predictable, first novel from the guy who of course went on to make some of the most popular comedy films of the Nineties/Aughts. Shades of Holden Caulfield and multiple protagonists from John Irving's novels in Tim Dunphy, a dirtbag fish-out-of-water at a posh New England boarding school. A slim, quick read with all the crude humor one might hope for from Peter Farrelly. Bonus point if you have spent time in Rhode Island; Dunphy hails from Pawtucket (thus the book's title, a clever double entendre).

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## **Abby says**

read this in one day.

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## **Virginia says**

A surprisingly good book from a person you wouldn't expect a good book from. (Farrelly, of the Farrelly brothers team of crap-movie makers)

I haven't seen the movie yet, but it's one of Bruce's favorites.

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## **Bookend McGee says**

This feels like a draft still, but nevertheless an amazing one. This dude has so much talent.

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## **Rick says**

Memoir of a Pawtucket teen's prep school years in the early seventies, as he tries to forge his own

"Impossible Dream."

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### **Erika says**

Not funny like his book The Comedy Writer, which was hilarious. This was a coming-of-age story of a "street" teen from Providence who is sent to a private boarding school in CT. The book was OK and an entertaining read but not a great book. Nowhere close to Catcher in the Rye. Maybe I'm just not into coming-of-age stories right now. Read some other reviews.

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### **Owen says**

Outside providence is an engaging book that shows the struggles of being a teen very well. Although this book is well written to adults and younger kids I doubt it would be as engaging. I would recommend this book to all teens but not adults

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### **Shelbie Kellum says**

DNF. I had about 50 pages left and I couldn't do it. I didn't find the novel funny or clever or interesting. The characters were flat, the plot was boring, and the humor was poorly executed.

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### **Mdm says**

I came into this book after catching the movie on cable one lazy Sunday afternoon. Honestly, Peter Farrelly's a great story teller and the book is a fast read and funny.

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