



An Inconvenient Reality

Anthony Aidan

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A tramp seated upon a park bench. A young beautiful girl perched on the other end. A most incongruous pair. The girl is in her early twenties. She is a reporter. Not a hardened life weary reporter but a cub reporter, new to the game. The tramp is JAMES MAYNARD, 53 years old and a dirty scrofulous wine soaked dosser. The girl wants his story. She wants the truth behind the cataclysmic fall of James Maynard from whizz kid banker to street dross.

The book is written as a monologue. Everything comes from the mouth of this destroyed man, his grip on reality tenuous at best. Slowly a picture emerges, a picture of compulsion and desire, abuse and exploitation, his world rocking from one crisis to another as he desperately seeks answers to explain his present plight. Only as he reaches the crescendo of his tale do we begin to realise that the girl has far more vested in his words than the desire to scoop an intriguing story to impress her new editor. The question of whether James Maynard is mad or bad or a mixture of both takes on a chilling significance.

AN INCONVENIENT REALITY is an allegory of modern middle aged man. It challenges the reader at every twist and turn, never allowing the reader the luxury of believing that they have the man and the other characters in his twisted tale compartmentalised and indexed. The book looks at sin, free will, compulsion and desire. It questions the ability of any of us to understand the truth about ourselves let alone anyone else. Reality and fantasy are so finely weaved together that all certainty is lost.

In this book compulsion and the pervasive desire to rip away innocence are faced head on. It is not a tale for the faint of heart.

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An Inconvenient Reality Details

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From Reader Review An Inconvenient Reality for online ebook

Richard Forsythe says

A tale of addiction that morphs into a modern day allegory of the state of man and how he relates to women. The book follows the life of James Maynard from the death of his parents at an early age to the park bench he is occupying. It explores a world where the rules regarding morality and behaviour have been systematically broken down by would be liberals.

The book is not an easy read as the other main characters (including the cub reporter he is talking to) remain off page and their words are reported by the unreliable James.

The depictions of sex are graphic but in keeping with the obsessions of a sex addict. The book makes much of the concepts of 'truth' and 'reality', good and bad. The writer keeps a tension between empathy with the protagonist and revulsion.

A challenging book.
