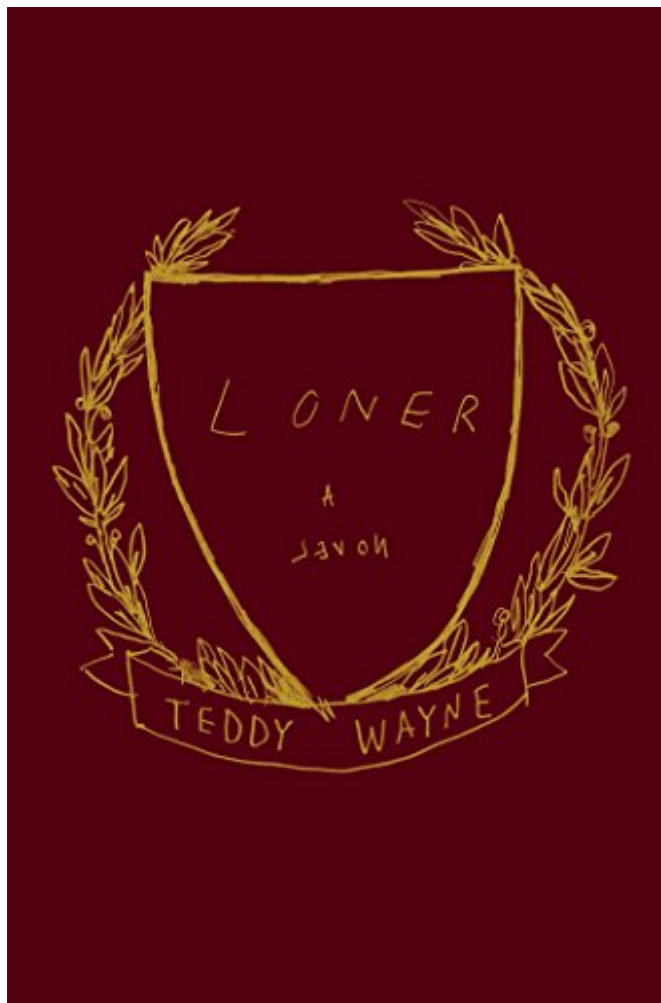## The book was found

Loner: A Novel

Synopsis

â œStunningâ "and profoundly disconcerting...a novel as absorbing as it is devastating.â • â "Kirkus Reviews (starred review) An Indie Next Selection of Independent Booksellers â ¢ One of the most anticipated novels of the fall from New York magazine, Glamour, Lit Hub, Boston magazine, The Millions, and BookPageDavid Federman has never felt appreciated. An academically gifted yet painfully forgettable member of his New Jersey high school class, the withdrawn, mild-mannered freshman arrives at Harvard fully expecting to be embraced by a new tribe of high-achieving peers. Initially, however, his social prospects seem unlikely to change, sentencing him to a lifetime of anonymity. Then he meets Veronica Morgan Wells. Struck by her beauty, wit, and sophisticated Manhattan upbringing, David becomes instantly infatuated. Determined to win her attention and an invite into her glamorous world, he begins compromising his moral standards for this one, great shot at happiness. But both Veronica and David, it turns out, are not exactly as they seem. Loner turns the traditional campus novel on its head as it explores ambition, class, and gender politics. It is a stunning and timely literary achievement from one of the rising stars of American fiction.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is one of those books that is really hard to rate, primarily because I really didnâ ™t like the main character, David. That said, I donâ ™t think weâ ™re supposed to like him. After all, he makes some horrible choices, and his perception of reality seems rather distorted.Still, I had a really hard time separating the character from the writing. Is the writing itself pretentious or is that a method employed to show how much David thinks of his own intellect? Given what he does, it seems he would be depicted as being more evil, but I think thatâ ™s the point. This kind of crime is committed every day, especially on college campuses, and it isnâ ™t unusual for everyone to be shocked, to say that they would never have expected the perpetrator to do anything like that. Who would ever choose to keep company with them if they gave off an â œunsafeâ • vibe?So, again I say, I suspect we are supposed to find him irritating, a little different, a little removed and socially awkward, but with other redeeming qualities. Heâ ™s brilliant, not bad looking, and he attempts to engage socially, even if those attempts arenâ ™t particularly successful. We pity his being bullied and his unrealized dream of being recognized for being more than what heâ ™s historically been given credit for. After all, he got into Harvard, which is pretty darned elite in and of itself.But underneath all of that, David feels heâ ™s owed. He doesnâ ™t understand why everyone else fails to see how great he is, but his frustration is something he keeps under wraps. Heâ ™s not humble or self-deprecating. Heâ ™s a closet narcissist who believes that, given the right circumstances (circumstances he believes he can manufacture), heâ ™ll finally rise in the eyes of others, finally get his due.

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