The Mourning After

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The Mourning After Tre Mourning

on the battlefields of world war ii with their fellow soldiers as the only shield between life and death a generation of american men found themselves connecting with each other in new and profound ways back home after the war however these intimacies faced both scorn and vicious homophobia the mourning after makes sense of this cruel irony telling the story of the unmeasured toll exacted upon generations of male friendships john ibson draws evidence from the contrasting views of male closeness depicted in wwii era fiction by gore vidal and john horne burns as well as from such wide ranging sources as psychiatry texts child development books the memoirs of veterans children and a slew of vernacular snapshots of happy male couples in this sweeping reinterpretation of the postwar

years ibson argues that a prolonged mourning for tenderness lost lay at the core of midcentury american masculinity leaving far too many men with an unspoken ache that continued long after the fighting stopped forever damaging their relationships with their wives their children and each other

have we moved beyond postmodernism did postmodernism lose its oppositional value when it became a cultural dominant while focusing on questions such as these the articles in this collection consider the possibility that the death of a certain version of postmodernism marks a renewed attempt to re negotiate and perhaps re embrace many of the cultural literary and theoretical assumptions that postmodernism seemly denied outright including contributions from some of the leading scholars in the field n katherine hayles john d caputo paul maltby jane flax among others this collection ultimately comes together to perform a certain work of mourning through their explorations of this current epistemological shift in narrative and theoretical production these articles work to get over postmodernism while simultaneously celebrating a certain postmodern inheritance an inheritance that can offer us important avenues to understanding and affecting contemporary culture and society

on january 29 2010 james donovan went in to the hospital for a simple day procedure it was supposed to be in and out just like that it didn t turn out that way his son darcy donovan walks you through a deeply personal and painful journey after witnessing his father succumb to the medical mistake he offers to walk you through his personal journey of the sudden loss of his father and how he successfully and unsuccessfully navigated the road of death grief and healing in its wake from dealing with bitterness and anger that followed to a hauntingly beautiful message at the end the tale is a raw and honest look at the nature of grief for when a loved one dies the event changes you as a person forever but you II come to realize this isn t necessarily a bad thing

the mourning after a practical guide to navigating grief grief is unpredictable it sneaks up in grocery store aisles in the silence after a funeral or during ordinary moments when the absence of a loved one cuts deep the mourning after is not a textbook or a set of pat answers it s a companion for those walking through the raw disorienting experience of loss written by someone who has lived it this book offers practical guidance honest reflections and a gentle reminder that grief isn t something to get over each chapter blends real stories with down to earth advice covering topics like the unexpected landmines of grief the exhaustion it brings coping with loneliness navigating special days and learning how grief shifts over time rather than offering clichés or timelines the mourning after gives permission to grieve in your own way and at your own pace it acknowledges the things people say that don't always help the awkward reality of life after the funeral is over and the heavy physical and emotional weight grief brings alongside that honesty it offers small actionable steps simple practices to help you breathe connect and find steady ground when the waves feel overwhelming above all this book reminds readers they are not alone while grief changes you it can also deepen empathy open space for compassion and eventually allow glimpses of purpose again the mourning after is for anyone longing for hope and understanding in the midst of sorrow a reminder that love and loss will always walk hand in hand

for a parent losing a child is the most devastating event that can occur most books on the subject focus on grieving and recovery but as most parents agree there is no recovery from such a loss this book examines the continued love parents feel for their child and the many poignant and ingenious ways they devise to preserve the bond through detailed profiles of parents ann finkbeiner shows how new activities and changed relationships with their spouse friends and other children can all help parents preserve a bond with the lost child refusing to fall back on pop jargon about recovery or to offer easy suggestions or standardized timelines finkbeiner s is a genuine and moving search to come to terms with loss her complex profiles of parents resonate with the honesty and authenticity of uncomfortable emotions expressed and most importantly shared with others experiencing a similar loss finally each profile exemplifies the many heroic ways parents learn to live with their pain and by so doing honor the lives their children should have lived

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