

Leviathan

By Paul Auster

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A “compelling” (*Los Angeles Times*) tale of friendship, betrayal, estrangement, and the unpredictable intrusions of violence in the everyday – from the author of the forthcoming *4 3 2 1: A Novel*

"Six days ago, a man blew himself up by the side of a road in northern Wisconsin. . . ." So begins the story by Peter Aaron about his best friend, Benjamin Sachs. Sachs had a marriage Aaron envied, an intelligence he admired, a world he shared. And then suddenly, after a near-fatal fall that might or might not have been intentional, Sachs disappeared. Now Aaron must piece together the life that led to Sach's death. His sole aim is to tell the truth and preserve it, before those who are investigating the case invent an account of their own.

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Leviathan By Paul Auster Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
Auster (The Music of Chance) captivatingly renews a theme central to his acclaimed New York Trilogy and Moon Palace --that of the other, the shadow self whose parallel life somehow jumps the track and threatens the more sober protagonist. After his valued friend and fellow writer Ben Sachs blows himself up with a bomb, Peter Aaron reviews their 15-year bond--including their shared love for Ben's lovely wife--and tries to reconstruct Ben's life. A boyhood experience in the Statue of Liberty haunted Ben until his transformation following a plunge from a fire escape at a drunken Fourth of July party in Brooklyn. After this fall, Ben stopped writing and became the "Phantom of Liberty," detonating Statue of Liberty replicas as a sign to America to "mend its ways." Peter's writing, on the other hand, surges "as though I had caught fire." The novel explores the fictional act: the relation between conflicting stories and kinds of truth; the reading of an address book, a la Sophie Calle, as a fertile text jammed with mysterious characters; role-reversal as self-discovery, practiced by photographer Maria and prostitute Lillian, women friends intimately linked to Peter and Ben. Finally, Peter (and Auster) appropriates the title of Ben's abandoned novel, a title that evokes the biblical sea monster and, thanks to Hobbes, the state, implying that the novel is itself a monster genre that merges diverse humans, their nightmares and passions. 25,000 first printing; author tour.
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From Library Journal
Born on August 6, 1945, Benjamin Sachs describes himself as "America's first Hiroshima baby . . . the original bomb child." Forty-five years later, while the FBI investigates Sachs's mysterious death, Sachs's friend Peter Aaron attempts to explain his even more enigmatic life--the personal and political forces that propelled his progression from Vietnam War protester to successful novelist to bomb-wielding terrorist. Auster's inventive plot, reminiscent at times of works by Paul Theroux, con tains bizarre coincidences which affirm that "everything is connected to everything else" as well as disturbing ambiguities that proclaim the elusiveness of truth. Both suspenseful and meditative, this new novel by the author of The Music of Chance (LJ 9/1/90) blends a crime story with a thoughtful examination of important psychological and moral questions. For most public libraries. Previewed in Prepub Alert, LJ 5/ 1/92.
- *Albert E. Wilhelm, Tennessee Technological Univ., Cookeville*
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Review
Praise for *Leviathan:*

“Rich and complex. . .with fully fleshed characters, a fast-paced plot, thematic sophistication, and narrative cunning.”
– The Boston Globe

“The allure of Auster’s elegant plotting, the play of his ideas, and the sensuous nature of the prose keep us firmly hooked.”
– The Chicago Tribune

“Auster’s most accessible, engaging book. He treats us to his best, clear-eyed prose.”
– The New York Times Magazine

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ethan Scott:

Do you have something that you prefer such as book? The book lovers usually prefer to select book like comic, quick story and the biggest an example may be novel. Now, why not hoping Leviathan that give your fun preference will be satisfied by simply reading this book. Reading practice all over the world can be said as the means for people to know world far better then how they react in the direction of the world. It can't be claimed constantly that reading practice only for the geeky man but for all of you who wants to end up being success person. So , for all of you who want to start examining as your good habit, you could pick Leviathan become your personal starter.

Catherine Scott:

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Wade Diaz:

In this period globalization it is important to someone to find information. The information will make anyone to understand the condition of the world. The healthiness of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of referrals to get information example: internet, magazine, book, and soon. You can observe that now, a lot of publisher which print many kinds of book. The actual book that recommended to you is Leviathan this guide consist a lot of the information on the condition of this world now. That book was represented just how can the world has grown up. The terminology styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. The actual writer made some analysis when he makes this book. This is why this book suitable all of you.

Evelyn Rogers:

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