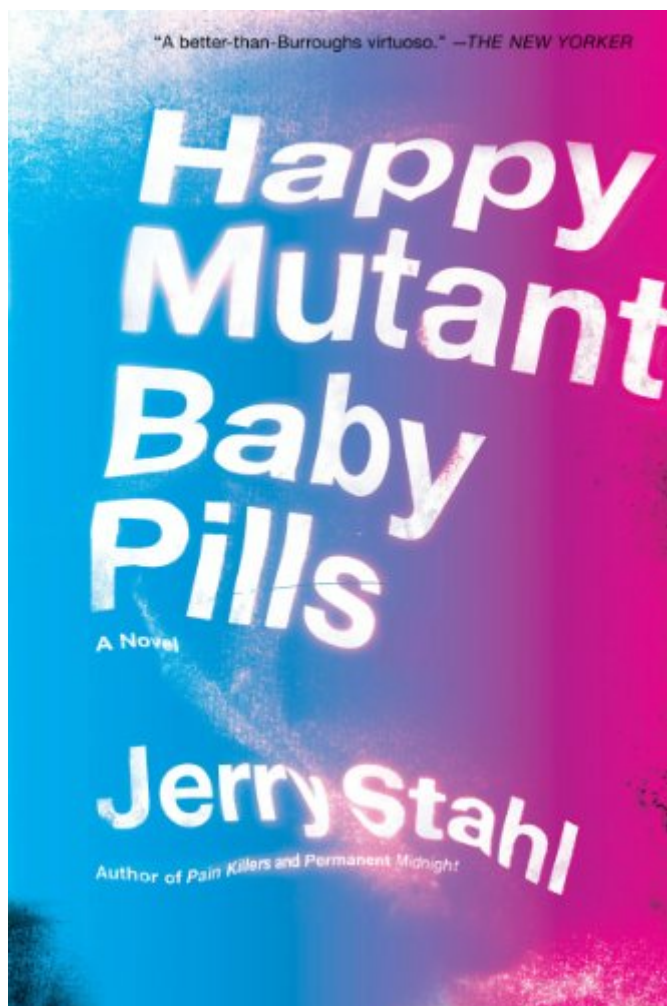


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Happy Mutant Baby Pills: A Novel



Synopsis

Lloyd has a particular set of skills. He writes the small print for prescription drugs, marital aids, and incontinence products. The clients present him with a list of possible side effects. His job is "to recite and minimize"â "sometimes by just saying them really fast and other times by finding the language that can render them acceptable. The results are ingenious. The methods diabolical. Lloyd has a habit, too. He cops smack during coffee breaks at his new job writing copy for Christian Swingles, an online dating service for the faithful. He finds a precarious balance between hackwork and heroin until he encounters Nora, a mysterious and troubled young woman, a Sylvia Plath with tattoos and implants, who asks for his help. Lloyd falls swiftly in love, but Nora bestows her affections at a cost. Before Lloyd clears his head from the fog of romance, he finds himself complicit in Nora's grand scheme to horrify the world and exact revenge on those who poison the populace in order to sell them the cure.

Book Information

File Size: 1210 KB

Print Length: 274 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0061990507

Publisher: William Morrow (November 5, 2013)

Publication Date: November 5, 2013

Sold by:Â HarperCollins Publishers

Language: English

ASIN: B00BHEJ4JQ

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #129,120 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #71

inÂ Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Lawyers & Criminals #140 inÂ Kindle Store >

Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Literary Fiction > Satire #220 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle

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Customer Reviews

A heroin addict who makes his living writing the side-effects lists for pharmaceuticals hooks up with a woman who is bent on giving birth to a deformed baby as protest against the chemical industry in this satire from "Absolute Midnight" scribe Jerry Stahl. I am a big fan of Jerry Stahl. His CSI episodes were the best, and his previous books "Perv: A Love Story", "Plainclothes Naked", and "I, Fatty" were all entertaining, well written, and funny. His memoir "Permanent Midnight" was raw, revealing, and worthy of his own adaptation as the equally riveting film. Every good author takes a misstep here and there, and I think "Happy Mutant Baby Pills" might be Stahl's. It's well written, but it's not an easy read. I am not easily rattled, but the gross-out factor in this book is at the edge of my endurance. That aside, the satire is pretty sharp. I think what really bothers me about this book is that I couldn't find a single character to respect, identify with, or feel empathy for. That might have been his point.

If you've ever wondered about the effects of love on your life and how pharmaceuticals alter that into something wonderful and yet terribly toxic to your system, this book is for you. A page turning glorious mess that'll keep you punching your bedmate and saying, hey listen to this line...I couldn't put it down and God help me for that.

Great story!

Nobody writes like Jerry Stahl.

Stahl is amazing. My first read of his. If you think your life is weird, it's not. Stahl puts it all in perspective.

Scary but it sounds like the stuff that rattles around in my brain sometimes. An oddly familiar voice. Entertaining and moving.

Stahl's dark visions are graced with side splitting humor and deeply thoughtful insights. Big pharma has never been more exposed.

Thanks!

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