



## I Loved You More

By Tom Spanbauer

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### I Loved You More By Tom Spanbauer

Tom Spanbauer's first novel in seven years is a love story triangle akin to *The Marriage Plot* and *Freedom*, only with a gay main character who charms gays and straights alike. *I Loved You More* is a rich, expansive tale of love, sex, and heartbreak, covering twenty-five years in the life of a striving, emotionally wounded writer. In New York, Ben forms a bond of love with his macho friend and foil, Hank. Years later in Portland, a now ill Ben falls for Ruth, who provides the care and devotion he needs, though they cannot find true happiness together. Then Hank reappears and meets Ruth, and real trouble starts. Set against a world of struggling artists, the underground sex scene of New York in the 1980s, the drab, confining Idaho of Ben's youth, and many places in between, *I Loved You More* is the author's most complex and wise novel to date.

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## I Loved You More By Tom Spanbauer Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

##### **I Loved You More**

Spanbauer relays from the start that Hank succumbs to cancer before he and Ben can make up the rift that springs from Ben's jealousy, so once the destruction unfolds in the final act, it happens at a riveting, fast pace. By turns poignant and funny, Spanbauer's story rings true at every turn. **Publishers Weekly Starred Review**

A masterful novel of what becomes of us long after we've "come of age" and done all the brave things we thought would save us. Tom Spanbauer's pages pulse with life in all its messy beauty.

--**Ariel Gore**, Publisher of *Hip Mama Magazine* and author of *How to Become a Famous Writer Before You're Dead: Your Words in Print and Your Name in Lights*

Intelligence, wit, generosity, love, wisdom, insight, humility, guts, heart-crushing truth and spirit-lifting grace—it's all there in *I Loved You More*. This is Tom Spanbauer's wrenching and beautiful masterpiece.

--**Cheryl Strayed**, *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*

A great read, *I Loved You More* is a brutal and beautiful book of love, sex, and friendship that begins in the impossible but totally mesmerizing decade of the 1980s and spans the next twenty years.

—**Sam Adams**, Former Mayor of Portland, Oregon

Tom Spanbauer's *I Loved You More* is the most important book on sexuality, love, and the low down of relationships that I have ever read. The brilliant language is an epic ballad so deeply rendered it killed me and resurrected me a page at a time. This book is not a love story. It guts the heart of the cliché love story and hands it back to you, beating. Love is the endless falling.

--**Lidia Yuknavitch**, author of *Dora: A Headcase*

##### **Faraway Places**

The thing about Tom Spanbauer is—he is the real deal. [*Faraway Places*] is masterly – a near perfect book. The story is hypnotic, mesmerizing, delicately brilliant – and so well made. While you are lulled by the language and the characters, the storyline builds and then like a well timed firework explodes – surprising, entralling, captivating.

-- **A.M. Homes**, Author of *May We Be Forgiven*

A taut, brutal narrative ... that comes to hypnotize, shimmering like the brilliant sun on the alfalfa fields.

--**The New York Times Book Review**

Forceful and moving ... Spanbauer tells his short, brutal story with delicacy and deep respect for place and character.

--**Publishers Weekly**

##### **The Man Who Fell in Love with the Moon**

The miracle of this novel is that it obliges us to rethink our whole idea of narration and history and myth. Tom Spanbauer's wild West is the hurly-burly of the mind. He takes us into territories where few of us would ever dare to go. — **The New York Times Book Review**

Haunting and earthy, this deeply felt tale of love and loss... Spanbauer fuses raunchy dialogue, pathos, local color, heartbreak and a serious investigation of racism in this stunning narrative.

— **Publishers Weekly**

Gender and racial lines are bent out of shape in this tale of turn-of-the-century Idaho spun by a youth who is part Indian, not quite wholly homosexual, and in the grip of a powerful imagination. Spanbauer creates a pansexual West that John Wayne wouldn't have recognized.

— **Kirkus Reviews**

A visceral, sprawling tragic-comedy... *The Man Who Fell in Love with the Moon* is equal parts bizarre Bildungsroman, raucous picaresque, and hard-driving wild-West yarn.

— **New York Magazine**

A masterful plot... Delightfully unpredictable and compelling.

— **Library Journal**

Every once in a while a reviewer comes across a book that seems so startlingly original and true that it redeems everything: art, life, the human spirit, a reviewer's job... Tom Spanbauer's novel *The Man Who Fell in Love with the Moon* is such a book.

— **Willamette Week**

### **In The City of Shy Hunters**

An expertly drawn, starkly authentic, early-1980s Manhattan provides the setting for this sprawling novel by Spanbauer. Spanbauer's rapid-fire narration and clipped sentences generate a surprising amount of tension and gritty emotion, as does his vibrant, dead-on dialogue and keen sense of place. This is a big, brazen, histrionic work of fiction, one that pays respectable, if unsentimental, homage to a devastating period in gay history.

— **Publishers Weekly**

Unlike other "early AIDS" novels, this one acknowledges that AIDS touches all classes, races, religions, and sexual orientations. Excellent characters (real New Yorkers), great writing, and a new twist on an over-used plot recommend this book for most libraries, though some readers might want a more conventional ending.

— **Library Journal**

A master narrator and stylist... *In the City of Shy Hunters* is so finely crafted, Spanbauer's characters so true to life, the New York City he remembers from the early days of the plague so exactly captures in its "unrelenting" mess and glory, you'll think you've been reading a modernist classic.

— **Peter Kurth, Salon.com**

Spanbauer's genius resides even in the asides... teas[ing] out the genuine complexity of human love.

— **Thomas McGonigle, The Washington Post**

*In the City of Shy Hunters* has the earmarks of a literary landmark. ... Its importance and originality are unmistakable.

— **Laura Demanski, The Baltimore Sun**

Ambitious and compelling... a mixture of the ghastly, the hilarious and the curiously touching.

— **John Hartl**, *The Seattle Times*

*In the City of Shy Hunters* is a chronicle of deaths foretold, a journal of the plague years when AIDS swept through the city and destroyed a culture that had barely taken hold.

— **Jeff Baker**, *The Oregonian*

Tom Spanbauer breaks all the rules in his new novel *In the City of Shy Hunters* – rules of grammar, rules of social propriety, rules of sanctioned sexuality, rules that keep a novelist at a desk, on a page, in the real world. — **M. L. Lyke**, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*

Mesmerizing dialogue and gritty characters immediately startle you. ...The book may consist of letters typed upon a page, but those words transcend mere storytelling by nearly leaping forth and materializing into a stunning theatrical presentation. This writing as performance art... Our beloved Spanbauer has retaken center stage. He has surpassed the art of writing dangerously to create the theater of writing dramatically.

— **Susan Wickstrom**, *Willamette Week*

A big ambitious stylefest of a novel, in the mode of...Edmund White's *The Farewell Symphony*, Allan Gurganus's *Plays Well with Others*, and Dale Peck's *Now It's Time to Say Goodbye*... What distinguishes Spanbauer's novel from the rest of the pack is his hellish, distinctive voice. Longtime fans will recognize its unusual sentences, at once choppy and strangely elegant, overtly informative but weirdly surreal, tender of phrase yet cleansed of overt emotion.

— **Dennis Cooper**, *The Village Voice*

*In the City of Shy Hunters* is near-epic in its emotional scope, a sprawling story that recalls at once the freewheeling black comedy of Ken Kesey's work, the spiritual quest at the heart of *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*, and some of the precise diction of Gertrude Stein. ...There is such a myriad of small truths here that the cumulative effect is overwhelming...Fascinating and compelling.

— **Ken Furtado**, *Lambda Book Report*

### **Now is the Hour**

Publishers Weekly choice for one of the best 100 books of 2006

This author can write. You feel pulled in immediately just by the rhythms of his language. Then by his great humor, his vast heart. There is no one like Tom Spanbauer writing in America. What a terrific novel! What a huge talent —**Natalie Goldberg**, Author of *Writing Down the Bones*

In Tom Spanbauer's *Now Is the Hour*, white small-town America gets its cherry busted in an orgy of cigarette smoke and racism.

—**Chuck Palahniuk**, author of *Fight Club*

From the Inside Flap

Tom Spanbauer is beloved by readers and booksellers alike, and he will be a featured author at the ABA Winter Institute 2014 to coincide with the publication of *I Loved You More*, April 1, 2014. Tom was one of Gordon Lish's original student writers in New York and later in Portland became a teacher himself. His previous students include Monica Drake, Kassten Alonso, Jennifer Lauck, Joanna Rose, and Chuck Palahniuk. The latter is supporting *I Loved You More*, by sending gift baskets to 50 Indie stores.

## From the Back Cover

Tom Spanbauer is beloved by readers and booksellers alike, and he will be a featured author at the ABA Winter Institute 2014 to coincide with the publication of "I Loved You More," April 1, 2014. Tom was one of Gordon Lish's original student writers in New York and later in Portland became a teacher himself. His previous students include Monica Drake, Kassten Alonso, Jennifer Lauck, Joanna Rose, and Chuck Palahniuk. The latter is supporting "I Loved You More," by sending gift baskets to 50 Indie stores.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### **Eileen Lopez:**

Do you certainly one of people who can't read satisfying if the sentence chained within the straightway, hold on guys this aren't like that. This I Loved You More book is readable by means of you who hate those perfect word style. You will find the information here are arrange for enjoyable studying experience without leaving possibly decrease the knowledge that want to give to you. The writer involving I Loved You More content conveys the idea easily to understand by many people. The printed and e-book are not different in the written content but it just different such as it. So , do you nonetheless thinking I Loved You More is not loveable to be your top record reading book?

#### **Mike Yerkes:**

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The reserve lovers usually prefer to opt for book like comic, limited story and the biggest an example may be novel. Now, why not striving I Loved You More that give your entertainment preference will be satisfied by reading this book. Reading routine all over the world can be said as the way for people to know world a great deal better then how they react toward the world. It can't be said constantly that reading routine only for the geeky person but for all of you who wants to become success person. So , for all you who want to start studying as your good habit, you are able to pick I Loved You More become your starter.

#### **Luis Gray:**

Are you kind of occupied person, only have 10 or perhaps 15 minute in your morning to upgrading your mind expertise or thinking skill even analytical thinking? Then you are having problem with the book than can satisfy your short period of time to read it because this all time you only find book that need more time to be learn. I Loved You More can be your answer as it can be read by anyone who have those short free time problems.

#### **Juanita Stoneman:**

Many people said that they feel uninterested when they reading a publication. They are directly felt this when they get a half elements of the book. You can choose typically the book I Loved You More to make your current reading is interesting. Your own skill of reading skill is developing when you like reading. Try

to choose basic book to make you enjoy to study it and mingle the opinion about book and studying especially. It is to be very first opinion for you to like to available a book and read it. Beside that the book I Loved You More can to be your brand new friend when you're really feel alone and confuse with what must you're doing of this time.

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