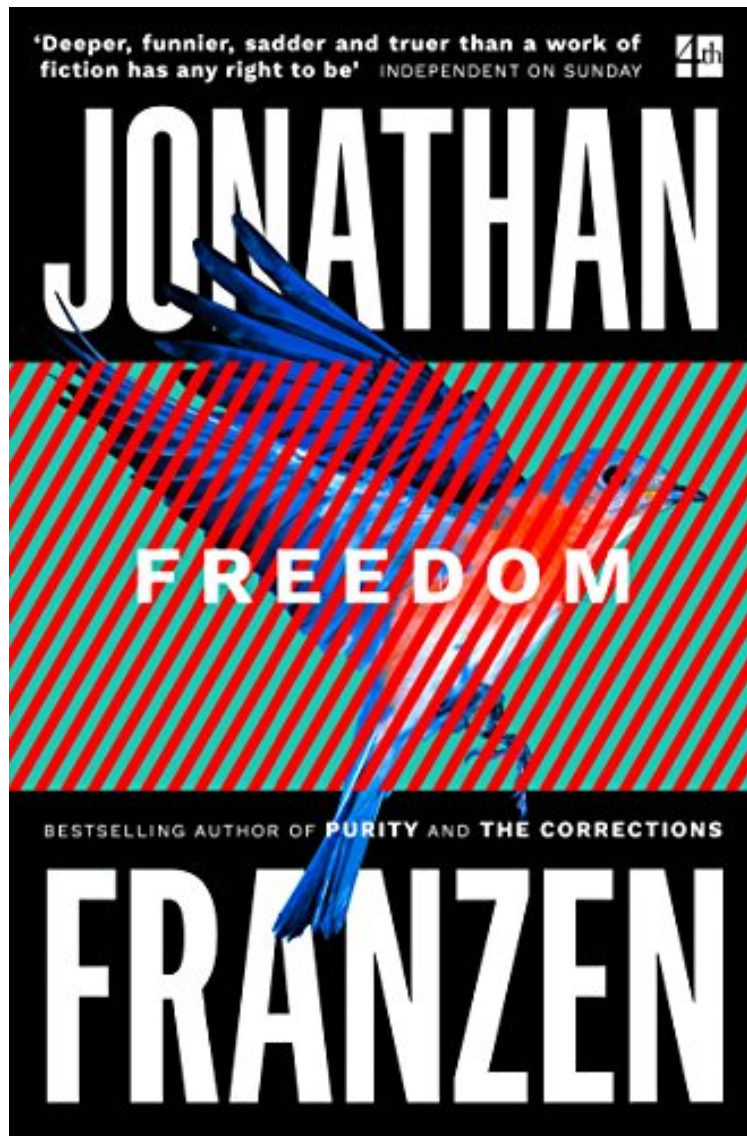


## Freedom

Von Jonathan Franzen  
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**Von Jonathan Franzen : Freedom** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Freedom:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Der ultimative kontemporre Gesellschaftsroman mit sinnentleertem Einworttitel Von Miezekatze Den enthusiastischen Rezensionen kann ich mich nicht anschließen - dieses Machwerk will zuviel! Die Innenwelten von Patty und Walter Berglund werden bis in die finsterste Ecke ausgeleuchtet, wo man noch den allerletzten Staubmuseen zugucken kann.

Alles, aber auch alles wird im Buch aufgearbeitet, verbalisiert und seziert. Der Detailreichtum war mir schlicht zuviel; Franzen bettet seinen Beziehungs- und Familienroman in alles an Auenwelt ein, was es gibt, und lässt sein Personal über Irak, 9/11, Kohlebergbau, Artensterben und Bevölkerungsexplosion aus jeder Perspektive bis zum Erbrechen referieren. Richard Katz und der Sohn haben neben Patty und Walter noch eigene Erzhlstimmen (warum nicht auch Tochter Jessica?), die dann aber irgendwann weg sind. Der Romaneinstieg mit den Wahrnehmungen von Patty und Walters Nachbarn fand ich seltsam und auch irreführend, und bei den Perspektiven hat mich nur Pattys Autobiografie streckenweise gefangen nehmen können. Das flache Ende hat mich nicht berzeugt, und weshalb ich eine ganze Hr-CD lang Walters Kampf mit Kater Bobby verfolgen durfte, ist mir auch nicht klar. Weniger wäre hier mehr gewesen. Hab aber wieder Lust bekommen, "Middlemarch" oder "Die Buddenbrooks" zu lesen. Wenigstens bekommt Patty in unseren aufgeklärten Zeiten ein Happy End, Effie Briest musste noch versterben. 2 Sterne.PS. Das ungekürzte englischsprachige Hrbuch ist gut gelesen von David Ledoux.3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Kommt lange nicht an die Korrekturen heranVon kairdaIch habe die Korrekturen vor einiger Zeit gelesen und sehr gemocht.Um so gespannter war ich auf Freedom - wo doch zahlreiche Kritiken geradezu euphorisch sind.Leider hat mich das Buch enttäuscht - es ist langatmig, die Personen werden zwar genau beschrieben, bleiben aber trotzdem blass. Vor Allem handeln sie nicht wirklich nachvollziehbar. Ich habe das Buch nach 75% beendet, mich hat es einfach gar nicht mehr interessiert. Schade.Positiv ist natürlich zu erwähnen, dass Franzen hervorragend schreibt. Ein echter Autor eben. Mich hat die Geschichte aber eben gar nicht gepackt.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Dster aber dennoch packendVon TriciaAuf den ersten Blick eine einfache Familiengeschichte, doch beim Weiterlesen tun sich abgründe auf. Ein typischer Franzen. Ich würde doch hoffen, dass Schicksale wie die im Buch geschilderten eher selten sind, andererseits ist es doch einfach nachzuvollziehen, wie durch Ereignisse die man nur bedingt beeinflussen kann, sich das Leben wandelt und man in einer Geschichte drinsteckt, die unecht und schal ist, und allen Beteiligten Schmerzen bereitet.Sprachlich schön zu lesen, inhaltlich schwermtig, regt Franzen an zum Nachdenken darüber, was die eigenen Trüme sind, was passiert wenn sich diese plötzlich erfüllen, aber letztlich leider doch nicht ganz so wie gedacht. Und wie sich all das auf einen selbst auswirkt, sowie die Personen, zu denen man in Beziehung steht.

KurzbeschreibungA masterpiece of American fictionSam Tanenhaus, The New York Times Book A novel from the author of The Corrections.This is the updated version of the text.This is the story of the Berglunds, their son Joey, their daughter Jessica and their friend Richard Katz. It is about how we use and abuse our freedom; about the beginning and ending of love; teenage lust; the unexpectedness of adult life; why we compete with our friends; how we betray those closest to us; and why things almost never work out as they should. It is a story about the human heart, and what it leads us to do to ourselves and each other.In his first novel since The Corrections, Jonathan Franzen has given us an epic of contemporary love and marriage. In charting the mistakes and joys of Freedom's intensely realized characters, as they struggle to learn how to live in an ever more confusing world, Franzen has produced an indelible and deeply moving portrait of our time.PressestimmenPraise for "Freedom"Jonathan Franzens new novel, "Freedom," like his previous one, "The Corrections," is a masterpiece of American fiction . . . "Freedom" is a still richer and deeper workless glittering on its surface but more confident in its method . . . Like all great novels, "Freedom" does not just tell an engrossing story. It illuminates, through the steady radiance of its authors profound moral intelligence, the world we thought we knew.Sam Tanenhaus, "The New York Times Book " (cover review)Writing in prose that is at once visceral and lapidary, Mr. Franzen shows us how his characters strive to navigate a world of technological gadgetry and ever-shifting mores, how they struggle to balance the equation between their expectations of life and dull reality, their political ideals and mercenary personal urges. He proves himself as adept at adolescent comedy as he is at grown-up tragedy; as skilled at holding a mirror to the world his people inhabit day by dreary day as he is at limning their messy inner lives . . . Mr. Franzen has written his most deeply felt novel yet--a novel that turns out to be both a compelling biography of a dysfunctional family and an indelible portrait of our times." --Michiko Kakutani, "The New York Times" ["Freedom" is] a work of total genius: a reminder both of why everyone got so excited about Franzen in the first place and of the undeniable magic--even today, in our digital end-times--of the old-timey literary novel . . . Few modern novelists rival Franzen in that primal skill of creating life, of tricking us into believing that a text-generated set of neural patterns, a purely abstract mind-event, is in fact a tangible human being that we can love, pity,

hate, admire, and possibly even run into someday at the grocery store. His characters are so densely rendered--their mental lives sketched right down to the smallest cognitive micrograins--that they manage to bust through the art-reality threshold: They hit us in the same place that our friends and neighbors and classmates and lovers do. This is what makes Franzen's books such special event." --Sam Anderson, "New York Magazine" "The Great American Novel." --"Esquire" "Epic." --"Vanity Fair" "Exhilarating . . . Gripping . . . Moving . . . On a level with" "The Great Gatsby" [and] "Gone With the Wind." --Craig Seligman, Bloomberg "A page turner that engages the mind." --Dan Cryer, "Newsday" "Consuming and extraordinarily moving." --David L. Ulin, "Los Angeles Times" "It's refreshing to see a novelist who wants to engage the questions of our time in the tradition of 20th-century greats like John Steinbeck and Sinclair Lewis . . . [This] is a book you'll still be thinking about long after you've finished reading it." --Patrick Condon, "Associated Press" "Deeply moving and superbly crafted . . . It's such a full novel, rich in description, broad in its reach and full of wry observations." --Bob Hoover, "Pittsburg Post-Gazette" "Freedom," his new book, and "The Corrections," its predecessor, are at the same time engrossing sagas and scathing satires, and both books are funny, sad, cranky, revelatory, hugely ambitious, deeply human and, at times, truly disturbing. Together, they provide a striking and quite possibly enduring portrait of America in the years on either side of the turn of the 21st century . . . His writing is so gorgeous . . . Franzen is one of those exceptional writers whose works define an era and a generation, and his books demand to be read." --Harper Barnes, "St. Louis Post-Dispatch" "A tour de force . . . one of the finest novelists of his generation." -- Glenn C. Altschuler, "The Philadelphia Inquirer" "Freedom" is a bracingly earnest, ethically serious psychological epic that introduces and exploits its characters' mistakes and foibles, then challenges itself to discover myriad ways to eventually forgive them their trespasses . . . A highly readable triumph of conventional realism . . . Addictive." --Akiva Gottlieb, "The National" "A lavishly entertaining account of a family at war with itself, and a brilliant dissection of the dissatisfactions and disappointments of contemporary American life . . . Compelling . . . Freedom," though frequently funny, is ultimately tender: its emotional currency is both the pain and the pleasure that that word implies . . . A rare pleasure, an irresistible invitation to binge-read . . . That it also grapples with a fundamental dilemma of modern middle-class America--namely: Is it really still OK to spend your life asserting your unalienable right to the pursuit of happiness, when the rest of the world is in such a state?--is what makes it something wonderful. If "Freedom" doesn't qualify as a Great American Novel for our time, then I don't know what would . . . The reason to celebrate him is not that he is doing something new but that he is doing something old, presumed dead--and doing it brilliantly. "Freedom" bids for a place alongside the great achievements of his predecessors, not his contemporaries; it belongs on the same shelf as John Updike's "Rabbit," Tom Wolfe's "The Bonfire of the Vanities," Philip Roth's "American Pastoral." It is the first Great American Novel of the post-Obama era." --Benjamin Secher, "Telegraph" (U. K.) "A literary genius for our time . . . An extraordinary work . . . 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