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Salt Water

Von Charles Simmons

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salt water

a novel

CHARLES SIMMONS

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Von Charles Simmons : Salt Water before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Salt Water:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen13 von 13 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Tragedy of YouthVon Ein KundeWhat a wonderful story! Not your usual "coming of age" narration, but a stark tragedy. The first line tells you where the book will take you, but not when and how.The suspense is built up magnificently, with strong characters and believable action.11 von 11 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Wonderful AdaptationVon Ein KundeCharles Simmons has turned Turgenev's "First Love" into a stunning modern tale as compact as a backpacker's stove and as lean as a flagpole. Simmons' prose is Hemingway

without the macho and Harper Lee without the South--one of the few contemporary writers who make me jealous. I'd never read any of Simmons' books before, but I'm back haunting *again* looking for another. A fine print review in the NYT Book Review for 6 September 1998. Highly recommended! 11 von 11 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not a small masterpiece, a large masterpiece. Von D. L. Sammons a former editor of the New York Times book review, Charles Simmons is a man who chooses his words well. This book, like the others that preceded it, is well written, thoughtful, and, as is always the case with his work, masterful. My hat is off to him. I hope that other readers discover his brilliance.

Kurzbeschreibung In the summer of 1963 I fell in love and my father drowned.... So begins this sweet, ominous novel by Charles Simmons. Set against an idyllic landscape of water, sand, and sky, it recounts in exquisite detail the momentous events of a boy's 16th summer that reveal to him the dark facts of adult passion. On Bone Point, an island off the New England coast, the boy's long, lazy days of boating and swimming are sharpened by a growing awareness of his charismatic father's infidelities. Add to this the presence of a flirtatious middle-aged woman and her beautiful 20-year-old daughter, who have rented the guesthouse, and the tale is set in motion. This tautly constructed novel is both startling and haunting an irresistible story of memory, desire, and suspense.. de Charles Simmons seeds his narrative with clues from the very beginning. First, there is the epigraph from Ivan Turgenev's classic *First Love*, a tale of obsession, betrayal, and death, followed by the sobering first sentence, "In the summer of 1963 I fell in love and my father drowned." By the time Zina, the 20-year-old object of the young narrator's affection, appears, all the foreshadowing is tidily in place--Michael and his father have already had one brush with mortality in the water as they swim out to a sandbar and are nearly carried away by the tide. When Zina and Michael's father first meet, another warning bell goes off. "I could see right away he liked her. When he didn't like someone he smiled and said nothing. It was clear that she liked him too. Father was very handsome." Readers familiar with Turgenev's story will know what happens next; those who aren't will have to wait awhile to have their suspicions confirmed. In the meantime, Simmons paints a subtle, heartbreaking portrait of one last summer of innocence and of a paradise about to be lost. **Pressestimmen** The New York Times Book A small masterpiece. Simmons has found the perfect, delicate, elegiac voice. The Wall Street Journal A simple and spellbinding novel...grimly enchanting.... A powerful, 20th-century tragedy of an American family. **Booklist** A riveting story of youthful innocence consumed by betrayal. Remarkably enthralling and agonizingly revealing.... Simmons...maneuvers unfalteringly between each of his characters.... The book's opening line leads like a wick into a powder keg of unexpected consequences. Simply spellbinding. The Wall Street Journal The mastery of the telling...keeps one continually off balance until the maelstrom of a conclusion. **Kirkus** A little saga of adolescence...a perfectly-cut gem of its kind.