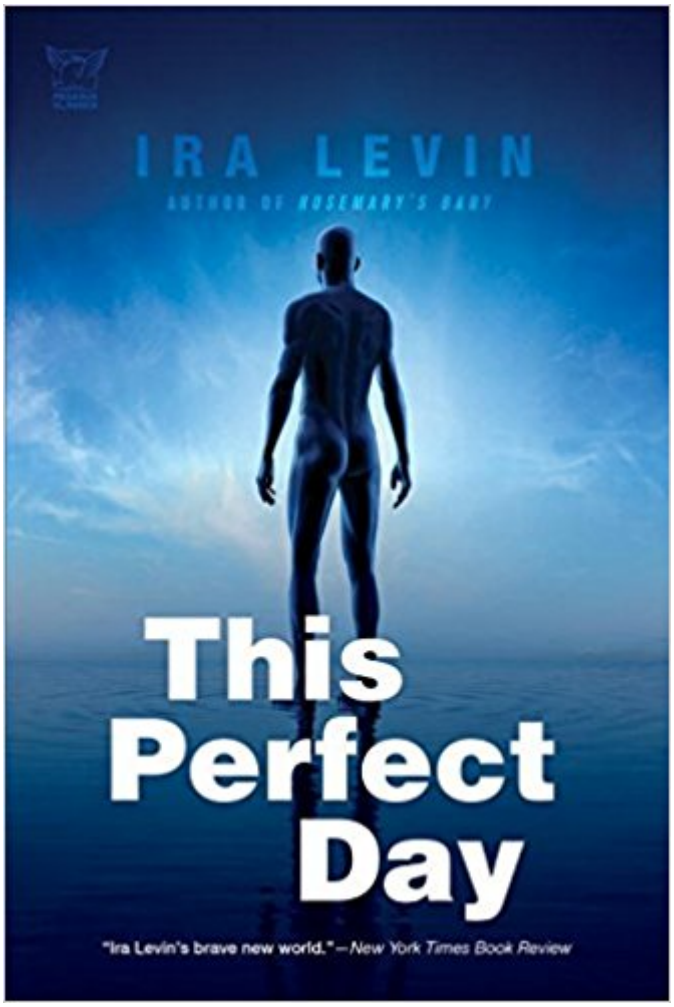
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This Perfect Day



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Synopsis

By the author of RosemaryÃ¢â ¬Ëœs Baby, a horrifying journey into a future only Ira Levin could imagine. Considered one of the great dystopian novelsÃ¢â ¬â ¢alongside Anthony Burgess's A Clockwork Orange and Aldous Huxley's Brave New WorldÃ¢â ¬â ¢Ira Levin's frightening glimpse into the future continues to fascinate readers even forty years after publication. The story is set in a seemingly perfect global society. Uniformity is the defining feature; there is only one language and all ethnic groups have been eugenically merged into one race called Ã¢â ¬Å"The Family.Ã¢â ¬Å" The world is ruled by a central computer called UniComp that has been programmed to keep every single human on the surface of the earth in check. People are continually drugged by means of regular injections so that they can never realize their potential as human beings, but will remain satisfied and cooperative. They are told where to live, when to eat, whom to marry, when to reproduce. even the basic facts of nature are subject to the UniComp's willÃ¢â ¬â ¢men do not grow facial hair, women do not develop breasts, and it only rains at night. With a vision as frightening as any in the history of the science fiction genre, This Perfect Day is one of Ira Levin`s most haunting novels.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

''Ira Levin's 'Brave New World'.'' --New York Times Book Review ''Marvelously entertaining. A cross between 'Brave New World' and 'Doctor No'.'' --Look Magazine ''Ira Levin's brave new world is populated by eight billion members of The Family. Life is planned and programmed from birth

through death by UniComp, the supercomputer down inside the earth.'' --New York Times Book Review --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Ira Levin is the author of The Boys from Brazil, RosemaryÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Baby, Son of Rosemary, The Stepford Wives, This Perfect Day, Sliver, and A Kiss Before Dying (for which he won the Edgar Award). Levin was also the recipient of three Mystery Writers of America Edgar Allan Poe Awards. His website is www.iralevin.org.

I recently read Ira Levin's Boys from Brazil and Rosemary's Baby, which led me to This Perfect Day. What a good, scary and insightful read. Unsettling to say the least. Still highly relevant and up to date, despite being written in the 60's. In many ways it is more insightful about where society might be headed than Brave New World and many SciFi books. Particularly worrying is that, in the back of your mind, you find yourself asking the question why does Chip want to buck the system which seems to work well for the vast majority - the ultimate mass opiate. Plus the book is a genuinely good read and I found myself looking forward to finding a spare hour or two each day to see what happens next. Happy Christ, Marx, Wood and Wei Day to you!!! I am amazed this book is not more widely known.

I read this novel several years ago and when a friend was asking about the futuristic novel I somehow remembered the authors name.I ordered the book plus one for my friend. Enjoyed the story all over again. A great read.

This may belong up there with 1984 and Brave New World. But I have a couple of issues with it being on par with those classics. There is a lot of swearing (if you can call it that) in this and a lot of the use of the F word. There are enough sexual situations in this that, if it were made into a movie that followed the book, this would definitely be rated R. I don't remember 1984 and Brave New World being that way, but maybe I just don't remember correctly. I guess my point is that this is not for kids.Ok, enough of that. The story was good and had a good message. There were some slow parts but, just as it was getting too slow, there would be some kind of change that would keep my interest. It was like this the whole way through. During the slow parts I would think of giving this 3 stars but then it would pick up and I'd be thinking 4 stars. At the end I had to give it 4 stars - a decent read.

I first read This Perfect Day sometime around my Junior High School years. I've read it a few times since then, and just had to pick it up at least once more. This book is a classic - check that - this book is THE CLASSIC of this genre.Imagine a world where society is drugged into compliance, manners, and unity. In fact, everyone is genetically engineered and a computer controls who has children, what job you have, where you live, and even when you die. Imagine not being able to imagine freedom, choices, or liberty. Enter the main character, Chip, who as a child, is exposed to "strange ideas" from his grandfather that don't tow the line of "the family." This is Chip's journey through a perfectly controlled society and his struggle against having to fit conform.A powerful book, well before its time. We have the technological capabilities today to repress the masses like Levin writes. It's a chilling look into what could be.Pick it up, read it, and then expect to read it again. It's that good.

Great book! Recommend to everyone!

The first 60 or 80 pages aren't great literally, but are effective for setting the scenes of the later story. There are many parallels of the core story which will be recognized in more contemporary works of writing, film and TV. But this is a worthwhile (and quick) read.Some things to keep in mind, which as other reviewers have pointed out could be fixed with a modern editing, are that people boarded airplanes via stairs from the tarmac (escalators in the book) back then without today's airport security and that some of the vernacular is definitely suited as "futuristic" for 1969 writing, but kind of obtuse by today's language.It's a 5 star story but I'm giving 4 stars because of how I think it would compare to a newer, updated version of the story. Anyway, it's time for my treatment now. Thank Uni.

I thought the premise a bit silly. Life is blandly pleasant, including plenty of sex, but because a central authority which isexplicitly trying to gradually create Utopia is the one imposing restrictions on education, career, housing, marriage, it'sevil and noone can be really happy.Whereas in reality, power wherever it has existed has imposed such restrictions on most of mankind, all through history and everywhere on earth, always starting with family tyranny. Centralization has nothing to do with it, and usually it is accompanied by, not mere blandness, but much suffering. Just ask women in any traditional third world culture, for instance. Or lower castes, orworking classes. Hardly anyone anywhere has ever had the freedoms which Levin here recognizes as vital to real well-being.Only the adult males of the elite does.So it seems kind of silly. However, it is still a good story.

"This Perfect Day" by Ira Levin is quite simply amazing. Original, imaginative, erudite, and totally entrancing, this story is truly a masterpiece. "Be careful what you wish for" comes to mind when I reflect on the well written storyline which is provocative, engaging, and immersive, with mellifluous pacing, richly developed characters, descriptive backdrops, societal conundrums, rebel resistance, tepid romantic entanglements, and set against unpredictable betrayals and surprising twists and turns that will catch you off guard. If you are a sci/fi adventure/mystery fan this is a story you will want to read...I loved it! 5 stars!!!!!

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