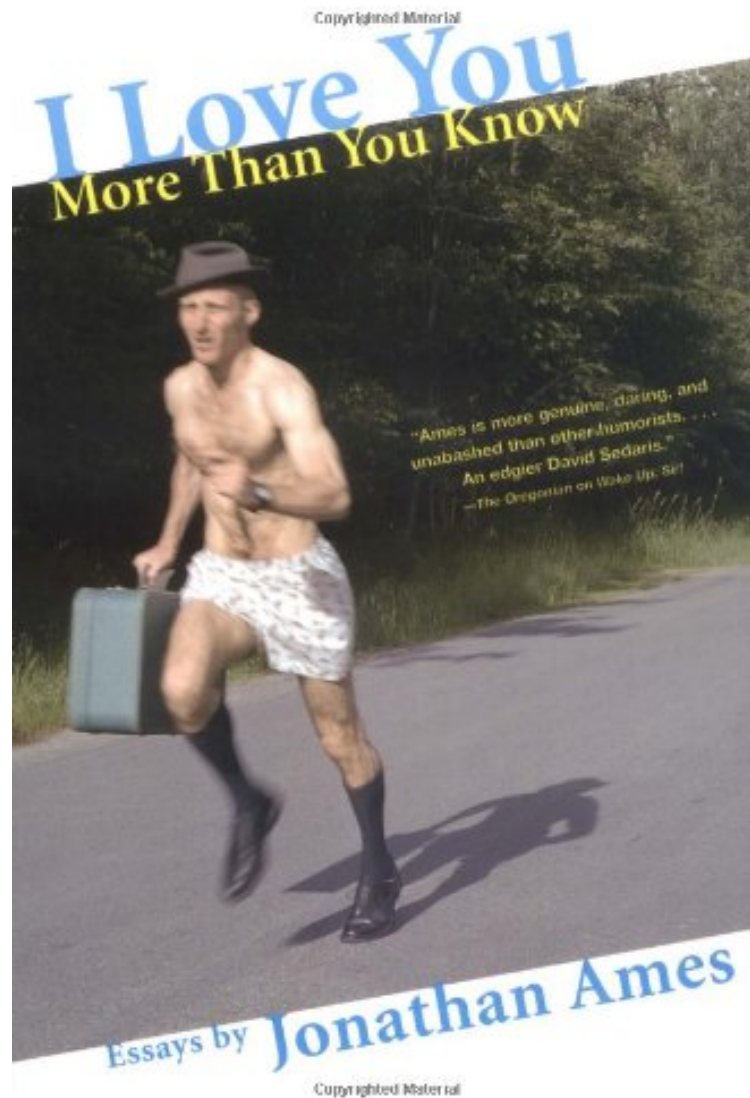


I Love You More Than You Know: Essays

Jonathan Ames

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Jonathan Ames : I Love You More Than You Know: Essays before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised I Love You More Than You Know: Essays:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Honest and HilariousBy William PassThank you, Mr. Ames, for rekindling my love of reading. I've been putting books down halfway through for the past few months (overwritten, too dreary, too serious), so it was a pleasure to read this collection of essays. On multiple occasions, I laughed out loud, to the point that my wife had to ask me to please be quiet because she was trying to sleep. At the root of this

humor is a deep honesty, as one man reflects on his own estimation of himself. Mr. Ames, my only disagreement is that you are too hard on yourself. You have a good heart, and the world is lucky to have you, wart (or just a hair follicle) and all. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Ames is a truly great guy all around. By Angelique973 Jonathan Ames ... one of America's most touching authors, without heavy handedness. Vivid imagery evokes a longing for a NYC ... that I've never experienced. Based on social media contact, Ames is a truly great guy all around. That always wins points with me in purchasing more of an author's (ect.) works. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. More stories from Ames' wild life. By Jose Jones Ames' third essay collection brings with it his normal hilarity (no one has misadventures quite as awkwardly funny as Ames), but also, too, pathos. An older and somewhat-wiser Ames seems full of regret -- over who he is, how he's lived, the decisions he's made, the kind of parent he can be to his kid -- and there's a real sense of melancholy undercutting all the laughs. But whether it's mentioning a bump on another author's head or getting lost after a boxing match or fencing against a hated rival as a teenager (my favorite piece from the book), Ames will have you laughing out loud. Ames, in his simple, easy language, seems to reveal all of his flaws so we can laugh at ourselves and accept all the horrible, embarrassing things we all experience and try to hide away.

Jonathan Ames has drawn comparisons across the literary spectrum, from David Sedaris to F. Scott Fitzgerald to Woody Allen to P.G. Wodehouse, and his books, as well as his abilities as a performer, have made him a favorite on the Late Show with David Letterman. Whether he's chasing deranged cockroaches around his apartment, kissing a beautiful actress on the set of an avant-garde film, finding himself stuck perilously on top of a fence in Memphis in the middle of the night, or provoking fights with huge German men, Jonathan Ames has an uncanny knack for getting himself into outlandish situations. In his latest collection, *I Love You More Than You Know*, Ames proves once again his immense talent for turning his own adventures, neuroses, joys, heartaches, and insights into profound and hilarious tales. Alive with love and tenderness for his son, his parents, his great-aunt — and even strangers in bars late at night — in *I Love You More Than You Know* Ames looks beneath the surface of our world to find the beauty in the perverse, the sweetness in loneliness, and the humor in pain.

From Publishers Weekly Novelist and humorist Ames writes: "My whole oeuvre has become one big dysfunctional personal ad," and this uneven collection of essays often feels that way. Ames (*Wake Up, Sir!*) informs readers several times of his height/weight vital stats. He is straight, but with a pansexual horniness that leads to inopportune erections, sordid encounters with prostitutes and an sm session with a dominatrix and her transsexual boyfriend that makes him late for a play date with his son. He forthrightly, indeed obsessively, discloses details of his chronic rectal itch, his "explosive episodes of Irritable Bowel Syndrome" and every other gross bodily eruption and excretion that plagues him. And there's a note of self-deprecatory preening as Ames marvels at the young lovelies he still manages to attract and the other celebrity writers he hangs with on his book tours. Sometimes Ames's trademark combination of (literal) bathroom gags, hipster grotesquerie and neurotic free association achieves an inspired synthesis of confessional humor, but with overuse its hilarity and freshness decays into a lazy reliance on shock effects and embarrassment laughs. When Ames manages to wrench his gaze from his navel (and other orifices) and connect with outside reality, his prose sparkles with offhand comic insights. Photos. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.