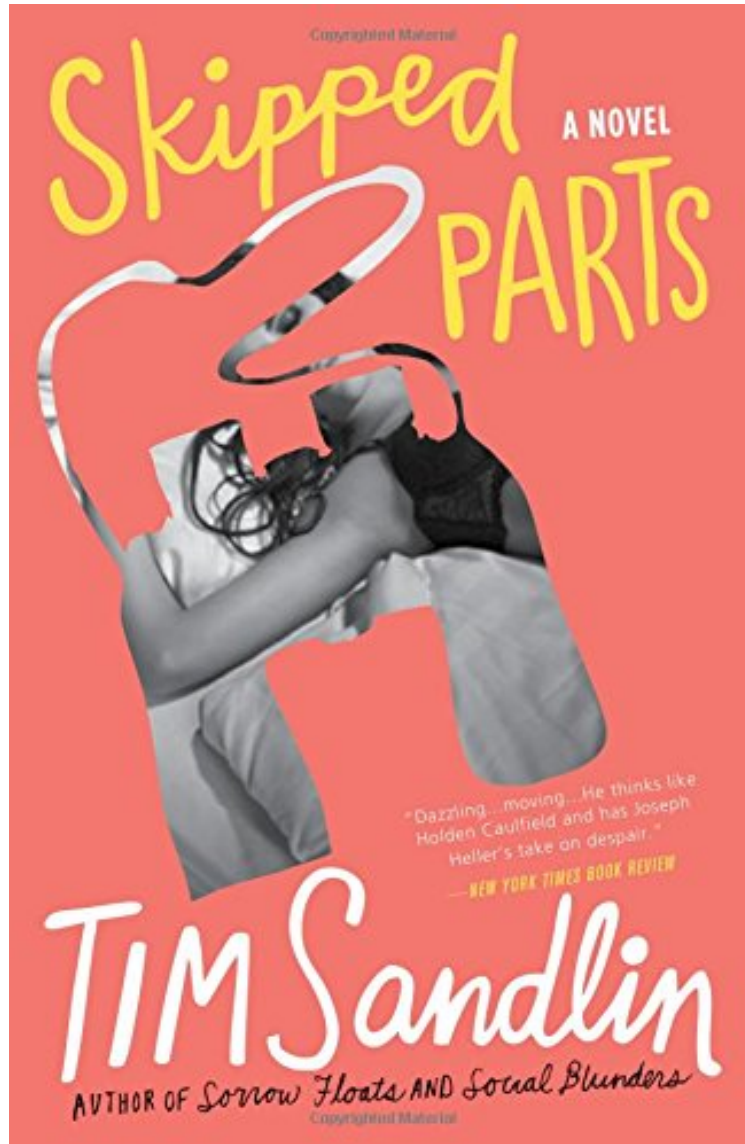


[Free download] Skipped Parts: A Novel (GroVont series)

Skipped Parts: A Novel (GroVont series)

Tim Sandlin

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Tim Sandlin : Skipped Parts: A Novel (GroVont series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Skipped Parts: A Novel (GroVont series):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Come on down to GroVontBy B. WilfongThis is a very human novel, warts and all. I think most of us would not want to be associated with many of the characters in the book in real life, but within the confines of the printed page Tim Sandlin has created real people that we root for, laugh at, and who make us shake our heads in disgust. In short, the characters are real. The title "Skipped Parts" can be taken so many

ways, but while most readers think the title refers to the teenage sex in the novel, and the way that sex is treated in society, I think it also refers to the skipped parts of society at large. By that I mean the places and people that lots of Americans would rather pretend were not there. I also think it refers to the book's setting; GroVont WY, a place that many coastal Americans just skip over when they take into account American values and mores. If it is not California or New York it does not count, etc. The realistic portrayal of the characters is jarring especially considering how morally deficient some of them are, and I think that is the point. We are all struggling in this life. Some succeed better than others, and many just get by, in a spiritual and physical sense. I am not especially fond of the protagonist's mom, Lydia, or his best friend/ sex partner (Maurey) but I understand and know them. That is the mark of good writing. This is the third Sandlin novel I have read, and one of his continuous strengths is the voice of his protagonist, and "Skipped Parts" does not disappoint. The novel's narrator, Sam Callahan, may be only 13, but his voice and humor is one of the text's many high points. This novel was the first in a trilogy, with a fourth soon to be published, and I will be continuing the journey through GroVont. You should too!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Skipped Parts Redux
By Susan Tunis
Just recently, I was thinking of Tim Sandlin's novel Skipped Parts. I can't remember why. I first read the novel years ago, and even though I've had the two subsequent novels in the GroVont Trilogy sitting on my book shelf for years, I've never read them. It's a common problem, as I am not one to read books in a series back-to-back no matter how wonderful they are. Then, I wait so long that I've forgotten the first. Perhaps it's an omen that I discovered Skipped Parts available for free on my Kindle today. Snatched that puppy right up! So, I just opened it up and peaked inside for old time's sake. It was like falling down the rabbit hole. I was sucked in with a tidal pull I did not have the power to resist. Seven or eight hours later, I've barely moved. And you know what? It may have been even BETTER the second time around! Y'all know what this is about, right? It's the coming of age story of two precocious 13-year-olds in GroVont, Wyoming. The novel opens in 1963, shortly before the Kennedy assassination. Sam and his mother are new to town. After a rocky start, he connects with pretty, young Maurey from his class. They're both readers and full of curiosity, not least of which about the "skipped parts" of novels. In other words, about sex. With the full knowledge and consent of Lydia--a mother unlike any other I've seen in all of literature--the two explore their sexuality and deal with the consequences. While certainly drama-filled, the thing to know about this book is that it's a comedy. And the deep humor comes from the extraordinary characters that Sandlin has created. I defy you to not fall in love with them. They're all so profoundly flawed and so very, very human. Sure I remembered the plot of the book, but I'd forgotten about warm Dot, the waitress at the diner. And I couldn't possibly remember all the facets of Lydia and the complexity of her relationship with Sam. A plot-driven novel is a letdown the second time around, but this is the perfect example of a character-driven novel getting richer. Not only with time, but--quite frankly--with the increased maturity and sophistication of the reader. Just imagine how good it will be if I read it again in another 20 years! For now, my intentions to move on to the second book, Sorrow Floats, are reaffirmed. And excellent news, Sandlin fans... Fifteen years after the conclusion of this trilogy, the author has returned to these characters with his latest title, Lydia. I have all sorts of reading to look forward to.* Oh, and if you have an e-reader, rush and snatch this wonderful novel up for free before April 11, 2011.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Heartbreakingly good!
By Sona Prasad
Brilliant writing! It makes you laugh, cry, shudder, pensive...all at once. There are moments which are so unbelievable that they have to be true. Great characters...all of them wired but lovable. A very interesting read a constant humorous undertone.

"Skipped Parts is somewhere between The Catcher in the Rye and Even Cowgirls Get the Blues." -Los Angeles Times Book Review
The novel that inspired the movie starring Mischa Barton and Drew Barrymore
Banished to the hinterlands of Wyoming, rebellious Lydia Callahan and her thirteen-year-old son Sam have no choice but to cope. But while Lydia drinks and talks to the moose head on the wall, Sam finds a friend in local girl Maurey Pierce. Sam and Maurey set out to discover for themselves what happens in the "skipped parts" of the novels they read – between the first kiss and the next morning. With Lydia's support the two teens set out on their sexual exploration, and deal with its consequences. One of the wildest, raunchiest, most heartfelt coming-of-age novels of the past thirty years, Skipped Parts puts Tim Sandlin in the upper echelon of contemporary comic novelists. This contemporary novel is raunchy, funny, and full of heart, perfect for fans of Nick Hornby, Jack Kerouac, Tom Robbins, Larry McMurtry, Joseph Heller, John Irving, Kurt Vonnegut, Carl Hiaasen. Other books in Tim Sandlin's GroVant Trilogy: Skipped Parts, Book 1; Sorrow Floats, Book 2; Social Blunders, Book 3; Lydia, Book 4.

What readers are saying about Skipped Parts: "deals with coming of age in a humorous and often poignant way" "Plot twists that would make J.K. Rowling jealous, humor, beautifully drawn characters, a great sense for the detail of the West" "sometimes heartwarming, often heartbreaking" "poignant, FUNNY, SHOCKING, and even heartbreaking" "the deep humor comes from the extraordinary characters" "funny, sad, and full of heart"

What reviewers are saying about Skipped Parts: "DAZZLING...moving...Sam's carapace is humor...He thinks like Holden Caulfield and has Joseph Heller's take on despair. His Walter Mitty-like fantasies are tiny comic gems... In the end you'll find yourself rooting for Sam." - New York Times Book Review
"A lighthearted, amusing, and tender story of preteen wisdom, adult immaturity, and the fine line between...An offbeat, engaging novel." -Publisher's Weekly
"This witty, often touching portrayal of a dirt-

street-wise youth's coming-of-age sparkles with intelligence." -Booklist "Thoughtful, surprising, and delightful entertainment." -St. Louis Post-Dispatch What everyone is saying about Tim Sandlin: "Tim Sandlin's stuff is as tight and funny as anyone doing this comedy novel thing." -Christopher Moore "His prose, his characters, all amazing." "A story of grand faux pas and dazzling dysfunction...a wildly satirical look at the absurdities of modern life." -The New York Times Book Review

From Publishers Weekly Confirming the promise of *Sex and Sunsets* and *Western Swing*, Sandlin has created a lighthearted, amusing and tender story of preteen wisdom, adult immaturity and the fine line between. It's 1963 when 13-year-old Sam Callahan and his tart-tongued, divorced, misbehaving mother, Lydia, are banished to the hick town of GroVont, Wyo., by Lydia's Southern-gentleman father, Casper. The only other intelligent sixth-grader in GroVont is spirited, pretty Maurey Pierce. Sharing their books, Sam and Maurey set out to discover what happens in the lost paragraphs between the first kiss and the happily ever after. With some coaching from liberated Lydia, the kids begin practicing for their first real sexual experience. Complications arise when Sam--envisioning romantic futures in the humorous, perceptive short stories he writes--finds himself in love with Maurey. Strong-willed Maurey, however, insists that they pair off with others for "normal" dating, even after she discovers she's pregnant. Hilarious teenage dating scenes are neatly contrasted with Lydia's unwise romantic entanglements and the pathetic snobbery of small-town social cliques. Narrated in Sam's adolescent voice--authentic in its tone and use of the vernacular--this offbeat, engaging novel elicits nonstop chuckles and, sometimes, a tear or two. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Sandlin (*Western Swing*, LJ 4/1/88) continues his quirky brand of humor in a Western setting, but unfortunately with less originality and freshness. Thirteen-year-old Sam Callahan's wild mother Lydia has displeased her father (who controls the purse strings) and so is banished from South Carolina to the quiet town of GroVont, Wyoming. She spends most of her time sitting around being disdainfully witty and drinking gin while son Sam writes short stories. Along comes precocious adolescent Maurey Pierce, who decides it's time she lost her virginity. Sam and Maurey experiment under liberal Lydia's roof; then Maurey gets pregnant. When she goes for an abortion and finds her mother there, all hell breaks loose. Though wittily told (sometimes to the point of being too cutesy), this is reminiscent of Larry McMurry's *The Last Picture Show*, but kinkier, in its depiction of the decay and hypocrisy behind the seemingly benign facade of small-town life. Basically, it's been done before. A marginal purchase. - Rosellen Brewer, Monterey Cty. Free Libs., Seaside, Cal. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author Tim Sandlin has published eight novels. Two of his screenplays have been made into movies. He turned forty with no phone, TV, or flush toilet and spent more time talking to the characters in his head than the people around him. He now has seven phone lines, four TVs he doesn't watch, three flush toilets, and a two-headed shower. He lives happily (indoors) with his family in Jackson, Wyoming.