The Privilege Of Youth: A Teenager's Story

The New York Times Bestseller

The Privilege of Youth

By the author of A Child Called "It"

A Teenager's Story of Longing for Acceptance and Friendship

DAVE PELZER

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Synopsis

The #1 New York Times and #1 internationally bestselling author who is a shining example of what overcoming adversity really means now shares the lost chapter of his uplifting journey, which has touched the lives of millions. From A Child Called "It" to The Lost Boy, from A Man Named Dave to Help Yourself, Dave Pelzer’s inspirational books have helped countless others triumph over hardship and misfortune. In The Privilege of Youth, he shares the missing chapter of his life: as a boy on the threshold of adulthood. With sensitivity and insight, he recounts the relentless taunting he endured from bullies; but he also describes the thrill of making his first real friends—some of whom he still shares close relationships with today. He writes about the simple pleasures of exploring his neighborhood, while trying to forget the hell waiting for him at home. From high school to a world beyond the four walls that were his prison for so many years, The Privilege of Youth bravely and compassionately charts this crucial turning point in Dave Pelzer’s life and will inspire a whole new generation of readers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

After reading `A Child Called "It"`, `The Lost Boy`, and `A Man Named Dave`, I felt almost as if I knew Dave Pelzer personally. That may seem strange, but after surviving an abusive childhood, I understand his way of thinking, his past insecurities, his need to prove himself, and his willingness to give of himself but being held back by the fear of being rejected. Now, after reading `The Privilege of Youth`, which should be read after `The Lost Boy` as something akin to a missing chapter that was significant to Dave’s development from a `Lost Boy` to `A Man Named Dave`, I still feel the
exact same way I felt after completing `A Man Named Dave’. Although `The Privilege of Youth' can be described as a 229 page missing chapter to `The Lost Boy`, that doesn't mean that it's not a completed work on its own. The first chapter begins just as the previous three books, with a memory from Dave’s past. This memory is about how Dave heard about the death of the man who Dave considered to be the father he never had, Dan Brazell. The rest of the chapter is dedicated to Dave’s memory of the last time he saw Dan. From the first chapter on, the book continues with Dave recounting the reckless moments of his life, the emotional and revealing conversations he had with his two best friends during his teenage years, and the countless hours he spent slaving away so that when he had to leave foster care at eighteen, he would have enough money to make it in the world. Although Dave supplied a great deal of information about his adventures in Duinsmoore in `The Lost Boy’, we get to know even more about them in this instalment in the series.

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