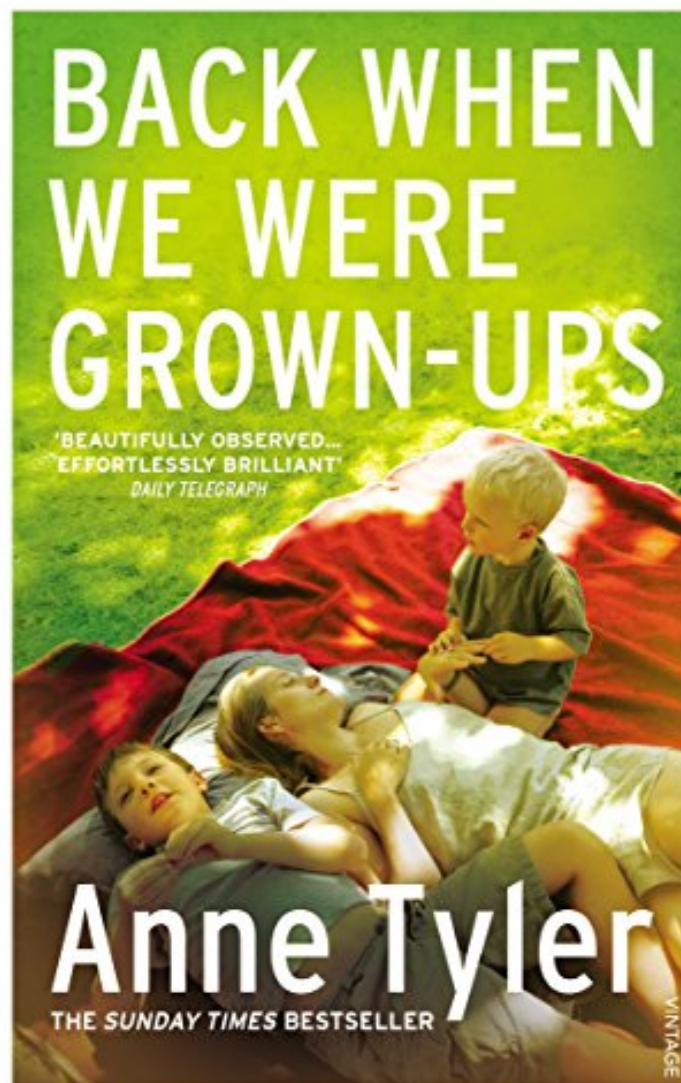


(Mobile ebook) Back When We Were Grown-ups

Back When We Were Grown-ups

Von Anne Tyler

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Produktinformation -Verkaufsrank: #204528 in eBooksVerffentlicht am: 2008-12-16Erscheinungsdatum: 2008-12-16File Name: B0031RS1NM | File size: 66.Mb

Von Anne Tyler : Back When We Were Grown-ups before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Back When We Were Grown-ups:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Schlicht, aber mit TiefeVon AliDies ist mein zweites Buch von Anne Tyler, welches ich glesen habe. Nach "Noah's compass" kommt dieses etwas blasser daher und besonders am Anfang konnte es mich nicht so fesseln. Ich denke aber, dass Tylers Strke im Erzhlen einer scheinbar schlichten Geschichte besteht, in der Beschreibung von Alltglichkeiten, wobei

sich die Kernaussagen erst beim zweiten oder dritten Blick entfalten, ohne dass einem Lebensweisheiten oder tiefschürfende Gedanken von der Autorin zentimeterdick aufs Brot gestrichen werden. Das Ganze ist immer durchzogen vom unaufdringlichen Humor der tylerschen Erzählweise. So konnte ich auch dieses Buch am Ende erfreut und befriedigt weglegen, mit dem Gefühl ein klein bisschen mehr von dem zu wissen, was Leben ausmacht.

16 von 16 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Sind die wichtigen Entscheidungen im Leben irreversibel? Von Ein Kunde Statt ihr Studium zu beenden ihren Sandkastenfreund zu heiraten und vielleicht eine wissenschaftliche Karriere zu verfolgen, hat Rebecca Knall auf Fall einen viel älteren Mann mit drei Töchtern geheiratet, den sie keine zwei Monate kannte. Jetzt ist sie 53 Jahre alt, seit fast 30 Jahren verwitwet, Mittelpunkt einer großen chaotischen Familie von Stieftöchtern, einer Tochter, Schwiegermutter, Ex-Schwiegermutter, Enkeln, Stiefenkeln und einem Schwiegergroßonkel. Ihren Lebensunterhalt verdient sie, indem sie in dem großen, aber ständig reparaturbedürftigen Haus, das sie von ihrem Mann geerbt hat, Feste aller Art arrangiert. Dabei war sie als junges Mädchen eher schüchtern, ernsthaft, ungesellig und mehr an Dingen als an Menschen interessiert. Und jetzt kommen ihr auch Zweifel: Ist das wirklich das Leben, das sie führen will? Hat sie damals die richtige Entscheidung getroffen? Sehr vorsichtig und zögernd nimmt sie den Kontakt zu ihrem Jugendfreund Will wieder auf. Er hat sich kaum geändert, hat den Beruf aus, den er angestrebt hatte, und ist genau das Gegenteil der chaotischen Familie Davitch, in die sie eingeheliratet hat. Nach einigen Schwierigkeiten kommen sich die beiden wieder näher, und schließlich stellt ihn Rebecca ihrer Familie als "den Mann in ihrem Leben" vor. Eines der Bücher, die man am liebsten in einem Zug durchlesen würde. Anne Tyler schildert ihre Personen genau und unbestechlich, aber immer liebevoll. Immer wieder erkennt man Situationen und Charakterzüge aus der eigenen Verwandtschaft (und auch von sich selbst) wieder. Und wer hat sich noch nie darüber Gedanken gemacht, wie das Leben heute wäre, wenn man sich an einem bestimmten Punkt anders entschieden hätte?

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A thoroughly enjoyable book Von Ein Kunde I really enjoyed this book. At first the whole set-up seemed irritating: the typically fractious family, the stepmother (Rebecca) in the middle of it all, suppressing her own identity and always playing the conciliator's role - they all seemed like stereotypes and the plot almost too horribly "cliche". I felt at once indignant on behalf of Rebecca, that she put up with it, but also frustrated with her for doing so. However, Tyler's characters developed and unfolded in such a compelling way that I felt myself being drawn into Rebecca's world and more and more interested in all of the personalities. By the end of the book I was totally won over by Rebecca and the choices she makes. The ending was, I thought, highly satisfactory and yet believable. In her journey along the road of personal discovery Rebecca answers the conundrum posed in the very first line of the book: "Once upon a time there was a woman who discovered she had turned into the wrong person". The poignant message of this book is that we should question and yet try to accept who and what we are. To wish to go back and change things may not give us that most elusive of states of mind: happiness. To be content with the way things work out may be the better outcome. Tyler's depiction of people, what motivates them and makes them tick, results in a at times funny and at other times very moving book. Definitely worth a second read.

Kurzbeschreibung One morning, Rebecca wakes up and realises she has turned into the wrong person. Is she really this joyous and outgoing organiser of parties, the put-upon heart of her dead husband's extended family? What happened to her quiet and serious nineteen-year-old self, and what would have happened if she'd married her college sweetheart? Can someone ever recover the person they've left behind?

OVER A MILLION ANNE TYLER BOOKS SOLD She's changed my perception on life Anna Chancellor One of my favourite authors Liane Moriarty She spins gold' Elizabeth Buchan Anne Tyler has no peer Anita Shreve My favourite writer, and the best line-and-length novelist in the world Nick Hornby A masterly author Sebastian Faulks Tyler is not merely good, she is wickedly good John Updike I love Anne Tyler Anita Brookner Her fiction has strength of vision, originality, freshness, unconquerable humour Eudora Welty.de The first sentence of Anne Tyler's 15th novel, *Back When We Were Grown Ups*, sounds like something out of a fairy tale: "Once upon a time, there was a woman who discovered she had turned into the wrong person." Alas, this discovery has less to do with magic than with a late-middle-age crisis, which is visited upon Rebecca Davitch in the opening pages of the book. At 53, this perpetually agreeable widow is "wide and soft and dimpled, with two short wings of dry, fair hair flaring almost horizontally from a centre part". Given her role as the matriarch of a large family--and the proprietress of a party-and-catering concern, *The Open Arms*--Rebecca is both personally and professionally inclined towards jollity. But at an engagement bash for one of her multiple stepdaughters, she finds herself questioning everything about her life: "How on earth did I get like this? How? How did I ever become this person who's not really me?" She spends the rest of the novel attempting to answer these questions--and trying to resurrect her former, extinguished self. Should she take up the research she began back in college, on Robert E Lee's motivation for joining the Confederacy? More to the point, should she take up with her college sweetheart who's now divorced and living within easy striking range? None of these quick fixes pans out exactly as Rebecca imagines. What she emerges with is a kind of radiant resignation, best expressed by 100-year-old Poppy on his birthday: "There is no true life. Your true life is the one you end up with, whatever it may be." A tautology perhaps but Tyler's delicate, densely populated novel

makes it stick. Yes, Poppy. There are also characters named NoNo, Bidy, and Min Foo--the sort of saccharine roll-call that might send many a reader scampering in the opposite direction. But Tyler knows exactly how to mingle the sweet with the sour and in *Back When We Were Grownups* she manages this balancing act like the old pro she is. Even the familiar backdrop--shabby-genteel Baltimore, which resembles a virtual game preserve of Tylerian eccentrics--seems freshly observed. Can any human being really resist this novel? It is, to quote Rebecca, "a report on what it was like to be alive," and an appealingly accurate one to boot. --James Marcus, .comPressestimmen You are involved before you even notice you were paying attention . . . Her feel for character is so keen that even hardened metafictionalists [who] would happily fry the whole notion of character for breakfast are reduced to the role of helpless gossips, swapping avid hunches about the possible fates of the characters. Tom Shone, *The New Yorker* Wise, kind, rueful and clear-eyed . . . and her truths are as gritty as earth and as interesting as the world. Amy Bloom, *Elle* There's not a flat line in this book . . . not a moment that isn't tapped for all its glorious possibilities. This is storytelling at its best and most breathtaking. Beth Kephart, *Book magazine* Tyler's eye and ear for familial give and take is unerring, her humanity irresistible. You'll want to turn back to the first chapter the moment you finish the last. Linnea Lannon, *People* From the Hardcover edition.