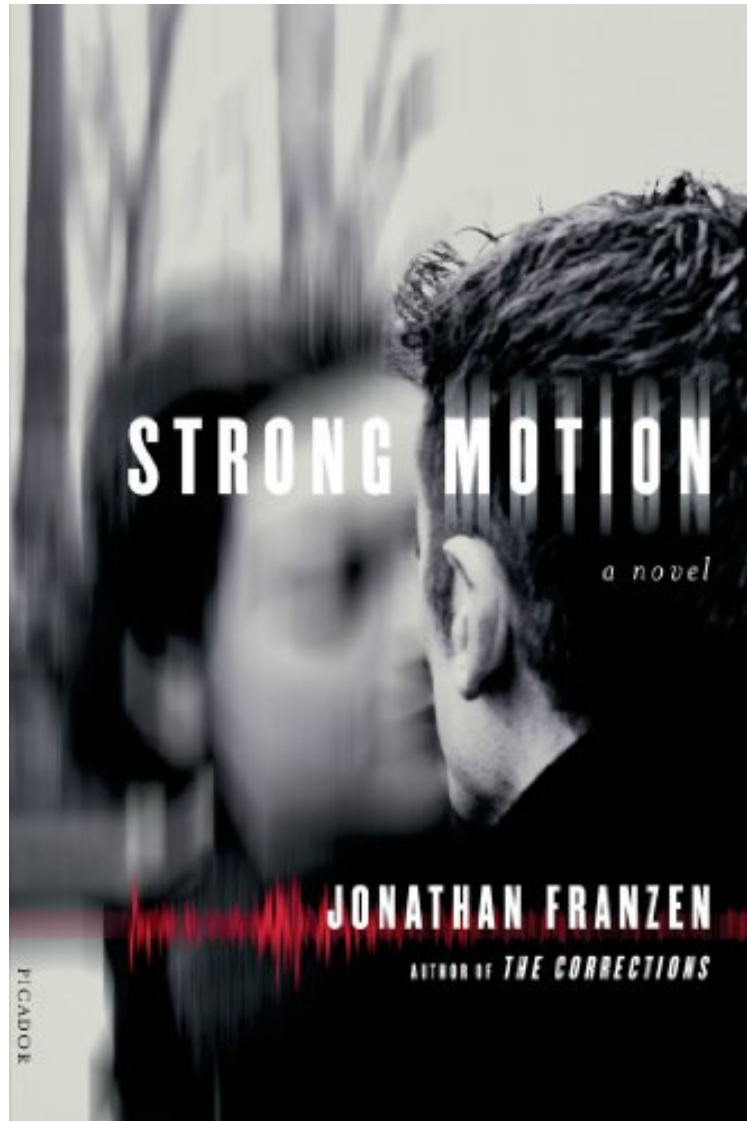


[Download] Strong Motion: A Novel

Strong Motion: A Novel

Von Jonathan Franzen
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Von Jonathan Franzen : Strong Motion: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Strong Motion: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen16 von 17 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. don't be fooledVon Ein Kundefirst of all: don't be fooled into thinking that this book is another one of those well-known 2nd class fiction novels with unrealistic plots to begin with. no, the earthquake plot only provides franzen a skeleton on which he can build his formidable characters. louis's struggle to overcome his feud over his mother's inheritance, as

well as his morbid interests seem to draft heavily from Shakespeare's Hamlet, whereas his overall trouble of having to grow up eventually has some traces of Salinger's characters, especially Holden. Overall a great book which might not be quite as powerful as 'The Corrections', but definitely not for Franzen being inexperienced; it's just less of an epic and more quiet and pensive. -m4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Strong, not afraid to be complicated
Von Ein Kunde I don't think I've ever read a novel where my opinions of the characters changed so much in the course of the book. That's a good sign - no one in this story is one-dimensional. Franzen has no problem with digression, which provides some of the strength of characterization. His people will take a page or two at any time to go on about things that are really important to them (nostalgia for punk and new wave music, for example, or how it feels to want to buy clothes that you see worn by the kind of people you can't stand.) Even the least important characters get filled in. His plotting is, in the end, a bit weaker, but still serves. Highly recommended - and just where are the novels since this one?
4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A intelligent, gratifying read.
Von Russillo SM The precedent "analysis" of Mr. Franzen's demeanor and state of mind aside, this book was a heck of a good read! The week I spent with "Strong Motion" saw several groggy days because at night I had trouble setting it aside to get some sleep. (Particularly in the latter half of the story as the stresses -- interpersonal as well as petrologic -- build). Franzen's prose is fluent, his imagery original yet accessible. Writers have much to learn from this work; readers have much to savor.

Kurzbeschreibung Louis Holland arrives in Boston in a spring of ecological upheaval (a rash of earthquakes on the North Shore) and odd luck: the first one kills his grandmother. Louis tries to maintain his independence, but falls in love with a Harvard seismologist whose discoveries about the earthquakes' cause complicate everything.
From Kirkus s Franzen follows his widely acclaimed debut, *The Twenty-seventh City* (1988), with a potent saga of tentative love and environmental catastrophe that quakes and ultimately self-destructs, although it fragments into magnificent pieces in the process. The title, a technical term for ground shaking near the epicenter of an earthquake, comes into play as a series of shocks hits the coast north of Boston, the first of which supposedly kills young Louis Holland's crotchety grandmother. His family inherits millions as a result, but he has no access to it, even when he loses his job at a local radio station after a takeover by right- to-lifers. A bright patch in his otherwise bleak landscape is his girlfriend Rene Seichek, a principled seismologist working at Harvard who connects the seismic activity with secret long-term dumping of a major chemical company's toxic waste into a deep well drilled on its property. Louis and Rene split up when an old flame comes to visit him, however, and in her loneliness Rene discovers she's pregnant, leading to a showdown between her and the fundamentalists picketing her abortion clinic. When she's mysteriously shot and critically wounded immediately afterward, Louis nurses her to health even as a final quake causes widespread damage, utterly destroying the chemical plant in a moment of sweet if heavy-handed poetic justice. Unfortunately, the dichotomies between romance and science, abortion and the environment are unresolved, and the self-pity in Louis's nihilism as he rails against mother, father, sister, the world, and himself makes him a cold and distant protagonist. A brooding tale of personal responsibility and dangerous legacies that's ambitious and impressive but finally overreaches itself. -- Copyright 1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.
From Library Journal An earthquake that 23-year-old Louis Holland doesn't even feel shakes the Boston area and sets in motion a chain of events in this multilayered, metaphor-studded novel with a love story at its core. After Louis's step-grandmother is the quake's only fatality, his mother inherits millions in stock of chemical company Sweeting-Aldren, and Louis meets seismologist Renee Seitchek, who shares her bed and her theory with him. When tremors continue in the Northeast, scientists study fault lines, a fundamentalist anti-abortion minister credits God's wrath, and Renee suggests "induced seismicity" from Sweeting-Aldren's longtime secret pumping of industrial wastes into a deep well. Franzen (*The Twenty-Seventh City*, LJ 11/1/88) may push an occasional metaphor too far, but distractions fade in the face of fine characterizations in a context of science grounded in history with well-integrated social messages and a subtext of the Boston Red Sox breaking fans' hearts. Impressive.- Michele Leber, Fairfax Cty. P.L., Va. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.