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Julian Clary

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The Sunday Times Bestseller

JULIAN
CLARY



A YOUNG
MAN'S
PASSAGE

'Upliftingly hilarious' Paul Merton

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Julian Clary : A Young Man's Passage before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Young Man's Passage:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A dull glowBy Earnest SludgeShorn of Clary's considerable good looks and charm this book only amounts to a long list of self-gossip particulars for die-hard fans only. And frankly, I was expecting a lot more sex. So, thank God we have recorded copies of his greatest performances at the height of his beauty and sexiness that we can enjoy over and over. I wish him all the best, "a thing of beauty is a joy forever".5 of 5

people found the following review helpful. FunnyBy tamiiiWhen I picked this book up I had no idea who Julian Clary was. I hadn't seen his television shows, his theatrical performances, not even seen a photo of him. In short, I never heard of him. Nevertheless, this book may very well endure beyond him. I cannot say that I've recently read anything which speaks so eloquently. If you have known sorrow, and mirth, the kind of thing for which we remember Christopher Isherwood, then you may both understand and appreciate this surprising book. Clearly, Clary erroneously believes that only those familiar with his career would be interested in this spritely trip down Clary's passage from adolescent fantasies of future fame to his relatively early grasp of profound, and conflicted, human feeling. I am thankful to have shared a part of this frank journey with him. As memoirs go this is certainly among the more honest and deep. Besides, you will laugh alot--as Twain noted, the most uniquely human of experiences. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. excellent bio !By mosiegirlI really enjoyed reading Julians' bio.. after watching him win on Big Brother it peaked my interest in what his life was really like.. It was an excellent read !

This is Julian Clary's story, in his own words - the tale of an awkward schoolboy who became a huge worldwide success on stage and screen. After a sheltered suburban upbringing, Julian was sent to St Benedict's, where beatings from 'holy' men gave him some brutal life lessons, and other 'unholy' boys his first awakenings of sexuality. He had just one true friend and ally, Nick - to his other school peers, Julian's aloof demeanour made him an enigma or simply a figure of ridicule. In school he was just another pained adolescent, but inside Julian was a new Jean Genet or Quentin Crisp bursting to get out. Leaving St Benedict's thankfully behind him, Julian went on to college where he found his true vocation as an entertainer with a peculiar comic brand of smut and glamour. At the same time, he was finding as much sex as he could, sometimes with remarkably less-than-glamorous characters. Periods in community theatre and the singing telegram industry followed before Julian hit the big time with cabaret co-star Fanny the Wonder Dog as The Joan Collins Fan Club. Soon, the world was his oyster. But fame came at a price, as Julian struggled not only with the reality of being a high-profile gay man in the 1980s but also the pain of losing his lover to terminal illness. Far more than just another celebrity autobiography or 'funny book', this is a touching, beautifully written and wryly witty account of a unique progression from shy child to comedy icon.

"An amazing story ... a human testament worthy of a hundred of the more luvvy memoirs spouting self-congratulation" -- Andrew O'Hagan * Telegraph * "A wryly engaging romp" * The Sunday Times * "A witty, charming autobiography" * Heat * "This is a beautifully honest and sensitive account of a life and career stuffed full of surprising detail. I, for one, never knew Julian was gay" -- Paul Merton "Brilliant" -- Jimmy Carr About the Author Julian Clary went to school at Ealing Abbey, then studied English and Drama at Goldsmith's College before joining the Covent Garden Community Theatre for three productions, most notably I Was a Teenage Sausage Dog. After some time as a singing telegram, he began working on the cabaret circuit as The Joan Collins Fan Club with a small mongrel called Fanny the Wonderdog, whose uncanny impersonations of the Pope and members of the Royal Family were a big success. Stardom on stage and screen soon beckoned. Julian has performed at fourteen Edinburgh Festivals, two Royal Variety Shows and the Vauxhall Tavern. He is a regular panellist on Radio 4's Just A Minute. He recently returned from his sell-out Natural Born Mincer tour of Australia and is currently playing Leigh Bowery in the touring West End musical Taboo. He lives in London with a cat called Gloria and a dog called Valerie - the recent star of BBC1's Celebrity Dog School.