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A Work In Progress: A Memoir



Synopsis

From YouTube star vlogger Connor Franta comes an audiobook that grows out of his massive social media outreach - filled with annotated postcards, notes, texts, tweets, journal entries, emails, and letters that chart his coming of age. The front of the postcards feature his photos, both of himself and the things that inspire him, with the back answering questions from fans or relating anecdotes about the things that drive and influence him. Listened to from start to finish, the book tells a coherent narrative about Connor's coming of age and becoming an adult and the ups and downs that are a part of that. From bullying to dating to leaving home, this is an inspirational book for fans who are growing up and establishing their individuality. The various modes of communication in the book also reflect changes in Connor's own use of technology over the last several years. A cross between an essay collection and a coming-of-age memoir, told in brief, the book is divided into sections, each beginning with a short introduction about what's affected Connor growing up. For example, a section on family begins with a short piece on Connor's family and what he's learned from them, so that his fans can get a greater insight into his life and learn something from it.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Whispersync for Voice: Ready

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Audible Audiobooks > Humor

Customer Reviews

It's been a while since I've rated a book four stars! In today's society, it is becoming more and more common, to see YouTubers/content creators bridging the gap between their videos, and their general audience. This has been achieved through the selling of their own merchandise, partaking

in television shows, and recently, the writing and releasing of their own books. Connor Franta's book has set a high bar for future books to be released by YouTubers. Usually reserved and guarded about himself in his videos, the reader is given (I suspect) almost complete access to Connor Franta's personal life and his journey to getting to where he is today. We are met with "The Other Connor Franta", the one who viewers do not get to see once the camera is turned off, the one whom only those truly close to him get to know. The vulnerable-yet-resilient young man, who reminds us how alike we are to each other, how we all have the same fears and social pressures, whilst letting us know that it is ok, that you will be ok. But as I said, almost complete access. I did feel at the end of the book, that the author held back and not provided the full 'intimate' experience that the book was described as. There is a strong positive vibe than can be found on each page, where the author shares his personal experiences with depression, self-doubt and self-discovery (more on that in a bit), and yet always ends his chapters on a positive note, much like the majority of his YouTube videos. And it is that positivity, that invokes a sense of "yeah, I'm going to be ok" or "I will get through this" within the reader. The author also shares his unique view on the world, taking the reader into his creative and inquisitive mind, that leaves the reader thinking about what he has said, and taking on a new appreciation for life, and the wonders that it holds. Everything from society's obsession with our phones, to the struggles of early adulthood and responsibility is examined, explored, and left with an infectious positivity (as you may have guessed, there is a lot of positivity in this book). The most touching moments in the book, are where the author is honest with the reader. Most noticeably, his own coming out story, dealing with loneliness, dating and High School experience, that I am almost certain will resonate with the majority of his viewers. Throughout the book, the reader is treated to samples of the author's creativity through photography (and indeed, a topic that is discussed in length in the book). I myself found myself admiring these photos, wishing that my own were just 1/10 as good as the author's are! Also, there are lovely little 'Interlude' chapters, where the author retells a small story, whether it be a memory, his love for coffee, or his impressive charity work. They serve as a refreshing break from each chapter, that reveal a little bit more about the author, without going into great detail. As a more personal touch, there are childhood photos of the author and his family, along with his caring, loving side that is evident in a piece of homework: "When a I grow up I want to be a doctor because I want to help people". However, there were a couple of issues that I did notice through the book, one of which was consistency. There were a couple of chapters that I thought were repeating themselves, and did not add much to the book. Another issue was the chronological order. Whilst it starts out fine, it does lose it's way nearing the end of the book, and it seemed as if the publisher was pushing for more

chapters, when there were no more to write, which resulted in overlapping and doubling back nearing the end. Some chapters should have been combined together to provide a more consistency to the reading experience. And I feel that the author's love/hate relationship with social media (that is how it came across) could have been placed together in one chapter, rather than spread out. As I say in the second paragraph, YouTubers/content creators are branching out into different industries, which is a wonderful thing. However, it does limit the people who will like, buy, read and rate their books, to their viewing audience and to their age demographic. Unless you have heard of the author, or familiar with his work (I make the same point in my review on Grace Helbig's book), then there is a chance that these books will not be to your taste. I would suggest watching the author's videos, and becoming familiar with the work, prior to purchasing the book.*Overall, a beautifully presented book, that is heartfelt-yet-positive; thought provoking-yet-inspirational; honest-yet-comforting. I truly enjoyed reading this debut work, and should the author wish to write another book in a few years, I certainly will not complain and anticipate it greatly!*Update: Having thought about it more, I realised that this point can be applied to all authors. With every new book that is released, a reader is introduced to a new world, to a new person, to new ways of thinking, and be inspired by new ideas. We, the readers, never know things about the author, their lives or may not know their work very well, however that does not mean we cannot enjoy the book before us.

I don't read often but when I started reading this book I couldn't put it down. I read it all in one sitting (on purpose!!!!!!). It was amazing how relatable it was to my life throughout childhood. I will say this Connor. You were wrong about one thing in this book.... I did NOT have my phone on me while reading hahaha this was a great read and I love how it wasn't censored and was true to the heart. 5 stars all the way!

From the design of the book to the words inside, this book is five stars. Each chapter is like a snapshot of his life with a moral or life lesson added in. It's inspiring and will make you laugh and cry, sometimes at the same time.

I honestly was not sure about getting this a first. I love Connor, but since many other YouTubers were releasing books I thought they were just to go with whatever everyone else was doing, but this one is very interesting. It reveals a side of him we don't see from a 5 minute video. It shows all different factors of life growing up. It shows so much passion and is overall a great read.

So thrilled to get Connors book! I don't read as often as I'd like but I'm only 15 pages in and I can't seem to put it down.... Well, I put it down to write this review so show my support and love for Connor and his accomplishments! Congrats on the book and thank you so much!

4.75/5 I just feel that this is truly amazing. I actually have a new appreciation for Connor and what he does. He just seems like a very wonderful person who is very inspirational. I'm actually somewhat inspired by the stories he told and the advice he gave. I didn't expect to like this novel, but all I can say is I just pressed the subscribe button on Connor's channel and I actually followed him on Instagram. I am now a fan and I couldn't be happier. This is so inspiring and genuine that I truly felt while reading. It was such an amazing experience and I really plan to involve some of the points displayed in this novel. You are the only person who can change you and that is such a beautiful thing. You can't stop being you. I don't want to stop being me, so I want to be the best that I can be. I truly want to live my life differently. Thank you Connor.

This book is so inspiring! I'm so happy right now that I actually got to know Connor so much more! I didn't know so much stuff and now I know a lot! This book has inspired me to write a book & I know I can do it! Connor, your words are so meaningful and beautiful. ILYSM Connor!!~Love From Singapore!!!! (NAME:Eason)

I am a huge fan of Connor Franta and he is my favorite YouTuber, so naturally I added his book to my wish list as soon as I heard about it. It does not disappoint. It is not just a by the numbers memoir, as it frequently digresses to his thoughts on society, relationships, friendships, and other topics. I loved that about it, the fact that he gets to go way deeper than he can in any of his videos. I especially liked the section where he spoke about coming to terms with his sexuality; that really resonated with me because I am going through a similar struggle with my bisexuality. My favorite section, however, is the one where he talks about friendships and the societal expectations placed upon us. A lot of his thoughts echoed my personal sentiments on the meaning and value of friendship. I will continue to watch his videos and hope he writes another book soon! I highly recommend this book to anyone who's facing the challenge of growing up.

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