

## APPENDICES

### **Biography of Alan Hollinghurst**

Alan Hollinghurst is a gay British novelist. He was born on May 26, 1954 in Stroud, Gloucestershire, and he is the only child of a bank manager. He studied English at Magdalen College, Oxford before completing his MA. Hollinghurst taught English at Oxford University until 1981 before taking up the position of deputy editor of the Times Literary Supplement, where he worked until 1995.

His first novel The Swimming-Pool Library (1988) portrays about London gay life in the early 1980s. His second novel The Folding Star in 1994 was short listed for the Booker Prize for Fiction.

His third novel The Spell (1998) interweaves the complex relationship among a group of middle-class gay Englishmen who are friends, ex-lovers, father and son.

Hollinghurst's most recent novel The Line of Beauty (2004) traces a decade of change and tragedy. It won the 2004 Man Booker Prize for fiction.

(Smith, Jules., Dr, 2002).

## Summary of The Spell

Alex Nichols, a middle-aged, discreetly gay. His ex-lover, Justin invites him to spend the weekend in the country home with his new lover Robin, a forty-something gay dad. There, Alex met Robin's twenty-two-year old gay son, Danny. Alex begins dating Danny once they are back in London. He keeps his new affair with Danny in secret for Justin and Robin because at first he was not really sure with his feeling.

Later, Alex has to experience his second failure as Danny will soon grow bored with a settled relationship and Danny wants to break up with Alex. Danny still can not forget about his ex-lover George and Danny also does not really sure with his feeling to Alex. Alex who could not admit it at first, attempt to realize the fact that Danny is much younger than him and Danny is not ready to make commitment.

Justin, Alex's ex-lover begin feels bore with his relation ship with Robin because he sometimes feel uncomfortable that his lover already has a child but Justin can not tell it directly to Robin. Justin who actually loves Robin so much tries to endure and at last he does not leave Robin. Justin and Alex becomes a good friend but Justin tries to keep away from Alex in case not to make Robin jealous.

Robin, even tough sometimes he feels rather jealous with Alex, he tries to positive thinking on Alex and not hates Alex. Robin loves Justin so much and he does not want to loose someone he loves for the second time after he was left by his ex-lover Simon who died of AIDS.

Danny is Robin's only child who is also a gay. He is the youngest among these four gay men. He was thrown away by his ex-lover George and later he makes a new secret

affair with Alex. At last he can not maintain his relationship with Alex. He chooses to break up with Alex.

At the end of the story, Justin and Robin's relationship getting more intimate and Robin does not hate Alex any longer. Alex has a new relationship with Nick.