

APPENDICES

SYNOPSIS OF THE LINE OF BEAUTY

This novel is divided into three sections, dated 1983, 1986 and 1987. The first section opens in the summer of 1983. Nicholas Guest is a twenty-year-old young gay. While waiting for his graduation from Oxford, Nick moves to the Notting Hill, the mansion of Gerald Fedden, one of Thatcher's Tory MPs. He moves there at the request of Gerald's son, Toby (Nick's close friend in Oxford). Gerald's wife, Rachel, comes from a wealthy Jewish family and his daughter, Catherine, has a mental disorder. Nick becomes more deeply absorbed in the life of the Feddens. He enjoys the privilege of this wealthy family. The story is focused on Nick's experiences. The first gay lover he has is Leo Charles, who is promiscuous and takes Nick's virginity. Through this black civil servant, Nick discovers the pleasure of metropolitan gay life.

The next section tells about what happens three years afterwards. Nick's life becomes more complicated. He starts to reach his dream to have wealth and authority. He begins an affair with Wani Quradi, a very rich and handsome Lebanese. Wani has hired Nick as an editorial consultant for his new high class style magazine. Their relationship becomes closer and Wani introduces Nick to cocaine. Nick is aware of running too many risks with Wani. Disaster comes in 1987 when Nick is involved in Gerald's scandal. At the end of the novel, something tragic happens to Nick; his HIV test proves to be positive, which finally makes him feel regretful.

BIOGRAPHY OF ALAN HOLLINGHURST

Alan Hollinghurst was born on May 26, 1954 in Stroud, Gloucestershire in England. He studied English at Magdalen College, Oxford. In the late 1970s he became a lecturer at Magdalen, and then at Somerville College and Corpus Christi College. In 1981 he gave lectures at the University of London. He joined the Times Literary Supplement in 1981 and from 1982 to 1995 he became a deputy editor. His novel, The Swimming-Pool Library, which was published in 1988, won the Somerset Maugham Award. His next novel, The Folding Star was short listed for the Booker Prize in 1994 and winner of the James Tait Black Memorial Prize for fiction. He also wrote Spell, a gay comedy of manners interweaving complex relationships. Alan Hollinghurst's translation of Racine's play, Bajazet, was first performed in 1990. He was also one of Granta Best Young British Novelists in 1993. His most recent novel, The Line of Beauty, which won The Man Booker Prize in 2004, was adapted into a three part television series by the BBC and aired on BBC2 in May 2006. Alan Hollinghurst now lives in London.

Source: Alan Hollinghurst: Biography.17 September 2007.

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