



The Best Little Boy in the World Grows Up

Andrew Tobias , John Reid

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John Reid's *The Best Little Boy in the World* was hailed as a classic memoir of growing up gay in a straight world. But "John Reid" didn't write it. Years would pass before the writer could reveal his true identity as Andrew Tobias, America's bestselling financial guru, author of *The Only Investment Guide You'll Ever Need*. Now, twenty-five years later, Tobias, proud to use his real name, brings his remarkable life story up to date.

Writing with his customary charm and frank humor, Tobias tells of love affairs and heartbreak, hot New York parties and tough political battles, the excitement of genuine social change and the tragedy of seeing dear friends die young. Here too are the unforgettable scenes of Tobias revealing his sexual orientation not only to his parents but to the president of the United States.

The author is an irresistible companion as he shares with us his proud stories, embarrassing confessions, and hilarious musings on "the homosexual lifestyle." Witty, heartfelt, and wonderfully affirming in every sense, this is Andrew Tobias's finest book to date.

The Best Little Boy in the World Grows Up Details

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From Reader Review The Best Little Boy in the World Grows Up for online ebook

Michael Holland says

Not quite as funny as the first book, but still endearing. I am glad that Andrew Tobias thought to come out with his real name instead on the pen name of John Reid.

Christopher Dionesotes says

If I had read this 15 years ago when it was first published, it would have held more meaning. If it were written in recent years, it would have been unnecessary. I read 3/4 of this book before I put it down and could go no further.

Marks House says

Two copies

Zack Subin says

Autobiography with gay life pre-AIDS and politics. A little self-aggrandizing.

Jay says

Many times the sequel is not as good as the first book but I enjoyed reading this book and finding out how the author's life turned out as a mature gay man. I recommend both books highly.

Terrence says

I have had this book for several years. I bought it along with "The Best Little Boy in the World". I started the first book several years ago but never finished it. Now that I'm long out and blah and blah, I went ahead and started reading the sequel.

Rory says

This is the sequel to 'the best little boy in the whole wide world' which is one of the best autobiographies about growing up gay ever. It takes the unknown author (he used a fake name with the first book) and

unmasks both his childhood self and reveals the path his adult self took. It's an amazing arch considering the books take place quite a few years apart--not in subject but in composition.

Gary Hawsey says

Did not like this book. OK--the author had written The Best Little Boy in the World using an alias therefore nobody knew that Andrew Tobias had so many fabulous friends. So..... now that he's OUT he writes this book to let us all know how many famous and important people he knows. Who cares. OK I'll admit there was a little gay history imparted, but not worth all the lists of celebs that were his great "friends".

Pat Lampe says

This is sort of a sequel. I hadn't read the first book but did enjoy this. I like his writing style. And it was interesting to read about a different life style.

Karen says

4.5 stars

I enjoyed Tobias's first memoir--originally published in the early 1970s under a pseudonym--that dealt with the sublimation of his sexuality through academics and sports (thus, The Best Little Boy in the World) and his eventual coming out as a college-aged adult. This book, written twenty-five years later, hits some important highs and lows in both his life and the country's attitudes toward gays during that time.

In the more personal sections of the book, the author discusses relationships, those that worked and those that didn't, continuing the story from his earlier volume. (He does finally meet his long-time partner.) The most poignant aspect of the book was the dramatic change brought about by AIDS. Where, early in the book, Tobias referred to Fire Island summer weekend getaways with elaborate parties, later in the book he gives an accounting of how many of those friends had been lost to the disease.

Some readers may be a bit turned off by the sometimes upscale life that Tobias refers to (his life is in finance and he knows other movers and shakers), but it only emphasized to me how important it is for a movement to attract and hold the support of people in positions of power. Part of the early gay rights movement worked at getting those people to *know* gays as individuals so that those in power would come to understand that there was no basis for discrimination and every reason to aid the push for equality.
