



## The Boy Next Door

*G.A. Hauser*

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## **The Boy Next Door** G.A. Hauser

You'll never forget your first... Brandon Townsend and Zachary Sherman were best friends and next-door neighbors. Growing up together in a cozy suburban town in New Jersey, they were inseparable and thought nothing could tear them apart. Then one night something happened between them, something that brought them even closer together... They didn't anticipate that what began as youthful sexual experimentation would lead them into an affair of the heart that would rock them to the core. Nor did they expect the danger of being discovered and separated by their families. At the time, neither Brandon or Zach realized that life would give them another opportunity. Now, ten years later, a chance meeting brings them together again. Let best-selling gay fiction author G.A. Hauser take you on an unforgettable journey. A coming of age story about faith, about courage, and about trust...you'll never forget The Boy Next Door.

## **The Boy Next Door Details**

Date : Published February 12th 2008 by Createspace Independent Publishing Platform (first published January 1st 2008)

ISBN : 9781449592844

Author : G.A. Hauser

Format : Paperback 182 pages

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Adult Fiction, Erotica, Contemporary, Lgbt, Gay

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## From Reader Review The Boy Next Door for online ebook

### Readingspre Joseph says

Starting this book I had high expectations but as it progressed I just got bored and didn't feel like reading it. But out of my compulsion for finishing books I started I did finish it and found that the book was worth reading after all. A sweet happily ever after book.

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### T.A. Webb says

Brandon and Zachary have been best friends from the time they were two years old, with their families being close also. Once the two become teens, they discover they have feelings for each other that transcend friendship. As the two become closer and explore the love between them, and plan on a future together, forces outside their control intervene.

This is the story of how they love, lose each other, and reconnect.

Very well written, emotionally true to the characters, and very touching on many levels. Ms. Hauser explores young love and family, and how pressures can rip love apart.

I was touched by the slow build of this book, and heartbroken by some of the occurrences, but as usual, Ms. Hauser delivers strongly on the premise she has build.

Very enthusiastic thumbs up!

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### Alita Conejita says

I deliberated between a 2 and 3 star review.

More than half the book covers the MCs as teenagers, then the rest when they are adults. I felt like the level of immaturity and sexual innocence described of the MCs at 17 yrs old and the 13yr old sister were not that plausible for the 1990s. I also didn't like the negative speak towards women. Ranging from "girls are dumb" (at 17yr old) to "cunt" and "pussy" (at 27yr old). Women were not portrayed overall in a bad light, but I was really bothered by some of the broad negative statements and that most of the [minor] female characters being portrayed so negatively. Still the statements were plausible for the MCs and the context.

Also, the HEA was too sudden IMO.

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### Lidia says

In this book I particularly liked the delicacy and simplicity with which the writer has treated the relationship of the two young protagonists, friendship, their attraction, the ingenuità that accompanied the discovery of their bodies and their feelings. It was natural and immediate rooting for Brandon but Zachary earned his points when he renounced everything rediscovering his lover.

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## Nichole (DirrtyH) says

7/4: This book ended up being kind of sweet. It was better than Secrets and Misdemeanors - it wasn't quite so ridiculous. I just wish Hauser had a better feel for the way real people actually talk and act. I spent most of the book thinking 'No one talks like that! No one would ever say that! No one's mom is like that except maybe in the 40's!'

7/3:

I'm on page 4, and so far the same 17 year old boy has said the following: "I love baseball. It's such a cool sport. I'm sorry it's almost over." and "It's Friday. We can get our homework done and stay up late."

Seriously? That's how teenage boys talk in your world, G.A.?

Update: "Late" ended up being 10:00pm.

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## Elisa Rolle says

I always love G.A. Hauser's books, they are easy to read and very romantic, with a "acid" side, it's not easy to explain, but her romances are never too sugary, since there is always a bit of naughty side in her characters.

The Boy Next Door is a coming of age book. I didn't expect that a great part of the book is dedicated to the relationship between Brandon and Zach when they were still two teens in heat. Brandon and Zach always live next door, and since they were one year old, everything they did they did it together: the first sexual curiosity, the first hot glances to a naked body... and since they did all together, they did also the first sexual experience together and with each other. First kiss and eventually first time sex. But unfortunately their parents were not so glad of it and they torn them apart, sending Zach to Boston and Brandon to New York and Zach's parents managed to lose contact. When Brandon meets again Zach, he is a successful journalist, openly gay, and instead Zach is a soon-to-be divorced womanizer... something is happened in Zach's past. Is he ready to leave the past behind and build something new with Brandon?

I always like the story involving teens, and so I'm very happy to find that most of the book is spent telling us the story of Zach and Brandon as young boys. My only regret is that the book is relative short, 170 pages. I said "relative", since this is not a short novel, but since the two characters are so nice, and I like them, I'd like to read more, and I think it'd be interesting to read about Zach and Brandon as adults, and how they manage to be together; I feel like the second part of the story is too fast, and like I'm not just ready to leave Zach and Brandon and their story.

Brandon is apparently the shier boy, he has already realized to be in love with Zach but he fears to reveal his feeling to the other boy, he doesn't want to be reject by Zach. And so he is surprise, but happy, when the other boy makes the first move. But Zach, even if eager to be with Brandon, and always the first to push the sexual boundaries and to experiment with their young bodies, he is also the first to fear the reaction of the people, above all of their parents, but also of strangers. He thinks to be ready to give free rein to his body demands, but he is not ready to openly claim his sexuality. In this aspect, Brandon is much more adult.

After all, probably nor Zach or Brandon were enough grown for what they had. Since they were always together, they arrived too much soon to something that other people find further in their life. And since they were not ready to claim their love, it was easier for their parents to stop them. But as adults, I don't think the

situation is much more different: Brandon is still the more balanced between the two, and Zach is still the one struggling with his own sexuality.

Both Zach and Brandon are not "noble" characters. This is one of the characteristic that I always find in Hauser's characters: they are men who mistake and mistake badly, but more often than not, find a justification for their action and with it an absolution; worst, sometime they also continue to behave badly, if this allow them to obtain what they want, sooner and in an easy way. So why I like them so much? maybe since they are not the perfect hero of the fable and they are more similar to the real people, and so to me.

In all the book I found only one thing that didn't ring right to me: the easiness in which Brandon and Zach approach sex, above all anal sex... it was all too simple, all went to right and without problem... don't know maybe it's only a "female" perception, and for two boys things are different.

<http://www.amazon.com/dp/B001BXWMD8/?...>

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### **Suraj says**

I enjoyed reading this. Was a sweet romantic story. Brandon and Zachary were really close and always had been. It could have been understood that their parents separated them, which was the touching part. But fate brought them together, which was a nice bright rebuild of the story brought about by Ms. Hauser.

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### **Jacq says**

Dammm deep a wonderful story.

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### **Charly says**

Sweet idea, but lacks any real depth

Warning: This review might contain what some people consider SPOILERS.

Rating: 6/10

#### **PROS:**

- The two main guys are sweet, the circumstances under which they fall in love are sweet, their reunion is sweet, etc.
- I had to laugh at the antics of two high school boys figuring out sex for the first time. They progress in realistic stages, I think, and they're simultaneously tentative and enthusiastic, which I found endearing as all get out.
- I liked how easy the guys were even after not seeing each other for 10 years. There's a tense scene or two, naturally, but once they get all the hard feelings out of the way, they're right back to being best friends and soul mates.

#### **CONS:**

- There's very little depth to the story or the characters. Hauser's works tend to race along to the finish and

not bother much with exploring the repercussions of plot developments or examining the characters' psyches. The good guys are pretty one-dimensionally good (and/or pitiful, which explains away most of the bad things they've done), and the bad guys are pretty unequivocally bad.

- The male characters are basically stereotypical women with male anatomy. They're very dramatic and emotional, they're tender to the point of being a bit saccharine, and they're not as much about sex as many men tend to be, especially as teenagers. The two main guys in this story always finish their homework after school before doing anything else, even when they're alone in one of their bedrooms.

- Some of the dialogue is unrealistically context-heavy. For example, when Brandon's talking on the phone with one of his co-workers, she says, "Why don't you pursue your own writing career and quit this stupid magazine?" when in reality, I think something like, "What are you still doing here?" or "Why don't you just quit?" would be more realistic.

Overall comments: This is a mindless, frothy, fun read. There's not a lot here, as is the case with a lot of Hauser's works, but I keep reading them because occasionally it's nice to see a world where reality rarely intrudes.

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### Michelle says

3.5 stars

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„•\*°\*~Gwendolyn~°\*\*★°\*\*★ says

3.5 Stars~

*"Soul Mates~ My Favorite! This Book Has Many Sweet Spots~"*

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### Kari Gregg says

The real story is the first 2/3 of the book, which goes over the characters' evolving relationship & experimentation as boys. The final third, when we meet the characters again as adults, seemed superfluous. I didn't connect (re-connect?) with the characters and the issues they faced as adults were resolved way too quickly to be believable for me.

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### jules0623 says

I loved it! It had everything I love in a book - romance, drama, first times, reconnection, HEA. The MCs were adorable (although how one doesn't know a cock has been inserted in your ass, I don't know) and were equally as flawed and relatable once grown up.

My only complaint is that I would have liked a little more drawing out of their reconnection. It felt a bit rushed, but I do like my angst so it could be just me. :)

### **Marina says**

It was a sweet book. I liked the plot idea. The pool and the swimsuits were great.

I had issues with the dialogue and maturity levels of the characters. The things they said sometimes felt so out of place and young. In the first part, they didn't seem like they were about to graduate. More like they were 14. Make-out parties? Spurt? (I've never even read that word in a story in this context). They seemed far too young and their parents way old fashioned.

Then later on, at 27, I thought Zach was far too successful. Law school lasts a long time and takes long to pay off.

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### **Lauri James says**

This is a sweet story of self discovery between two life long friends and next door neighbors Brandon and Zachary. They have explored each others bodies and have fallen in love. Both seniors in high school planning on attending college together. They both tempted fate too much while on vacation sharing a room Zach's violent homophobic father sees them and proceeds to beat Zach. It's so heartbreaking. Zach's family moves away and Brandon never finds out where he went. Until Brandon goes to Boston to write an article for the magazine he works for. He is interviewing attorneys and walks by a door with Zach's name on it. After 10 years they have found each other. They catch up and Brandon is angry that Zach never tried to find him.

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