



Chasing Adonis: Gay Men and the Pursuit of Perfection

Tim Bergling

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What is it about some men that makes them an object of our deepest desires? And how far are we willing to go in pursuit of those desires?

Chasing Adonis: Gay Men & the Pursuit of Perfection delves into one of the most central mysteries of gay life: What is it gay men find attractive in other men, and why? How much is nature, how much is nurture . . . or maybe just clever marketing? This unique book examines steroid use, body image disorders, gym culture, Internet hook-ups, obsession, stalking, porn, erotic Web sites, strip clubs . . . and everything else that makes gay men act “a little bit nutty” when they meet someone who drives them “crazy!” Frank, sexy, and controversial, it uses a light touch to examine a serious subject: how gay society objectifies the male body.

Tim Bergling, author of *Sissophobia: Gay Men and Effeminate Behavior* and *Reeling in the Years: Gay Men's Perspectives on Age and Ageism*, surveys gay men about their individual concepts of beauty and desire and about the almost unattainable “Adonis” standard many of them set for themselves. Teenagers, senior citizens, and the guys “stuck in the middle” discuss the idea of perfection, how much it changes or evolves over time, and whether the exterior “package” outweighs what’s inside.

From the author:

It never ceases to amaze me just how powerful the 'd-word' (desire) can be, how it can take control of our lives and shut everything out, sometimes for just a few moments, sometimes for days or weeks at a time, depending on how badly we're smitten. Ask just about anybody, and they can likely pull up a story from their past—or their present—when they've done something incredibly stupid or ill-advised, or maybe just something completely out of character, in pursuit of their heart's desire.

Chasing Adonis examines:

- obsession and rejection
- self-esteem issues
- the allure of youth
- preferences in body shapes, types, and sizes
- “designer genes” vs. first impressions
- assessing body parts
- narcissism or comfort level—why men chase after guys who look like them
- AIDS and HIV
- gay porn
- adult book stores and the Internet
- the Calvin Klein ad campaign featuring “Marky” Mark Wahlberg
- the Abercrombie & Fitch ads
- “Tom of Finland”
- gay icons
- weight training and fitness clubs
- steroids and plastic surgery
- “circuit parties”
- body dysmorphia

- and much more!

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From reader reviews:

Lonnie Bowers:

What do you consider book? It is just for students as they are still students or that for all people in the world, what the best subject for that? Merely you can be answered for that problem above. Every person has different personality and hobby for each other. Don't to be pushed someone or something that they don't wish do that. You must know how great and important the book Chasing Adonis: Gay Men and the Pursuit of Perfection. All type of book can you see on many sources. You can look for the internet resources or other social media.

Anne Shivers:

Why? Because this Chasing Adonis: Gay Men and the Pursuit of Perfection is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap it but latter it will surprise you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who have write the book in such amazing way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book have got such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I have been you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

Maria Kim:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with good friends is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. Just one activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition info. Even you love Chasing Adonis: Gay Men and the Pursuit of Perfection, you may enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh occur its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Todd Robinson:

Is it you who having spare time after that spend it whole day by watching television programs or just resting on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Chasing Adonis: Gay Men and the Pursuit of Perfection can be the solution, oh how comes? A fresh book you know. You are and so out of date, spending your spare time by reading in this brand new era is common not a geek activity. So what these books have than the others?

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