

Misspent Youth (The Commonwealth Saga)

By Peter F. Hamilton

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Misspent Youth (The Commonwealth Saga) By Peter F. Hamilton

Readers have learned to expect the unexpected from Peter F. Hamilton. Now the master of space opera focuses on near-future Earth and one most unusual family. The result is a coming-of-age tale like no other. By turns comic, erotic, and tragic, Misspent Youth is a profound and timely exploration of all that divides and unites fathers and sons, men and women, the young and the old.

2040. After decades of concentrated research and experimentation in the field of genetic engineering, scientists of the European Union believe they have at last conquered humankind's most pernicious foe: old age. For the first time, technology holds out the promise of not merely slowing the aging process but actually reversing it. The ancient dream of the Fountain of Youth seems at hand.

The first subject for treatment is seventy-eight-year-old philanthropist Jeff Baker. After eighteen months in a rejuvenation tank, Jeff emerges looking like a twenty-year-old. And the change is more than skin deep. From his hair cells down to his DNA, Jeff is twenty–with a breadth of life experience.

But while possessing the wisdom of a septuagenarian at age twenty is one thing, raging testosterone is another, as Jeff discovers when he attempts to pick up his life where he left off. Suddenly his oldest friends seem, well, old. Jeff's trophy wife looks better than she ever did. His teenage son, Tim, is more like a younger brother. And Tim's nubile girlfriend is a conquest too tempting to resist.

Jeff's rejuvenated libido wreaks havoc on the lives of his friends and family, straining his relationship with Tim to the breaking point. It's as if youth is a drug and Jeff is wasted on it. But if so, it's an addiction he has no interest in kicking.

As Jeff's personal life spirals out of control, the European Union undergoes a parallel meltdown, attacked by shadowy separatist groups whose violent actions earn both condemnation and applause. Now, in one terrifying instant, the personal and the political will intersect, and neither Jeff nor Tim–or the Union itself–will ever be the same again.

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
British space opera author Hamilton (*The Dreaming Void*) isn't quite up to his usual standards in this cautionary tale about tinkering with the human body. Several decades in the future, life has been revolutionized by the datasphere, the Internet's successor, made possible by the memory crystal. Its inventor, Jeff Baker, has been universally lionized following his altruistic refusal to patent the design. Baker, now 77, is selected by the Eurohealth Council as the guinea pig for a new biotechnology that replaces his aged genes, giving him the body of a 20-year-old. Unfortunately, the goal of the experiment—to have Baker's genius applied to energy conservation—is derailed by his raging hormones, which lead him to hit on every attractive woman in sight, including his teenage son's girlfriend. The predictable ensuing scenes of passion and parent-child conflict are not particularly interesting, and the unconvincing sentimental ending likewise disappoints. *(Sept.)*
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Review
Praise for Peter F. Hamilton

Misspent Youth

“[A] genuinely superb novel by any standards . . . Not to be missed.”
–Starburst

The Dreaming Void

“Peter F. Hamilton [is the] owner of the most powerful imagination in science fiction.”
–Ken Follett, author The Pillars of the Earth

Judas Unchained

“For flat-out huge wide-screen all-engines-at-full I-dare-you-not-to-believe-it space opera, there is no one quite like Peter F. Hamilton.”
–Richard K. Morgan, author of Altered Carbon and Thirteen

Pandora’s Star

“Should be high on everyone’s reading list . . . You won’t be able to put it down.”
–Nancy Pearl, National Public Radio

“Imaginative and stunning . . . a book of epic proportions not unlike Frank Herbert’s Dune or Isaac Asimov’s Foundation trilogy.”
–SFRevu

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About the Author

Peter F. Hamilton is the author of numerous short stories and novels, including The Dreaming Void, Judas Unchained, Pandora’s Star, Fallen Dragon, and the acclaimed epic Night’s Dawn trilogy (The Reality Dysfunction, The Neutronium Alchemist, and The Naked God). Hamilton lives in England.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Gemma Jackson:

This Misspent Youth (The Commonwealth Saga) book is just not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you have by reading this book is information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get information which is getting deeper you read a lot of information you will get. This Misspent Youth (The Commonwealth Saga) without we realize teach the one who studying it become critical in pondering and analyzing. Don't become worry Misspent Youth (The Commonwealth Saga) can bring when you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' come to be full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even cell phone. This Misspent Youth (The Commonwealth Saga) having very good arrangement in word and also layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

Maryann Goldberg:

Would you one of the book lovers? If yes, do you ever feeling doubt if you are in the book store? Attempt to pick one book that you find out the inside because don't assess book by its deal with may doesn't work is difficult job because you are afraid that the inside maybe not because fantastic as in the outside appear likes. Maybe you answer could be Misspent Youth (The Commonwealth Saga) why because the fantastic cover that make you consider concerning the content will not disappoint an individual. The inside or content is fantastic as the outside or cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly make suggestions to pick up this book.

Tommy Bowles:

Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 or 15 minute in your day time to upgrading your mind skill or thinking skill perhaps analytical thinking? Then you are receiving problem with the book than can satisfy your short space of time to read it because this all time you only find guide that need more time to be go through. Misspent Youth (The Commonwealth Saga) can be your answer as it can be read by anyone who have those short spare time problems.

Jason Buckley:

With this era which is the greater individual or who has ability to do something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple approach to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time not much but quite enough to get a look at some books. On the list of books in the top collection in your reading list will be Misspent Youth (The Commonwealth Saga). This book which can be qualified as The Hungry Hills can get you closer in turning into precious person. By looking upward and review this e-book you can get many advantages.

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