



Portnoy's Complaint

By Philip Roth



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Portnoy's Complaint *n.* [after Alexander Portnoy (1933-)] A disorder in which strongly-felt ethical and altruistic impulses are perpetually warring with extreme sexual longings, often of a perverse nature. Spielvogel says: 'Acts of exhibitionism, voyeurism, fetishism, auto-eroticism and oral coitus are plentiful; as a consequence of the patient's "morality," however, neither fantasy nor act issues in genuine sexual gratification, but rather in overriding feelings of shame and the dread of retribution, particularly in the form of castration.' (Spielvogel, O. "The Puzzled Penis," *Internationale Zeitschrift für Psychoanalyse*, Vol. XXIV, p. 909.) It is believed by Spielvogel that many of the symptoms can be traced to the bonds obtaining in the mother-child relationship.

With a new Afterword by the author for the 25th Anniversary edition.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Along with Saul Bellow's *Herzog*, Philip Roth's *Portnoy's Complaint* defined Jewish American literature in the 1960s. Roth's masterpiece takes place on the couch of a psychoanalyst, an appropriate jumping-off place for an insanely comical novel about the Jewish American experience. Roth has written several great books--*Goodbye, Columbus* and *When She Was Good* among them, but it is perhaps *Portnoy's Complaint* for which he is best known.

From Publishers Weekly

The 25th-anniversary edition of Roth's classic novel features a new afterword by the author. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

This is the first audio recording of this work, tying in with the 30th anniversary of the novel's publication. Author Roth both chose the reader, actor Ron Silver, and supervised the taping. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Eric Johnson:

The book Portnoy's Complaint make you feel enjoy for your spare time. You can utilize to make your capable a lot more increase. Book can being your best friend when you getting pressure or having big problem using your subject. If you can make reading through a book Portnoy's Complaint for being your habit, you can get considerably more advantages, like add your current capable, increase your knowledge about many or all subjects. You are able to know everything if you like start and read a guide Portnoy's Complaint. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science guide or encyclopedia or some others. So , how do you think about this guide?

Marcia Fullerton:

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Cameron Trammell:

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resources inside can be true or not need people to be aware of each facts they get. How individuals to be smart in receiving any information nowadays? Of course the solution is reading a book. Examining a book can help men and women out of this uncertainty Information mainly this Portnoy's Complaint book because book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the information in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it as you know.

Larry Witcher:

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