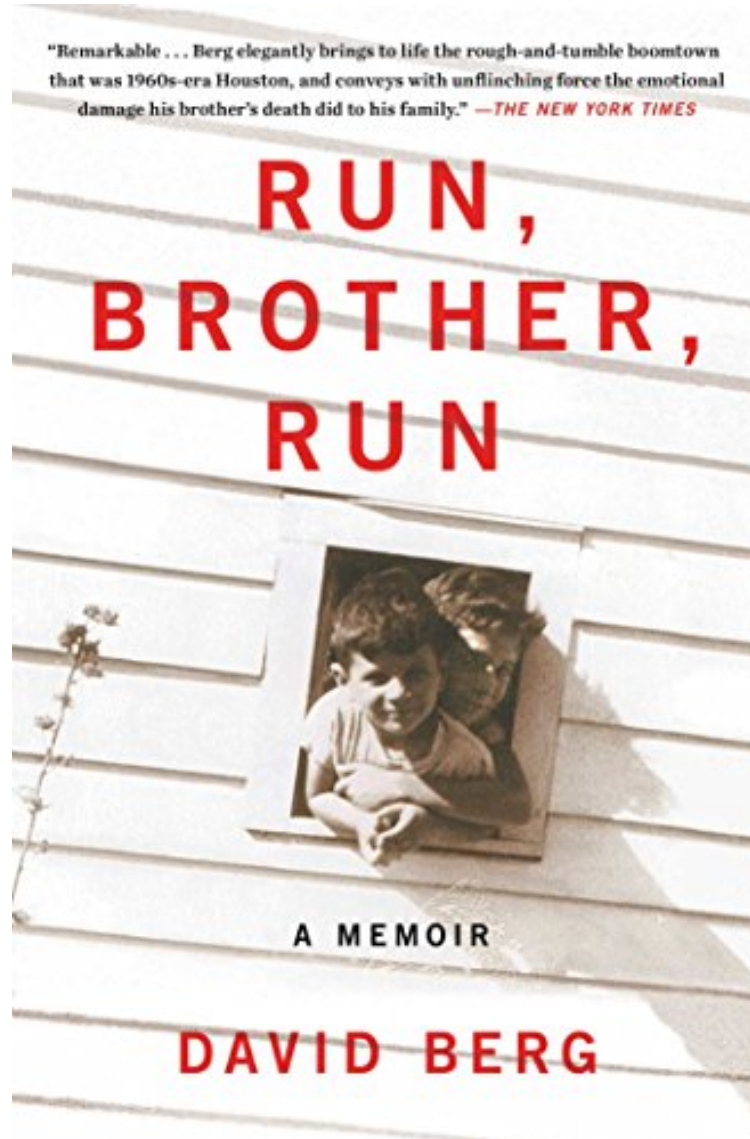


(Download free ebook) Run, Brother, Run: A Memoir

Run, Brother, Run: A Memoir

David Berg

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David Berg : Run, Brother, Run: A Memoir before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Run, Brother, Run: A Memoir:

15 of 16 people found the following review helpful. I laughed before I was finished crying. By Terri David Berg's memoir manages to tickle one's funny bone just as it stops tugging at one's heartstrings, which makes for a surprising and delightful read. Mr. Berg peels back the once-hidden layers of a childhood as the younger son in a dysfunctional family, and what for me would be family secrets too painful to repeat, Mr. Berg forges ahead. What is remarkable is

that the reader is left in those darkest places -- academic cheating, attempted suicide, marital infidelity, murder -- for only as long as it takes the author to strike another match with his unparalleled wit. This touching memoir has the elements of a well-told crime story, a riveting courtroom drama, a history of rough wild Houston in the 1960s, and an unflinching examination of a family gone haywire, while remaining devoid of self-pity and excuse. I could not put it down. Bravo to David Berg for daring to take his readers on this very personal journey.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Must Read Memoir By Jill Lloyd Anyone who has been in a dysfunctional family will be able to appreciate this story, for even in the worst of situations love can seep through in the end. It was difficult to put down as I wanted to know more and more. David Berg keeps the reader/listener engaged with vivid details and emotional descriptions of his relationship with his brother, and though there were times of strain, it's obvious the heart runs deep. I felt like I was experiencing the writer's life as it was unfolding. The sidebar stories on the various people and experiences that crossed paths with the Berg family lives were colorful, funny, heartwrenching and fascinating, including the courtroom situations and the protracted legal issues and battles with seeking justice. The connection to Woody Harrelson strikes a punch as the story starts to come to a close. OVERALL a great read! Should become a movie for sure! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. FANTASTIC story--well-written and compelling! By M. Alleni really and truly loved this book. the relationships between father and sons, brothers, mother and sons--all of them were vivid and candid. i cannot even imagine the hell berg or his father went through after alan's death on a daily basis, but i am thankful that he chose to share his story with the rest of us. in addition to the fantastic story, i had the bonus experience of getting to revisit the houston of the 60s and 70s as well, which is where i grew up (just off of "sin alley"). the harrelson connections are just amazing--my only criticism is that i wish more had been made of claude's involvement (exactly how did nat berg find him? how did he avoid getting questioned at the trial?)--but i would guess that berg would have liked to have known more himself...which is why more is not included. i also thought he was generous with the prosecutor bass, which speaks volumes about berg's character (i didn't find him petty).

A searing family memoir, hailed as remarkable (The New York Times), compelling (People), and engrossing (Kirkus Reviews), of a trial lawyer's tempestuous boyhood in Texas that led to the vicious murder of his brother by the father of actor Woody Harrelson. In 1968, David Berg's brother, Alan, was murdered by Charles Harrelson, a notorious hit man and father of Woody Harrelson. Alan was only thirty-one when he disappeared (David was twenty-six) and for more than six months his family did not know what had happened to him until his remains were found in a ditch in Texas. There was an eyewitness to the murder: Charles Harrelson's girlfriend, who agreed to testify. For his defense, Harrelson hired Percy Foreman, then the most famous criminal lawyer in America. Despite the overwhelming evidence against him, Harrelson was acquitted. After burying his brother all those years ago, David Berg rarely talked about him. Yet in 2008 he began to remember and research Alan's life and death. The result is *Run, Brother, Run*: part memoir about growing up Jewish in 1950s Texas and Arkansas and part legal story, informed by Berg's experience as a seasoned lawyer. Writing with cold-eyed grief and a wild, lacerating humor, Berg tells us first about the striving Jewish family that created Alan Berg and set him on a course for self-destruction, and then about the miscarriage of justice when Berg's murderer was acquitted. David Berg brings us a painful family history, a portrait of an iconic American place, and a true-crime courtroom murder drama that elegantly brings to life the rough-and-tumble boomtown that was 1960s-era Houston, and conveys with unflinching force the emotional damage his brother's death did to his family (The New York Times).

From Booklist In 1969, when hit man Charles Harrison was tried for the murder of Houston carpet salesman Alan Berg, the victim's brother, rookie lawyer David Berg, could only follow the proceedings helplessly outside the courtroom. More than 40 years later, he recalls his frustration with the ineffective prosecutor and the unethical defense attorney, who ensured Harrison was found innocent and freed to murder again. As both a grieving brother and a now-famous trial lawyer, Berg reflects on the crushing impact of a murder on his family and fantasizes a more effective prosecution of the defendant. Painting a stark picture of Texas law enforcement at the time, he raises questions about the ethics of criminal jurisprudence everywhere. Having interviewed surviving witnesses, lawyers, and family, he reconstructs the short life of his reckless brother and tells about his own coming-of-age in a brutally frank family memoir that will attract readers of true crime. --Rick Roche "What is remarkable about the book, though, is Mr. Berg's writing. He elegantly brings to life the rough-and-tumble boomtown that was 1960s-era Houston, and conveys with unflinching force the emotional damage his brother's death did to his family." (The New York Times) "Berg's story is compelling and leaves you convinced that the truth did not prevail." (People Magazine) This book has everything. The story is filled with the dusty small town criminal wheeling and dealings of a Grisham novel, and there's plenty of courtroom drama. The book inhabits the worlds of Texas, Washington DC, Las Vegas and Hollywood. Berg knows how to keep an audience engrossed. (Guardian US, Best Memoir on the Summer Reads Awards) Berg is a very fine writer thorough, lucid and logical, but never dry. The emotional resonance and sheer vital force of this story extend far beyond its pages. It is the story of a bond so strong that his older brother's absence still wakes Berg up in the middle of the night. (Nashville Scene) "David Berg has written a book that makes me think I'd like to be friends with him. No

book that I've encountered so far this year has a voice that is as assured and entertaining as Berg's in this uncanny, addictive memoir." (Claiborne Smith, features editor Kirkus)"A richly textured book that rises above the average true crime." (San Francisco Chronicle)Having interviewed surviving witnesses, lawyers, and family, he reconstructs the short life of his reckless brother and tells about his own coming-of-age in a brutally frank family memoir that will attract readers of true crime (Book List)"Berg writes with brio, vividly sketching the roughhouse atmosphere of oil-boom Houston in the 1960s, and the obstacles that faced a pair of liberal, Jewish brothers in the segregated South. While he is often funny, and rarely politically correct, Berg also delivers a complex take on family dynamics and the ways in which intelligent people can be deceived." (Publishers Weekly)"An engrossing family history and an appealingly salacious tale, related in a bemused tone that does not hide the social ugliness and personal heartbreak underneath." (Kirkus)"Run, Brother, Run is a fascinating look at a Texas family's history, written in darkly humorous, direct and powerful prose. Trial lawyers are known for being smooth talkers, but Berg proves himself a graceful writer as well." (MSN Page-turner)We are in Mary Karr memoir territory here, in Texas no less, with parents behaving badly and children behaving even worse. David Berg's superb tale of his brother's shocking murder is true crime at its most intimate, and most personal. (S. C. Gwynne author of *Empire of the Summer Moon*)Run, Brother, Run is a home run for David Berg and his readers. Part memoir, part mystery, it's all of a piece a true story of Houston that's impossible to put down. (Mimi Swartz author of *Power Failure*)"David Berg has written a funny and haunting memoir of a very particular family in a very particular place and time. It is also a universally American story of hope in the face of defeat. Suffused with a tragic sense of humor and deep pathos, one can't help but think of Willy Loman with a Texas twang when reading Run, Brother, Run." (Jon Meacham)"Searing, funny, heartbreaking and true. Berg's tale of a brother's murder, miscarried justice, and savage Texas suburban family life kept me riveted from the first page. (Marie Brenner author of *Apples and Oranges*)About the AuthorDavid Berg has tried virtually every kind of civil and criminal case to a verdict, from murder to patent infringement, and he has won hundreds of millions of dollars in settlements. He has been recognized as one of the Best Lawyers in America in nine practice areas. His 2003 book, *The Trial Lawyer: What It Takes to Win*, is one of the American Bar Association's bestselling books. In addition, David has published articles and essays in *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *Newsweek*, *Litigation Magazine* and *The Houston Chronicle*. He lives in Houston and New York with his wife.