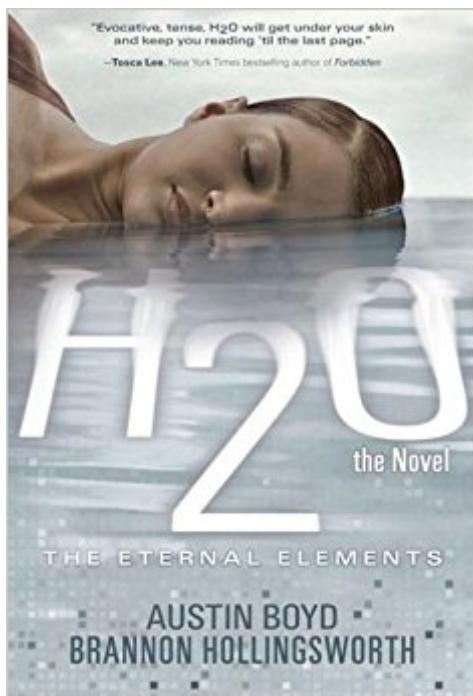


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H2O The Novel (The Eternal Elements)



Synopsis

H2O is a contemporary crossover women's novel that tells the story of Kate Pepper, a successful young business woman in Seattle whose life is suddenly turned upside down. Unexplainable visions torment her every time she gets wet. Sinking into despair, frantic to avoid water at any cost, Kate ultimately finds romance and redemption through the advice of simple people who love her for who she is, not what she was. Kate Pepper has it all . . . a razor-sharp intellect, perfect health, stunning beauty, a wildly successful career, and all the money she can spend. Or rather, she thinks she has it all. Despite the perfect shell, there's something dark inside Kate. Terrible visions send her into a deep depression and her world crumbles. All her business savvy and elite connections don't make a difference; she has lost control. Who will save her? Xavier, her predatory boyfriend? Or Candice, the Down syndrome waitress at her favorite coffee shop? At the bottom of her dark well, desperate to get out of the water, there's nowhere to reach but up. H2O is a fascinating allegorical look at success, sanity and spiritual redemption in a young woman's relationship with water.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If water can hold truth then the latest work of speculative Christian fiction by prolific techno thriller author Austin Boyd and sci-fi author Brannon Hollingsworth is sure to open the floodgates for that

genre. H2O is a Christian Twilight Zone Episode (maybe a little Frasier thrown in as well) with all the trappings, twists and turns of a Mr. Serling plot but with 21st century characters revolving around protagonist, Kate Pepper. We follow Kate, an independent-minded and professional young woman who is living the dream of success until a mysterious affliction turns her high-tech life into chaos. Here the most basic of elements, water, takes her on a journey of wild fantastic visions and sweeps her into an alternate world and search for meaning. It is first rate fantasy and storytelling. Boyd and Hollingsworth deliver their collaboration in an engaging style, spilling over with subtle irony and enough suspense that will satisfy and won't leave you thirsty. Harper Payne

Austin W. Boyd is an award-winning author who writes extensively about faith issues related to technology and business. He published award winning poetry and more than two dozen technical articles and papers during his career as a Navy pilot, NASA astronaut finalist, and spacecraft engineer. The author of six novels, he is a Christy Gold Medal finalist (The Proof, 2007) and the winner of the Mount Hermon Pacesetter Award. Austin currently writes for a number of Christian publishers. He has several novels in work based on themes tied to faith dilemmas in bioethics, as well as a Christian layman's guide to Islam. Austin is employed as the Chief Executive Officer for an engineering and design firm in Huntsville, Alabama. He is active in local ministry activities, Southwood Presbyterian Church of Huntsville, and First Baptist Church of Huntsville where he has served as a teacher, deacon, and evangelist. Brannon Hollingsworth brings vivid writing and a voice for the Internet generation to the H2O writing team. He is a proud member of the "Wandering Men," a talented eclectic group of writers and explorers. He has been published in several Role Playing Game (RPG) industry periodicals, including Dragon Magazine, Gaming Frontiers, and the EN World Player's Journal, and he has edited the novel Forged by Thomas Reid. His credits with RPG publishers include: Piazo Publishing, Sword and Sorcery Studios, Green Ronin Press, Bastion Press, Sovereign Press, Atlas Games, Fantasy Flight Games, Eden Studios, Skeleton Key Games, and Ambient Inc. Brannon, his wife Heather and his five children reside in Hartselle, Alabama where he is active in church ministry activities for adults and youth. His passion for youth camps, the outdoors, and video game development make him a well-rounded dad. Brannon is employed as a Product Team Lead by SAIC, a major science and engineering firm, and he has a side business providing consultation for Internet applications, graphic design, and web development.

The novel, H2O, by Austin Boyd and Brannon Hollingsworth surprised me (in a good way) in many significant respects in a way that novels seldom do. I did not expect to encounter a truly original, bizarre, yet utterly plausible story line. Nor did I expect to meet such richly drawn, believable characters. Furthermore, the characters acted in a way consistent throughout. I was never thrown out of the story because a character said or acted out of character. I was surprised to find a collaboration between the two (male) authors maintained a single consistent voice from the point of view of the female protagonist. Very skillful writing. There is a Christian theme and worldview expressed in the novel. Unlike many so-called Christian books, I was surprised how deftly the authors handled the spiritual aspects. The reader encounters the love of God right along with the protagonist. Sublime, yet subtle. I endorse this work without reservation and rate it a hearty five stars.

A most amazing, vivid tale filled with amazing imagery. Kate Pepper a 29yr old woman that seems to have it all together, but scratch the surface and there is a much deeper hurt and a much deeper purpose. As she goes through her life, in one heart racing moment she is hit by a vision. These visions come each time water comes in contact with her and their persistance and intensity only increases. Kate has it all, a great job, dating her boss (who is verbally, emotionally, and physically abusive), an expensive bike -- or does she? What can she be missing? As the visions appear more happens to her, from her injuries, crashing her bike, to losing a job, losing her boyfriend (which is no loss), to noticing the simple qualities of life. What is the connection between it all, from the simple kindness of a special needs waitress to a boy that is in recovery from cancer, will she find that connection and make it? Water flows throughout the book, from rain to snow, from shower water to tears and all affect Kate and her visions. She is drowning in a life that has no meaning and as the past, present and future converge only one thing is needed. There is a lot of symbolism in this book and I am sure that each person will find different symbols closer to the surface and the meaning the reader can find long after putting down the book. "Come thirsty and drink deeply from the living water" I once read in another book, and H2O will help with the thirst.

After reading this work, the first thought I have is: Mature. Not pornographic maturity. This book has the character, depth, solidity of a classic. The linguistic poise, beautiful depiction, and haunting plot masterfully weave two author's into one tale. Having read the first run of this book, I have come to delight in its refinement. It has matured, becoming a gem worthy of any reader, from nearly any age. I highly recommend it to those looking to be thrilled, chilled, surprised, and stunned by two literary

geniuses presenting a compelling thought: If water is eternal, it has a tale to tell. I would be willing to re-immerse myself into the watery depths of H2O and take the wild ride right back to the hidden source of all Kate's pain and problems, because at the end of the liquid tunnel is a truth unshakable that unhinges us to the core. Take the dare, take the plunge, and come out cleansed inside and out! H2O is a beautiful story waiting to be heard. I look forward to another book in this vein by these daring authors who chose to voice themselves as one, and as two men speaking out of (and, I feel, to) the heart of a woman.

I received a copy of H2O the Novel by Austin Boyd and Brannon Hollingsworth to read and review. I do not know where to begin, this book was incredible, I finished it a week ago and I am still thinking about it. I do not think I can do it justice in a review. First off, all the descriptions and blurbs I find for this book call it a "contemporary crossover women's novel" guys do not let that keep you from reading it. Yes, the main character is a women dealing with a lot of issues women deal with. But as a guy I took a lot away from it as well. Kate at the beginning of the book had it all, a great job, a great home and a boyfriend. We see that she likes to be in control and the master of her own destiny. She turned her back on her ultra-religious background and really does not give Christ a second thought. The visions begin and her life is never the same again. I will not say anything more because you really need to read it. On a personal note, by the end of the novel Kate finally has her cleansing. I am thankful that I had a "cleansing" moment when Christ finally got my attention.

Kate Pepper lives in the fast lane in ever rainy Seattle. With all she could ever want, what could be missing? In water induced visions, she sees the events of the Bible. These experiences change her and help her to see what she has truly always needed. This story is told with lots of heart and shows the beauty of when a lost soul finds redemption and healing. It is an enrichment to any bookshelf and is an engaging read. Five stars!

This is a must read! I was not prepared for how riveting this book was...I couldn't put it down. I found myself wondering "what's going to happen next"? The entire concept was very interesting and thought provoking. Kate Pepper draws you into her world with all of the twists and turns of someone searching for the true "living water". This book will appeal to all different types of people, religious and non-religious. I would highly recommend this book to anyone that enjoys a good storyline driven by an intricately woven theme. Amazing!

To me, a really good story must make me think long after I read it about what the story means. This will be one I recommend because it's an idea that stretches the imagination...and that delighted me! Very well written too!

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