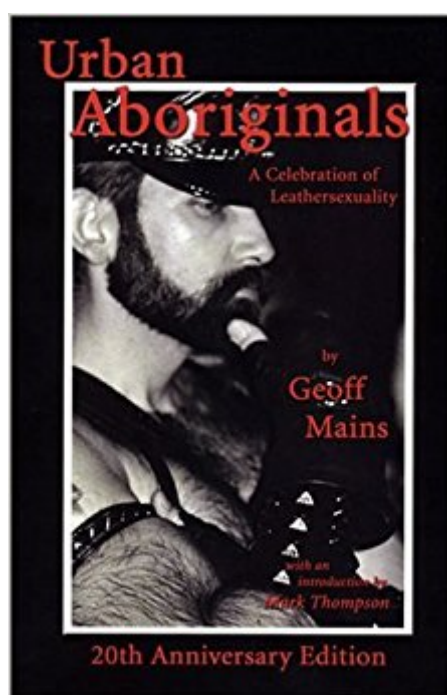


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Urban Aboriginals



Synopsis

A subculture of gay men participate in a radical form of sexuality and community known as leather. Through intimate forms of encounter, using such tools as pain-pleasure, bondage, and role-play, leather can bring a shift of consciousness and a new vision of the self. This innovative book pioneered in sensitively exploring and celebrating leathersexuality. As relevant today as when it was written 20 years ago, *Urban Aboriginals* is an intimate view of the gay male leather community. Within its pages, author Geoff Mains explores the spiritual, sexual, emotional, cultural and physiological aspects that make this "scene" one of the most prominent yet misunderstood subcultures in our society. Geoff Mains was a sweet, intelligent, articulate, and wonderful man who cared passionately about the leather community. He wanted to make sure that its accomplishments would be remembered and its wild beauty understood. *Urban Aboriginals* resulted from his love and is an enduring part of his legacy. It is a unique cultural study, and a priceless document of a now vanished time. --Gayle Rubin, Ph.D., author and anthropologist I met Geoff Mains in the early 1980s. We shared a common vision: fusion of tribal subcultures "on a journey marked by fetish and mana, shaman, ritual and trance". *Urban Aboriginals* was way ahead of its time for clearly defining a significant transformation in Western Culture. I feel Geoff would have enjoyed seeing his blueprint for ecstatic exploration live on and blossom even further in the still Apollonian world of the 21st Century. --Fakir Musafar, Father of the Modern Primitive Movement In *Urban Aboriginals*, Geoff Mains pioneered our understanding of the connections between the neurochemistry of pleasure seeking and radical sexuality. But the book is more..... so much more. Its stories and vignettes take us personally into the experience of different old guard "scenes" with intimacy, intensity, range and depth not found anywhere else. Simply required reading. --Guy Baldwin, M.S., author and psychotherapist *Urban Aboriginals* ranks high on the list of books that belong in any library of kinky writing. Geoff's contribution to our history, our community, and our understanding of ourselves has withstood the test of time. This book, important -- classic, and a must-read -- is one that makes a pre-eminent contribution to each and every one of us. *Urban Aboriginals* was the first works to teach me the meaning of real SM, a lesson it holds for all who will read it. --Jack Rinella, author

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book has been on my to-read list for years as it's one of the classics in S/M history and culture. Geoff Mains clearly loves the gay Leather community, which makes this book extra beautiful. His idealistic perspectives show up in his description of what is expected of members of the Leather community: "Neither arrogance nor braggadocio is tolerated in the leather community. To many, the pushy man in leather is merely a drag queen in another disguise. Loudness is an unacceptable substitute for patient self-assurance; it and frenetic exhibitionism are signs of unrecognized insecurity. Genuine emotion and warmth are understood and appreciated, emotional lack of restraint is not." Isn't that an amazing description (aside from the snarky bit about drag queens)? The emphasis on building community is very strong, as is the focus on service and fundraising both within and outside of the community. I feel that we lose sight of this ideal at times and this was a good reminder of how much good the Leather community can do in the world. After the first section, the book gets a bit more dense. The author has done a lot of research on pain theory and dives into it at unexpected times. A lot of the theory he references has fallen out of favor with the medical community at this point, but it's still a fascinating read - IF you enjoy science writing! For anyone who is not science-minded, this would get pretty ponderous. The rest of the book is quite scattered, with topics such as bondage, fisting, and piss play intermingling with physiology and philosophy. If you can follow it, there's a lot of good and interesting information in here.

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