



The Boy with the Thorn in His Side: A Memoir

By Fleming, Keith

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Reviews

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The boy with the thorn in his side : a memoir. by. Fleming, Keith. Publication date. 2000. Topics. Personal Memoirs, Childhood Memoir, Biography & Autobiography, Biography / Autobiography, Biography/Autobiography, Literary, Biography & Autobiography / General, General, White, Edmund, 1940-, Fleming, Keith, Authors, American, Gay men, Young men, Uncles, Families. He describes his family and his several worlds with a clarity that is almost eerie. It seems reasonable to assume that he went through a hell much more difficult than the usual teenage stuff, and yet the reader never quite feels Fleming's sense of it. He quotes White liberally, lists the novels and music that his Uncle prescribed for him. The Boy had become more stunted and ugly (if that was possible) and to make matters stranger he now had a stem of thorns running through his side. He pulled on them and felt a drop of blood fall onto the tile. He laughed to himself at how much he felt like "The Boy with the Thorn in his Side", just like the song. Everything felt like the inside of a song. His lungs breathed in for the first time. The Boy ran downstairs and outside again. He felt alive for the first time. He felt like the last bullet in a gun meant for revenge, sealed with a kiss. He felt understood. He felt memorable. The thorn is the music industry and all those people who never believed anything I said, tried to get rid of me and wouldn't play the records. So I think we've reached a stage where we feel: if they don't believe me now, will they ever believe me? What more can a poor boy do? "The Boy with the Thorn in His Side" Track Info. Written By Morrissey & Johnny Marr. Vocals Morrissey. Guitar Johnny Marr. Bass Andy Rourke. Drums Mike Joyce.