



# The Vast Fields of Ordinary

By Nick Burd

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## The Vast Fields of Ordinary By Nick Burd

It's Dade's last summer at home. He has a crappy job at Food World, a “boyfriend” who won’t publicly acknowledge his existence (maybe because Pablo also has a girlfriend), and parents on the verge of a divorce. College is Dade’s shining beacon of possibility, a horizon to keep him from floating away.

Then he meets the mysterious Alex Kincaid. Falling in *real* love finally lets Dade come out of the closet—and, ironically, ignites a ruthless passion in Pablo. But just when true happiness has set in, tragedy shatters the dreamy curtain of summer, and Dade will use every ounce of strength he’s gained to break from his past and start fresh with the future.

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## The Vast Fields of Ordinary By Nick Burd Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

### Review

"Burd takes a familiar plot and makes it fresh...an author to watch."

--*Publishers Weekly*

"A fascinating and dreamy first novel."

--*New York Times*

"...a refreshingly honest, sometimes funny, and often tender novel."

--*School Library Journal, starred review*

"Burd breathes new life into the old coming-out formula...One of the best in a new generation of LGBTQ novels, it can stand alongside Peter Cameron's and Brian Sloan's."

--*Kirkus, starred review*

"Nick Burd's *The Vast Fields of Ordinary* is bold. Engaging. Heartbreaking. A book worthy of attention."

--*Ellen Hopkins*

"*The Vast Fields of Ordinary* is a wonderfully engaging and satisfying book about all kinds of growing: growing up, growing together, growing apart. Dade Hamilton and his family and friends (and enemies) are all vividly and complexly imagined and realized, and I loved spending time with them. Nick Burd's extremely accomplished and beautifully detailed prose reanimates the usually moribund American suburban wasteland, like an alchemist, he finds the wonder in the ordinary."

--*Peter Cameron, author of SOMEDAY THIS PAIN WILL BE USEFUL TO YOU*

"Nick Burd's debut novel unfolds like the summer vacation it chronicles: in the beginning the vista seems limitless, but as the pages turn and the days pass the plot thickens and the end comes way before you're ready to put it down. This is a mysterious, funny, wise, generous story, and its main character is someone you need to know, and you'll never forget."

--*Dale Peck, author of MARTING & JOHN and SPROUT*

"Who can resist a kid who survives his senior year of high school despite having been given the nickname Vagisil? Not I... Dade Hamilton's coming-of-age tale with a Midwest twist is devastatingly real, but it's also funny, touching, and ultimately quite hopeful."

--*T Cooper, author of LIPSHITZ SIX, OR TWO ANGRY*

"A brilliant account of alienation and angst in the heartland."

--*Quest magazine*

### About the Author

Nick Burd attended the University of Iowa and received his MFA from The New School. He lives in Brooklyn, New York. *The Vast Fields of Ordinary* is his first novel.

## **Users Review**

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#### **James Sellers:**

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#### **Lillie Rose:**

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