



Better

John O'Brien

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"John O'Brien was a stunningly talented writer who created poetry from the most squalid materials."—**Jay McInerney**, author of *Bright Lights, Big City*

Within the walls of a foreboding mansion situated in the hills overlooking Los Angeles, the suave Double Felix plays host to an array of beautiful women as well as his unlikely sidekick William. The mysterious patriarch grants his live-in guests' every wish while asking nothing in return. Days begin with William and Double Felix discussing their conquests with the ladies over morning Vodka, a ritual that is nonetheless edged in homoerotic tension. From there the drinking continues, only to be interrupted by some miscellany—perhaps a rerun of *The Love Boat* or some casual sex.

But the ongoing torpor has been upset by the house's newest arrival, a stunning young woman named Laurie, with whom both Double Felix and William become hopelessly smitten. Trash-talking Maggie and Zipper, the hooker who flew in on a trick and never left, smolder with envy while Laurie garners more and more attention from the men.

As tensions spiral out of control, the house—an almost anthropomorphic entity in itself—ejects some of its denizens while further ensnaring others. Eventually, each faces the same ultimatum: leave or stay. The decision is fraught with consequence.

Better delves deep into the psyche of its subjects through an intricate web of cultural icons, loyalty, covert communications, and sex. John O'Brien's characters loom in and out of a surreal world that seems to float high above the rest of us, but is in fact firmly tethered to the human condition.

John O'Brien was born in 1960 and grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. He moved to Los Angeles in 1982 with his then-wife Lisa. During his lifetime, he was a busboy, file clerk, and coffee roaster, but writing was his true calling. He committed suicide in April 1994 at age thirty-three. His published fiction includes *Leaving Las Vegas*, *The Assault on Tony's*, and *Stripper Lessons*.

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From reader reviews:

Karen Horton:

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read some sort of book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent all day every day to reading a e-book. The book Better it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book features high quality.

Dennis Mock:

As a student exactly feel bored in order to reading. If their teacher asked them to go to the library or make summary for some book, they are complained. Just small students that has reading's internal or real their hobby. They just do what the trainer want, like asked to the library. They go to generally there but nothing reading seriously. Any students feel that examining is not important, boring in addition to can't see colorful images on there. Yeah, it is to get complicated. Book is very important for you personally. As we know that on this period, many ways to get whatever we wish. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore , this Better can make you experience more interested to read.

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