

Reconstructing Mayakovsky: A Novel of the Future



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Reviews

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(Cletus Quigley)

RECONSTRUCTING MAYAKOVSKY: A NOVEL OF THE FUTURE

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Revolution Nostalgia Disco Theater. Paperback. Condition: New. 257 pages. Set in the future, Reconstructing Mayakovsky revisits the past to make sense of our chaotic present. Inspired by Vladimir Mayakovsky, the Russian Futurist poet who killed himself in 1930 at the age of thirty-six, the novel imagines a dystopia where uncertainty and tragedy have finally been eliminated through technology. Ever since her memories of the War were erased, Vera X has led a complacent existence designing advertisements. After a meteorite falls to Earth, an unanticipated, random event, her tightly controlled life begins to unravel. She, like others in OnewOrld, a virtual reality dystopia, begins to hear voices from the collective past. Mayakovskys passionate, rebellious words captivate Vera. In her quest to reconstruct him, she enlists the help of Nadja, an aloof academic with access to classified historical records. Motivated by the need to make sense of her newly chaotic world, Vera embarks on a classic heros journey in which she discovers that love and freedom inevitably carry with them the potential for tragedy. Along the way, the two encounter other outcasts from OnewOrld: Ivan, a pimp with a rosy nostalgia for violent political revolution; Dr. Albright, an irascible female surgeon; Mosselprom, the wealthy, paranoid architect of OnewOrld who loathes his own creation; and Luis Blue, a chimera, half human and half artificial intelligence. Moving between past and future, revolutionary Russia and post-apocalyptic America, the novel explores the universal desire to create meaning in the face of senseless destruction and reaffirms the enduring power of art. The award-winning, interactive multimedia web-version of the novel is available for free at www.reconstructingmayakovsky.com Caroline Leavitt, New York Times best-selling author of Pictures of You, offers this assessment: The past and the future intersect in a wild ride of a novel thats part Thomas...

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