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The Unforgettable Summer

Dr. Ron Gleason

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THE UNFORGETTABLE SUMMER



BY
RON GLEASON

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Dr. Ron Gleason : The Unforgettable Summer before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Unforgettable Summer:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Suspenseful Story of Redemption and SalvationBy Russell V. Olson Jr.“The Unforgettable Summer” is one of the most delightful books I have read in some time. Written in the style of Pat Conroy, “The Unforgettable Summer” touched me on several levels as someone who grew up in South Carolina in the 1950s and as a Christian. My father retired from the Navy in 1956, and we settled down in St. Stephen, a small Lowcountry town about 45 miles north of Charleston. Ron’s imagery brought back many memories as a young boy.

One example concerning the use of DDT, I remember how large trucks would drive up and down the streets on a weekly basis spraying out huge clouds of DDT to combat the mosquitoes as we kids would run along behind them playing in what we unknowingly thought was simply "fog." Another example dealing with fishing and snakes, one of my favorite pastimes was fishing with my cousins on Lake Moultrie. Normally it was from the bank, but occasionally we would use a flat-bottomed boat. Snakes would sometimes fall from overhanging tree limbs into the boat and cause great consternation. The readiness with which fathers and male relatives used corporal punishment struck home as well. The language was not as earthy as I remembered as a young fellow, but in his foreword, Ron made it clear that he hoped the book would "provide clean, wholesome entertainment..." He also read chapters to his grandchildren. As a grandfather myself, I would have extreme difficulty reading to or writing for my grandchildren anything that contained off-color language. That also probably accounts for why Ron never used the N-word in this book. The book is entertaining and suspenseful. I was not sure how the hostage situation would turn out, and Ron ended it well. I also liked how Ron gave insights as to what later happened to several of the characters, in some instances years later, thereby tying up loose ends. I look forward to reading new works by this author.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Very thought provoking, a true gem
By Stephanie H. Raffel
This book was a very powerful and enjoyable read. For anyone who grew up in the 50's, you'll recognize many of the cultural and social issues of the day, some of them will make you smile, some will make you cringe. It was a time of innocence and, on some social issues, time of ignorance. Andy's story is told in heartwarming detail, complete with the southern accent (which was exceptionally well done). The author shows us the power of loving relationships, respect and human dignity as well as the destructiveness of prejudice and hate. My only criticism is I feel this should be broken into two books. I would have liked the book to end with the end of the boys' unforgettable summer with an epilogue filling us in to maybe ten years down the road. I would like to see that last chapter of the book turned into another book entirely with all the richness of detail we saw in this book.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great life adventure and experience for us all and for ...
By Cody
My wife and I both read this book and found it very interesting about a time and place we were not that familiar with. The story kept our interest all the way through. It was suspenseful and we found ourselves rooting for some of the characters and not others. Great life adventure and experience for us all and for older teen boys. Loved the Grandmother, Bessie and the two young boys (Andy and Charlie) in this story. Wonderful lessons on how God always works things out for our good....need to put our trust in him! A good read!

This is a novel describing what life was like in the 1950s in the South. It involves two young white boys and a young black boy and their adventures. This is a family-oriented novel that makes several valid points without using foul language. It contains drama as well as humor and is well suited for ages seventh grade to adult. It is also available on Kindle and has received a number of very favorable reviews.

About the Author
Dr. Ron Gleason holds a B.S. in Business Administration from The Citadel (1967), where he was a Distinguished Military Student, a member of the Dean's List, and a member of the Economic Honor Society. He also holds a Masters of Divinity from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (1975). He graduated "magna cum laude," was a Byington Teaching Fellow, and a member of the Phi Alpha Chi academic honor society. He holds a Drs. degree in Ethics from the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Churches in the Netherlands and a Ph.D. in Systematic Theology from Westminster Theological Seminary (Philadelphia). He is a published author and this is his first novel. He and his wife have six children, seventeen grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. They live in Orange, CA.