

Out IN Jersey

June-July 2008

Pride 2008



Books

The Hair Raising Adventures Of Jayms Blonde

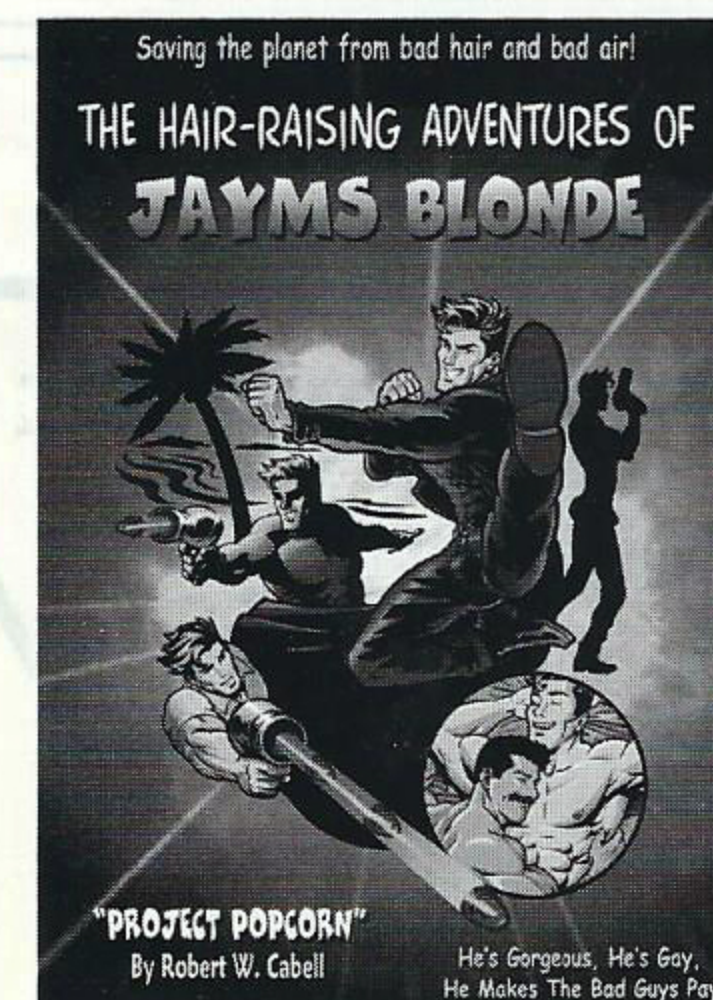
by Robert W. Cabell

Reviewed by Toby Grace

Everyone knows no one is more fierce than a gay hairdresser on a mission but you just aren't ready for how fierce that can be when super-gay-hero Jayms Blonde fires up his Uzi hair dryer and starts lobbing a few hair curler grenades. A secret agent of STOP, (Stop Terrorizing Our Planet) Blonde is an eco-warrior battling the forces of planetary spoliation. Many reviewers, including Jai Rodriguez of "Queer Eye" have already celebrated the fact that at last we have a super hero who rescues the *dude-in-distress*!

This book is really a lot of fun and would be an enjoyable fantasy trip for everyone from gay teens through older people who haven't forgotten the pleasure of imagination. With copious, sharply rendered illustrations, the book is almost a graphic novel and much more than a comic. It leaves the reader satisfied, laughing and pondering, "If only...."

Published by iUniverse
ISBN 0595424740
Paper - \$14.95
available on amazon.com



Candy Everybody Wants

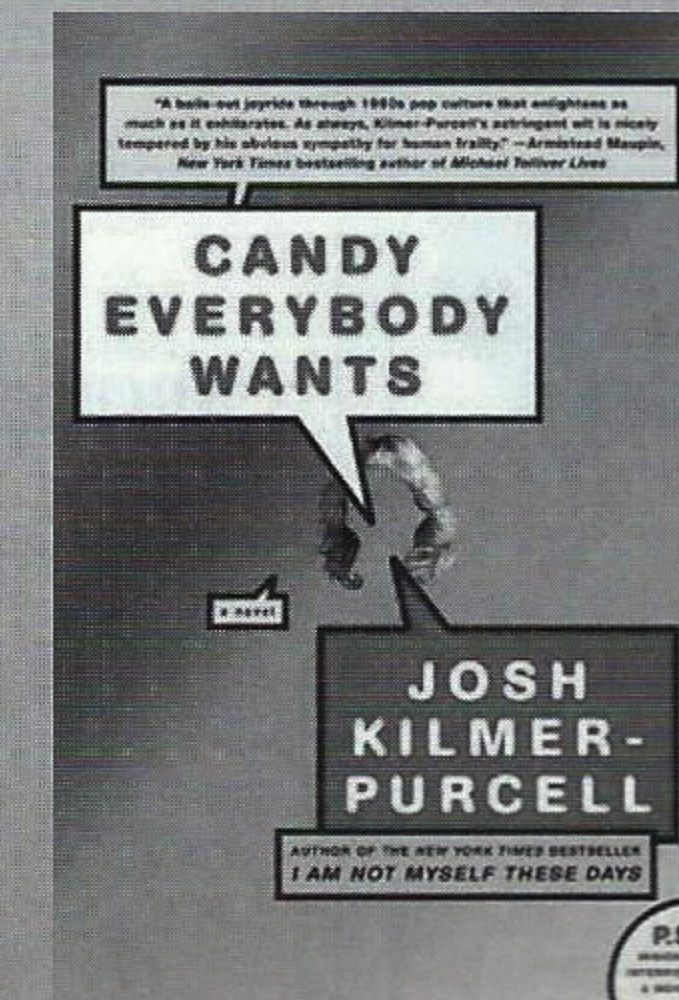
by Josh Kilmer-Purcell

Reviewed by Toby Grace

Already familiar from his outrageously funny memoir *I Am Not Myself These Days*, a New York Times bestseller, Josh is back with another drag-to-riches romp – in which a young man named Jayson Bloucher leaves his nowhere home town to find fabulousness in New York and Hollywood. A big clue as to his character is that he added the "Y" in Jayson while he was still in kindergarten (for "flair!"). Jayson has flair alright—enough to light up a cross-country trail that leads him from escort agency to the set of a sitcom to, finally, America's sweetheart. There is a dash of mystery and a whole lot of odd-ball characters who form Jayson's extended family. This is a completely worthy follow-up to

Kilmer-Purcell's first novel and the sort of well-crafted, light hearted read that is perfect for a weekend "down the shore."

Harper Perennial
ISBN 978-0-06-133696-6
www.harperperennial.com



Phyllida And The Brotherhood of Philander

by Ann Herenden

Reviewed by Toby Grace

If Jane Austin had written gay fiction, this book could have been hers. Perhaps the author was channeling a liberated spirit of the great Austin while writing this. We'll never know. What we do know is that this is a very well crafted piece of work by a writer who is thoroughly grounded in the nuances and details of early 19th Century England. What went on behind the closed doors of the aristocracy then was not much different from now except that then it had to kept a lot more discrete – especially regarding gay sex. When a blackmailer sets to work, the lives of some bright young men may be catastrophically disrupted unless they can put a stop to it. This witty and fast paced first novel does great credit to the author's training as an English major at Princeton and to her own very well-developed talent. Lust, love, secrets, lavish settings and intrigue—this one has the whole delicious menu for a great summer read.

Harper Paperbacks
ISBN 978-0-06-145136-2, \$14.95
www.harpercollins.com

