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Lucy Jane Bledsoe: A Thin Bright Line before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Thin Bright Line:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A labor of loveBy IllyrialadyThis new book by Lucy Jane Bledsoe is a heart-moving and heart-rending work by an author whose each succeeding novel gets better and better. Just when it appears that her craft has reached a pitch that could not be exceeded, she comes up with a new novel that blows one away. ldquo; A Thin Bright Linerdquo; was a huge labor of love, doing the vast research to find out what she could about her deceased aunt, Lucybelle Bledsoe, and then writing an exceedingly well imagined and wrought novel about Lucybelle and her era, her intelligence, her loves, her dedication to climate research at a time when hardly anyone knew this work had just begun.ldquo; A Thin Bright Linerdquo; is a fascinating glimpse at the furthest possible horizon of both objective and subjective truth about who Lucybelle Bledsoe was. This book is an endearing labor of love.I was privileged to meet the author at a local book club meeting a few years back, where her novel ldquo; The Big Bang Symphonyrdquo; was discussed.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Lucy Jane Bledsoe's 'A Thin Bright Line' has left me overwhelmed by its brilliance. By Peter GajdicsLucy Jane Bledsoe's "A Thin Bright Line" has left me overwhelmed by its brilliance. From page one, I was hooked by its historical setting: the Cold War, McCarthyism, the rising civil rights movement, J.F.K and Martin Luther King, Jr., even a time in history when threatening to expose a person's "secret life" of homosexuality was still considered a weapon of disenfranchisement. All generations stand on the shoulders of their predecessors, and I am grateful to have read this book and gained greater insight into what it must have been like to be "like me" only a few short generations ago. The level of detail and research that Ms. Bledsoe so obviously invested into writing this book of historical fiction left me breathless. I was heartbroken when the novel ended because I wanted to go on living with each and every one of the novel's "characters," written into startling life by Lucy Jane Bledsoe. That the main "character" was Ms. Bledsoe's real life aunt made the reading all that more palpable, immediate. I could not recommend this book more, and my only regret is there aren't enough stars by which to "judge" this brilliant novel. Read it; you will not soon forget it.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Best Book I Read in 2016By Martha MillerReading this book was a joy. When I (reluctantly) put it down, I couldn't wait to get back to it. Bledsoe is a great writer and handles pacing and tension over a period of 10 years deftly. Sex is there, but fade to the night stand type. The only violence is the constant threat of being found out for this lesbian who worked with government secrets in the time of the Atom Bomb and the McCarthy hearings. In the 50's and 60's, gays were thought to be a security threat because they could be easily blackmailed. The main character promises to keep the secrets and not see women romantically--both promises she keeps as well as she can--but not perfectly.

At the height of the Cold War, Lucybelle Bledsoe is offered a job seemingly too good to pass up. However, there are risks. Her scientific knowledge and editorial skills are unparalleled, but her personal life might not withstand government scrutiny. Leaving behind the wreckage of a relationship, Lucybelle finds solace in working for the visionary scientist who is extracting the first-ever polar ice cores. The lucidity of ice is calming and beautiful. But the joyful pangs of a new love clash with the impossible compromises of queer life. If exposed, she could lose everything she holds dear. Based on the hidden life of the authorrsquo;s aunt and namesake, A Thin Bright Line is a love story set amid Cold War intrigue, the origins of climate research, and the nascent civil rights movement. Poignant, brilliant, and moving, it reminds us to act on what we love, not just wish for it. "It triumphs as an intimate and humane evocation of day-to-day life under inhumane circumstances."mdash;New York Times Book Review ldquo;Bledsoe covers a lot of ground here, imagining her intellectual auntrsquo;s relationship to the queer cultural transformations of the 1950s, as well as the paranoia of the Cold War era.rdquo;mdash;San Francisco Chronicle

ldquo; This is gripping historical fiction about queer life at the height of the Cold War and the civil rights movement, and its grounding in fact really makes it sing. Like the scientists whose papers she edits, Lucybelle Bledsoe is passionate about the truth. Whether itrsquo;s the climate history of the planet as illuminated by cores of polar ice or the pursuit of an authentic emotional life in the miasma of McCarthyism, she operates with piercing honesty.rdquo;mdash;Alison Bechdel, author of Fun Home

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