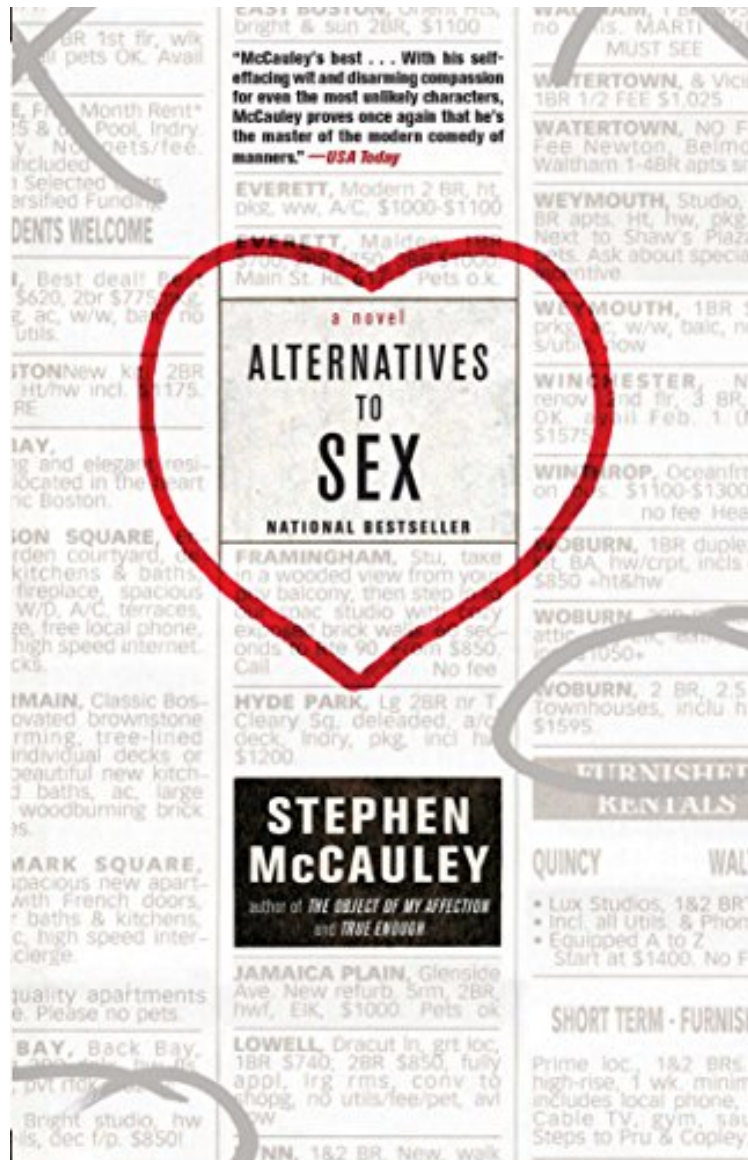


Alternatives to Sex: A Novel (English Edition)

Von Stephen McCauley

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Von Stephen McCauley : Alternatives to Sex: A Novel (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Alternatives to Sex: A Novel (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. So what are the alternatives to Sex?Von Peter BerlinThis is McCauley's fifth novel. I have read his previous four novels and this, I think, is so far the best. It is very funny, witty and true to the point. At the center there is a first-person narrator

who is very good at rationalizing his obsessive and self-destructive behaviour ' from obsessive cleaning to anonymous one-night-stands organized with the help of the internet. He is quite blunt about his own failings as of all his characters around him. So how can an obsessed real estate agent (at the time the novel takes place it was still a boom market) stay in business and still find true love? The reader can follow the protagonist on this journey and get all the entertainment anyone could wish for. The novel is broken down in very short chapters but they are always to the point and McCauley succeeds admirably on all levels when he put the narrator into impossible situations that he creates for himself. Very wisely, it is an open ending. Very recommendable.

Kurzbeschreibung The bestselling author of *The Object of My Affection* and *True Enough* delivers his most compelling and richly observed novel to date with this portrait of one man's search for the holy trinity of modern life -- true love, good sex, and great real estate. Stephen McCauley's new novel is a moving and hilarious chronicle of life in post-traumatic, morally ambiguous America where the desire to do good is constantly being tripped up by the need to feel good. Right now. William Collins is a real estate agent working near Boston. Despite a boom market, his sales figures aren't what they should be, due mostly to the distractions of compulsive ironing and housecleaning binges and his penchant for nightly online cruising for hookups -- "less impersonal than old-fashioned anonymous sex because you exchanged fake names with the person." There's also his struggle to collect the rent from Kumiko Rothberg, his passive-aggressive tenant, and his worries about his best friend, Edward, a flight attendant he's certainly not in love with. William has known for some time that his habits are slipping out of control. But he figures that "as long as I acknowledged my behavior was a problem, it wasn't one." When he finally decides to do something about his life, he needs a role model of calm stability. Enter Charlotte O'Malley and Samuel Thompson, wealthy suburbanites looking for the perfect city apartment. "Happy couple," William writes in his notes. "Maybe I can learn something from them." But what he learns challenges his own assumptions about real estate, love, and desire. And what they learn from him might unravel a budding friendship, not to mention a very promising sale. Full of crackling dialogue delivered by a stellar ensemble of players, *Alternatives to Sex* is social satire at its very best: A smart, sophisticated, and astonishingly funny look at the way we live now. **Pressestimmen** 'Hilarious, poignant and true. Wickedly insightful about the new millennium's two greatest obsessions: Sex and Real Estate' *Darren Star*, creator of *Sex and the City* 'For my money, his prose is some of the best around - graceful and sturdy and blessedly free from pretension' *Armistead Maupin* 'His style reads as if Anne Tyler had been drafted on to the writing team of *Sex and the City*' *Guardian* 'His characters spring effortlessly to life, and his prose is a joy to read. If you haven't tasted McCauley before what are you waiting for?' *Gay Times* 'McCauley's engaging fifth novel recalls the odd, impulsive behaviors that overtook Americans in the year following September 11, 2001... McCauley gets it exactly right' *James Klise*, *Booklist* 'McCauley delivers the promise of emotional progress for his flawed, charming protagonist in this clever take on the desire for love, sex and real estate' *Publishers Weekly* **Kurzbeschreibung** The bestselling author of *The Object of My Affection* and *True Enough* delivers his most compelling and richly observed novel to date with this portrait of one man's search for the holy trinity of modern life -- true love, good sex, and great real estate. Stephen McCauley's new novel is a moving and hilarious chronicle of life in post-traumatic, morally ambiguous America where the desire to do good is constantly being tripped up by the need to feel good. Right now. William Collins is a real estate agent working near Boston. Despite a boom market, his sales figures aren't what they should be, due mostly to the distractions of compulsive ironing and housecleaning binges and his penchant for nightly online cruising for hookups -- "less impersonal than old-fashioned anonymous sex because you exchanged fake names with the person." There's also his struggle to collect the rent from Kumiko Rothberg, his passive-aggressive tenant, and his worries about his best friend, Edward, a flight attendant he's certainly not in love with. William has known for some time that his habits are slipping out of control. But he figures that "as long as I acknowledged my behavior was a problem, it wasn't one." When he finally decides to do something about his life, he needs a role model of calm stability. Enter Charlotte O'Malley and Samuel Thompson, wealthy suburbanites looking for the perfect city apartment. "Happy couple," William writes in his notes. "Maybe I can learn something from them." But what he learns challenges his own assumptions about real estate, love, and desire. And what they learn from him might unravel a budding friendship, not to mention a very promising sale. Full of crackling dialogue delivered by a stellar ensemble of players, *Alternatives to Sex* is social satire at its very best: A smart, sophisticated, and astonishingly funny look at the way we live now.