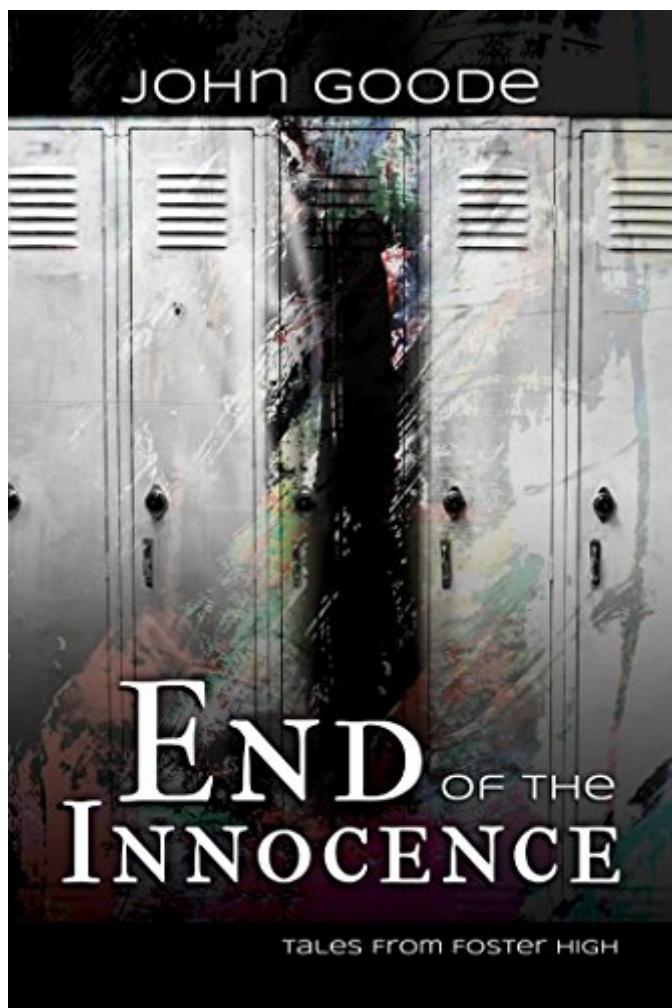


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End Of The Innocence (Tales From Foster High (Harmony Ink) Book 2)



Synopsis

Tales from Foster High: Book Two Kyle Stilleno is no longer the invisible boy, and he doesn't quite know how he feels about it. On one hand, he now has a great boyfriend, Brad Greymark, and a handful of new friends, and even a new job. On the other hand, no one screamed obscenities at him in public when he was invisible. No one expected him to become a poster boy for gay rights, either—•at least not until Kyle stepped out of the closet and into the limelight. But there are only a few months of high school left, and Kyle doubts he can make a difference. With Christmas break drawing closer, Kyle and Brad are changing their lives to include each other. While the trials are far from over, they have their relationship to lean on. Others are not so lucky. One of their classmates needs their help—but Kyle and Brad's relationship may be too new to survive the strain.

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Customer Reviews

End of the Innocence is the aptly titled book four in the Tales of Foster High series of gay coming of

age and coming out books. A lot of the focus here is on bullying and its effects, which here are very serious. I'm a big fan of the whole Tales of Foster High series. The main characters, Kyle and Brad, are very real and very likable. And their story is told expertly, with attention to detail and to realism. And the supporting characters are effective and likable, as well. I strongly recommend End of the Innocence and the whole Tales of Foster High series, which should be read in order.

If there was ever a book to read, it's THIS ONE. I have never read a book with so much meaning, enjoyment, understanding then this one gave me; it is basically the definition of a PERFECT book. Once you pick it up you will never regret it, and never want to put it down. There are no words in the English vocabulary that could describe just how much I love this series; one second you think you have everything worked out, and under control, then the next you are either crying your eyes out, awww-ing, or just plain laughing-out-loud. There are no boring bits (so forget about toilet breaks,) not one second should be spent away from this book until it's done. You can connect to the characters INSTANTLY, and fall in love with them just as fast. And just when you think you've seen all sides to that character, *BOOM* they will shock you once again; Sometimes good, sometimes bad, and sometimes necessary. READ IT, READ IT, READ IT!!!, it will be the best decision you've ever made.

I'm not even sure I can find the right words to review this book, but I would highly, highly, recommend it because I think it is so powerful! The previous books dealt with both Brad and Kyle coming out and when the going got tough, Brad got tougher and even more out there, while Kyle wished for his quiet life again, although he does not want to give up Brad! This time around, the title says it all, but it is not the innocence you may assume. I cannot give too many details without giving away spoilers, but this time, the relationship expands a bit, in the sense that Kyle and Jennifer, Brad and his ex Jennifer, find common ground. Kyle makes a friend outside of Brad in a girl named Sammy, and Kyle even finds a way to be friends with Kelly, Brad's former bestfriend, who has a couple of powerful secrets of his own. This book brings into question what the lines are when someone thinks they are going to "get back" at a local bully - and if you are bullied, does it make right to do back what you feel was done to you (as much as you think so, no, it won't make you feel better or take back what you think was taken from you by a bully). Is there such a thing as "justice" when you try to take things into your own hands, and how clueless can some parents be to what is going on with their kids! Kyle is the one who takes a stand this time, and what leads to it, will rip your heart out so have the tissues at the ready, in my opinion, this book is that powerful, and that

important! The fact that anything that has been written in these books has taken place in real life (and I know it does happen, I was bullied from grade school to grade 8) makes the impact even more meaningful and I strongly recommend reading the author's note at the end of the book, it is as insightful and powerful as the book and why this author and this series is one of my favorites.

I read The Tales of Foster High and really liked it. I was amazed by Kyle's tenacity and Brad's courage and loved their relationship together. That book was really just a build-up for this masterpiece. Not only does it have the most troubling yet inspiring message, it is a beautiful story about friendship and love. It made me so happy to see Jennifer leave behind her bitterness and support her friends in their crusade. It made me hopeful that Brad and Kyle's parents, though still messed up, were trying their best to be supportive. And I was impressed that Kyle was not only trying to end bullying against gay students, but against everyone. It was clear that bullying is bullying, and that no one has a right to do it, regardless of their experiences or their own personal identity. And, if we don't remember this, the results can be tragic. Being a teen is hard enough under the best of circumstances. The last thing a teen needs is to be told that he/she is a freak, since they do a good job of thinking that about themselves on their own. It is so important that everyone, teens and adults alike, read this story and see what kind of results their actions can have on a person who is struggling. Is it that hard to accept people and love them for who they are? As equally as powerful as the story was what John Goode wrote following it. Anyone who is struggling in any way can find hope from the experiences he shares and the message he is hoping people understand. This is not just an author writing a book. It is a person who wants to help people, and I have no doubt that this book is doing just that.

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