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The Order of the Poison Oak (The Russel Middlebrook Series) (Volume 2)

By Brent Hartinger



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Book 2 in the Lambda Award-winning Russel Middlebrook Series

"Summer camp is different from high school. Something about spending the night. Things happen."

Russel Middlebrook is back, in a stand-alone sequel to the 2003 teen classic *Geography Club* (now a feature film co-starring Scott Bakula), and he's off to work as a summer camp counselor with his best friends Min and Gunnar. He's sick and tired of being openly gay in high school, and a peaceful summer at Camp Serenity is just what he needs to relieve the stress that comes from being an "out" teenager.

But he doesn't count on sudden new rivalries with Min and Gunnar, or having to chase after a cabin full of unruly campers. And he especially doesn't count on a fellow counselor as hunky as Web Bastion.

Things do happen at Camp Serenity, especially at night. Brent Hartinger's third novel is a story about Indian legends, skinny-dipping in moonlit coves, and the mysteries of a secret society called the Order of the Poison Oak. But more than anything, this witty page-turner is about bravery in the face of unexpected danger, the passion of a sizzling summer romance, and, most of all, the courage to be yourself.



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The Order of the Poison Oak (The Russel Middlebrook Series) (Volume 2) By Brent Hartinger Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1842643 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Buddha Kitty Books
- Published on: 2012-12-09
- Ingredients: Example Ingredients
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.81" h x .45" w x 5.06" l, .40 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 198 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

"[When I finished the book], I was sniffing and my eyes were moist: It's what's meant by the phrase 'being moved to tears.'...the book is beautifully written, authentic-sounding and smart....all the right traditional values are underscored: honesty, cleverness, generosity, trust." - *Philadelphia Inquirer*

"A touching and realistic portrait of gay teens. The characters are three-dimensional, and Russell narrates in a perfect teen patois that is often hilarious. Teens -- gay and straight -- will connect." - *Kirkus Reviews*

"Hartinger is a master at crafting a high school setting, and Russel, Min, Gunnar and all the rest are just great characters ... A brave, bold book." - *Bookslut.com*

"Lest any of this sounds angst-ridden, it's all leavened by Russel's chatty, sometimes sarcastic, sometimes enthusiastic teen voice. He addresses the reader like one teen telling his story to another, lending the story an immediacy and sense of reality, and his observations can be funny as well as refreshingly honest." - *Kliatt*

"The story transcends queer kid romance angst ... *The Order of the Poison Oak*, with its easygoing emphasis on the virtue of tolerance and the value of friendship, is a well-pitched novel for teen readers -- but one that will appeal to grownups with a yen for intelligent, humorous coming-of-age fiction." - *Richard Labonte's Book Marks*

"A delight ... funny, touching ... With this third novel from Brent Hartinger, I can see that he is an author who is only becoming more accomplished. (Highest Rating)" - *Midwest Book Review*

"Superb. 5Q (Highest Rating)" - *VOYA*

About the Author

Brent Hartinger is an author, teacher, playwright, and screenwriter. *Geography Club*, the first book in his Lambda Award-winning Russel Middlebrook Series, is now a feature film co-starring Scott Bakula and Nikki Blonsky. In 1990, Brent helped found one of the world's first gay teen support groups, in his hometown of Tacoma, Washington. In 2005, he co-founded the entertainment website *AfterElton.com*, which was sold to MTV/Viacom in 2006. Read more by and about Brent, or contact him at www.brenthartinger.com.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Philip Kirkpatrick:

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Todd James:

Typically the book The Order of the Poison Oak (The Russel Middlebrook Series) (Volume 2) has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of advantage. The book was compiled by the very famous author. This articles author makes some research prior to write this book. This particular book very easy to read you will get the point easily after perusing this book.

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