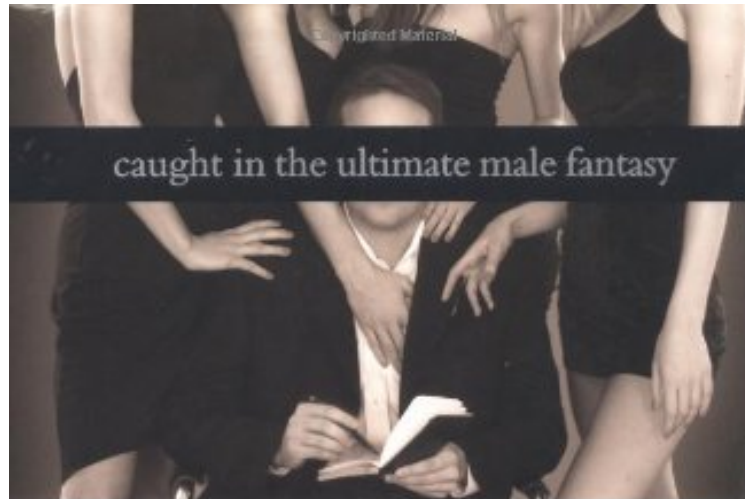


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## Accidental Playboy: Caught in the Ultimate Male Fantasy

*Leif Ueland*

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# ACCIDENTAL PLAYBOY

a true story

# LEIF UELAND

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**Leif Ueland : Accidental Playboy: Caught in the Ultimate Male Fantasy** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Accidental Playboy: Caught in the Ultimate Male Fantasy:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. TerribleBy Bill ScottI know this is supposed to be a memoir/personal account but this guy is more self conscious than Woody Allen at his worst. Everything is portrayed in terms of how he responded to it or how it responded to him. And he's not very interesting.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The funniest insight into 30-something straight guysBy A CustomerEveryone straight male

in his 30s will get this book. And every woman will be so amazed (and happy) about what they learn. What a talented, hilarious, loveable guy (and writer). As clever as Dave Eggers or Woody Allen, but much more... more sweet, or honest, or real -- something. 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Surprising and Funny  
By Kelly Gruver  
I actually just finished listening to this book from Audible.com, and I jumped on to buy copies for people I know...which I am normally hesitant to do--push copies of something I have read onto others. But this book is surprising...an insight into a world that is not normally available to most of us...and funny...because this is not the "typical" male response you would expect in light of seeing scads of women naked and often available. As a woman, I thought that it was kind of liberating, and as an avid reader of Playboy, a fun "backstage" view of part of that mystical world. Leif is undoubtedly on the fringes of the Playboy world, but gives a unique perspective on the human condition, as it relates to gender and sexuality. An easy, must read for many!

A freelance writer learns what it's like to be a single, heterosexual guy in an unsteady world when he's invited to travel cross-country for six months on the "Playboy Bus" in search of the Playmate of the Millennium.

From Publishers Weekly "I scan through the familiar terrain married, mother, 35C... until I come to the final section... She's written: 'I volunteer as a pediatric AIDS worker, which I consider a great honor,' " details Ueland, as he notes yet another ironic, cultural incongruity in his job as the house reporter for Playboy's six-month national search for Playmate of the Millennium. If "35C" and "pediatric AIDS worker" seems to be a contradiction, so is Ueland and his job. He says he's "never been the Playboy guy," and he appears to have gotten this gig because, while working on his novel, he wrote a humorous article about his sexual insecurities entitled "Trials of a Gay-Seeming Straight Male." Indeed, Ueland writes at length here about his therapy sessions dealing with his identity crisis as a heterosexual male who desires women outside of the Playboy paradigm. When Ueland is at his best, this sometimes shapeless, on-the-road memoir crackles with fine, mordant observations, and he can astutely communicate his emotional disjuncture with this project: "I really am invisible, standing in the middle of the crowd. I watch mutely." But too often Ueland's epiphanies feel slightly shop-worn: "These girls, the Myras, Mollys, and Hesters you know what? I'm like them. They're just likable." Frequent name-dropping (Graham Greene, John Updike, Norman Mailer, Ernest Hemingway), while ironic, looks silly. In the end, Ueland learns that being a heterosexual male doesn't mean being a womanizer, but while his journey is often entertaining, it doesn't yield surprising insights. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. About the Author Leif Ueland is the co-author of Road Rules: Passport Abroad (MTV Books, 1997), based on one of MTV's hottest shows, and is a contributor to the online magazine Nerve. Currently, he divides his time between New York and Los Angeles.