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Coming

Jean-Luc Nancy

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Jean-Luc Nancy : Coming before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Coming:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. "Petite mort" is not at issue here but rather the "coming" to that point and all that is enjoyed in a process of seductionBy E MichaelsJouissance is difficult to translate and perhaps more difficult to grasp as a concept. To translate jouissance as "coming" is to put undue focus on one aspect of this term if what is meant is understood as orgasm. "Petite mort" is not at issue here but rather the "coming" to that point and all

that is enjoyed in a process of seduction. The dialogue between Adele van Reeth and Jean-Luc Nancy is enlightening but perhaps there should be a separate category, 'American jouissance.' For many American males, if not most, the orgasm is the goal. The term 'jouissance' seems to suggest much more where the elements of seduction and the enjoyment of the process is brought to the fore. The orgasm as 'petite mort' and something to be avoided, or at least put off as long as possible is not a concept readily understood in America. The American male seems to want to get to it as soon as possible, enjoy it, die, then be resurrected to do "battle" all over again.

Coming is a lyrical, erudite examination of the French notion of jouissance. How did jouissance evolve from referring to the pleasure of possessing a material thing (property, wealth) to the pleasure of orgasm, from appropriation to disappropriation, from consumption to consummation? The philosophers Adele van Reeth and Jean-Luc Nancy engage in a lively dialogue, ranging from consumerism to video games to mysticism and from Spinoza, Hegel, and Augustine to the Marquis de Sade, Marguerite Duras, and Henry Miller. Four additional essays are new to the American edition.

A stimulating analysis, Nancy's Coming shows sex and sexuality to be crucial understanding central aspects of his work. Moving from the prurient to the profound, Coming is a scintillating read for anyone interested in the limits of desire, the loneliness that pervades much of contemporary culture, or what love means today. (Peter Gratton Memorial University of Newfoundland) About the Author Jean-Luc Nancy is Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at the Universit Marc Bloch, Strasbourg. His wide-ranging thought is developed in many books, including Expectation: Philosophy, Literature; The Possibility of a World; The Banality of Heidegger; The Disavowed Community; and, with Adele Van Reeth, Coming (all Fordham).