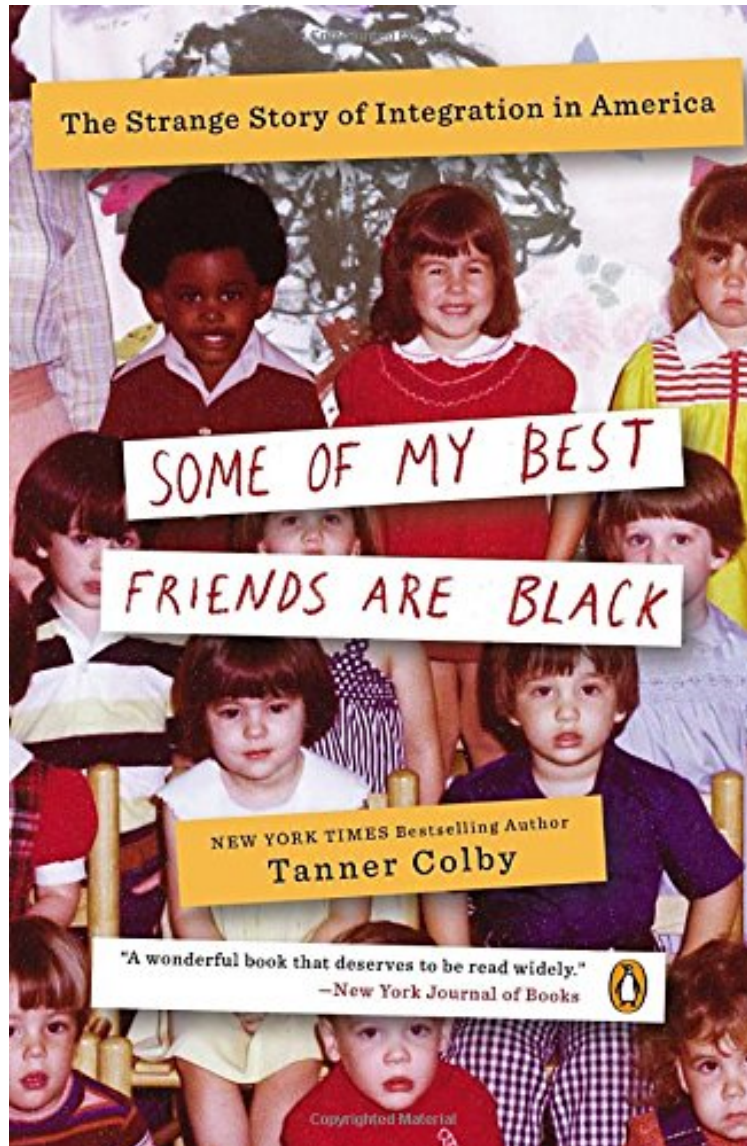


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Some of My Best Friends Are Black: The Strange Story of Integration in America

Tanner Colby

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#174823 in Books Tanner Colby 2013-07-30 2013-07-30 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.45 x .65 x 5.50l, .57 #File Name: 0143123637320 pages Some of My Best Friends Are Black The Strange Story of Integration in America | File size: 46.Mb

Tanner Colby : Some of My Best Friends Are Black: The Strange Story of Integration in America before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Some of My Best Friends Are Black: The Strange Story of Integration in America:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Painful, but necessary read. By T. Barham I grew up in a relatively poor and very diverse community and our school was eventually bussed to a more affluent (and much whiter) neighborhood. I always assumed that we all did well because this change provided some uplift for me and many of my friends to move into a safer, more stable school community. As some of the families in Vestavia Hills experienced, the initial trepidation to our coming dissolved once we arrived. Nonetheless I wonder how much of my ease in fitting into this new environment came from being white. I never question how my friends of color who also fit in might have had to give up a sense of authentic identity. Whether they made tradeoffs of not the fact that I never thought to ask says a lot about my privilege as a white person and social mobility in America. Now the mother of a bi-racial child in a city that struggles mightily with its undercover history of racism, this is a book I feel all of us should read and consider as an attempt to better come to grips with the meaning of white privilege. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I liked this book a whole lot (which I had been ... By Rev. Jean C Thompson I liked this book a whole lot (which I had been skeptical about from the title at the start). What I liked best were the numerous anecdotes that gave context and perspective to the point he was trying to get across. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By LEE E ANDRADE It was a good book

An irreverent, yet powerful exploration of race relations by the New York Times bestselling author of *The Chris Farley Show*. Frank, funny, and incisive, *Some of My Best Friends Are Black* offers a profoundly honest portrait of race in America. In a book that is part reportage, part history, part social commentary, Tanner Colby explores why the civil rights movement ultimately produced such little true integration in schools, neighborhoods, offices, and churches—the very places where social change needed to unfold. Weaving together the personal, intimate stories of everyday people—black and white—Colby reveals the strange, sordid history of what was supposed to be the end of Jim Crow, but turned out to be more of the same with no name. He shows us how far we have come in our journey to leave mistrust and anger behind—and how far all of us have left to go.

"Who would expect a coauthor of two Saturday Night Live alumni biographies (*The Chris Farley Show*; Belushi) to pen a thoughtful, judicious, yet provocative social history of American race relations? Evenhanded, felicitously written, and animated by numerous interviews, Colby's book is a pleasure..." -- Library Journal "Pointing out the shortfalls of court-ordered busing, affirmative action, and other well-intentioned programs, Colby's charming and surprisingly funny book shows us both how far we've come in bridging the racial divide and how far we've yet to go." -- Publisher's Weekly "With depressing persuasiveness, the author argues that we haven't achieved racial integration, because, well, we don't really want to. ...the author's personal voice is compelling and his thesis is most disturbing. Recommended reading for anyone who still thinks we live in a post-racial America." -- Kirkus "Colby, emerging from the 'comedians who died young' pigeonhole that he had made for himself... finds a new way into a national discussion, which is so cluttered at this point that it can be difficult to find the floor. His refreshing angle is based in aw-shucks honesty and an earnest humor..." -- The Daily Beast "Kansas City residents who are proud of their metropolis might wish Tanner Colby had never written *Some of My Best Friends are Black*, despite the book's superb qualities." -- The Kansas City Star "From the Back Cover" "I've often thought that the issue of race has been more than adequately dealt with by America's people of color and that it was finally white people's turn to engage with the uncomfortable subject if we were to move forward together as a nation. In *Some of My Best Friends Are Black*, Tanner Colby bravely and ably accepts the challenge. This book taught me unexpected and valuable lessons about my country, my people, and myself. What can a white guy named Tanner teach a black guy named Baratunde about race in America? Turns out the answer is 'plenty.'" -- Baratunde Thurston, author of *How to be Black* "In weaving together the personal narratives (including his own) of 'the Children of White Flight' and 'the Children of the Dream' Tanner Colby has crafted a powerful piece of social commentary and contemporary history. Hugely readable, quirky, and incredibly smart, *Some of my Best Friends Are Black* presents four unforgettable smaller stories to tell the big story of race in today's America." -- Tim Naftali, author of *George H.W. Bush* and director emeritus of the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum "Irony, surprise, virtue, and hustling are always the interwoven story of ethnic troubles in America. Tanner Colby lets us see that, however many advances have been accomplished, the unfamiliar styles of those who intend to do well--along with those who inevitably pollute any area with short-sighted economic dreams--inevitably lead to a universal conclusion: 'Mistakes were made.'" The story of how and why this happened is what gives this book something special beyond the usual sentimentality imposed on human events, above and below." -- Stanley Crouch, author of *Reconsidering the Souls of Black Folk*