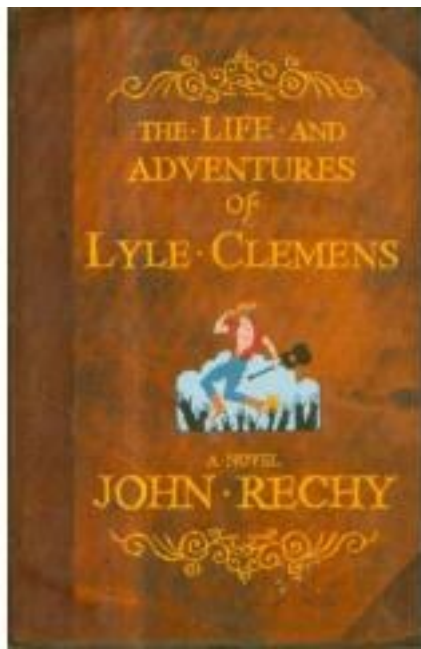


The Life and Adventures of Lyle Clemens



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出版者:Transition Vendor

出版时间:2004-11

装帧:Pap

isbn:9780802141668

Now in paperback, the latest novel from the internationally renowned novelist is a riotous bildungsroman that pays homage to the classic eighteenth-century picaresque. Loosely inspired by Fielding's *Tom Jones*, *The Life and Adventures of Lyle Clemens* follows the journey of handsome Lyle Clemens as he travels through the religious fundamentalist world of Texas to the gambling palaces of Las Vegas and the enticing traps of Los Angeles's mythologies. As Lyle approaches adulthood, everyone wants him to be something he's not. His beautiful mother wants to make him into a reflection of the cowboy who abandoned her; a group of avaricious fundamentalists plot to convert him into "the Lord's Cowboy" to rouse their televangelical empire to new frenzied heights; and the lovely Maria wants him to fulfill her varying fantasies of "true love." When Lyle leaves home to make his own destiny, he encounters a gallery of charlatans

and wistful souls, quirky gamblers, aging starlets, and wily pornographers. The Life and Adventures of Lyle Clemens is a hilarious, bittersweet, and wise book that establishes once again John Rechy's great storytelling gifts.

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目录:

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