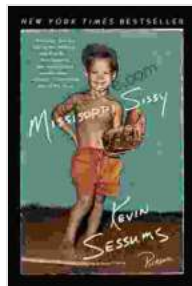


Mississippi Sissy: The Extraordinary Life and Tragic Death of Kevin Sessums



Kevin Sessums was born in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, in 1957. From a young age, he felt different from the other children around him. He was sensitive, artistic, and attracted to other boys. In a small, conservative town

like Hattiesburg, these qualities made him an easy target for bullying and abuse.



Mississippi Sissy by Kevin Sessums

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

- Language : English
- File size : 626 KB
- Text-to-Speech : Enabled
- Screen Reader : Supported
- Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
- Word Wise : Enabled
- Print length : 324 pages



Sessums's childhood was a nightmare. He was physically and emotionally abused by his father and stepfather. His mother, who was mentally ill, was unable to protect him. Sessums found solace in books and writing, but it was not enough to escape the pain of his home life.

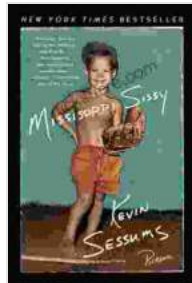
When Sessums was 16 years old, he ran away from home and made his way to New York City. He lived on the streets for a time, but eventually found a job as a waiter. It was there that he met Andy Warhol, who became his mentor and friend. Warhol encouraged Sessums to write about his experiences growing up gay in the South, and in 1989, Sessums published his first novel, *Mississippi Sissy*.

Mississippi Sissy was a critical and commercial success. It was praised for its honesty, its humor, and its unflinching portrayal of the challenges faced by LGBTQ youth in the South. Sessums became a sought-after writer and

journalist, and his work appeared in publications such as *Vanity Fair*, *The New York Times Magazine*, and *Rolling Stone*.

Despite his success, Sessums struggled with addiction and mental illness throughout his life. He was diagnosed with bipolar disorder and struggled with alcohol and drug abuse. In 1997, he attempted suicide, but was unsuccessful. He died in 2017 at the age of 59 from a drug overdose.

Kevin Sessums was a brilliant writer and a courageous advocate for LGBTQ youth. His story is a reminder of the challenges that LGBTQ people continue to face in the South and around the world. It is also a testament to the power of the human spirit to overcome adversity and achieve great things.



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