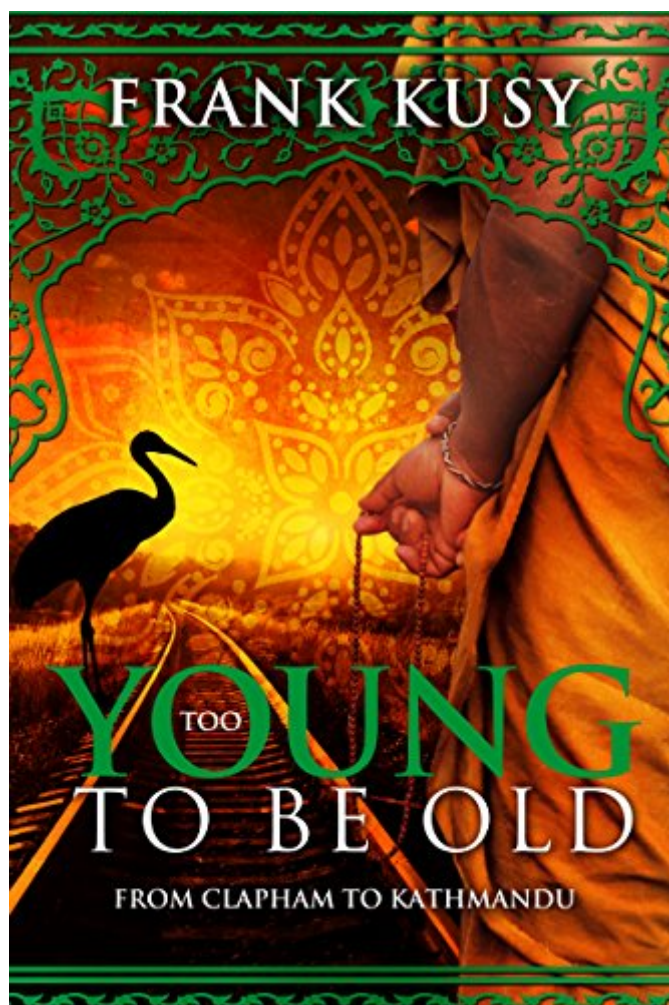


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Too Young To Be Old: From Clapham To Kathmandu



Synopsis

A hilarious memoir about enlightenment and old age
A superb lead-in to Frank's travel memoirs
honest, whimsical, and keenly observing "...Frank is a wonderful storyteller...I really warmed to him..." As Frank Kusy turns 27 he is unexpectedly put in charge of an old people's home in Clapham, South London. Driven to distraction by a crazy cast of characters he seeks solace in Buddhism, only to find himself up to his ears in plasticine pigs and marathon chanting sessions. Will he make his mum happy by holding down a proper job? Will he make her unhappy by becoming a writer? Will he get to share cheese sandwiches with Kevin in Kathmandu? And will he be forced to exchange his underpants in Japan?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Well Frank, you've done it again - written a funny and almost too good to be true memoir. I've read and love his 2 other books and bought this when it was released and also his other book 'Kevin and I'. This is a prequel to 'Kevin and I' and fills in the early years of the author's life. Kevin is looking for a proper job and all of a sudden he is in charge of an old folk's home, in Clapham, England, that is inhabited by a bunch of Looney-Tune seniors. He handles the job with his wicked sense of humor and also tapes the stories of two little old ladies who are eager to share their stories with anyone who will listen. This book also has him delving into becoming a more serious Buddhist with marathon chanting sessions. The book is laugh out loud and introduces you to Kevin - his companion in India. Do yourself a favor and start reading this novel and I'm sure you will be eager to get your hands on the rest of his books.

I've been on a Frank Kusy reading binge in recent weeks. Start with "Kevin and I in India" as I did (having traveled there twice). Truly this author captures the spirit of the place! Kusy's "Too Young to Be Old" shows perfect timing in humor with a balance of self-deprecating perspective, honor and respect for elders with life-stories that are captivating, and a motivation to get out of the mundane workplace to travel the world. His other books in the series follow Frank through life adventures, wacky and wonderful love interests, weird and amazing travel companions, and insightful locals. Wonderful reads if you have travel wanderlust or simply want to do people character studies through Kusy's eyes. So funny, I found myself reading excerpts out-loud to friends.

Another great book from Frank Kusy. I really enjoyed this book as it lets you know how his traveling started. Never mind his relationships but what an adventure working with the elderly. From the elderly people I know in England they have such amazing stories and they definitely put Frank on the path for us to all fall in love with him--oops, I mean his books. If you haven't read Frank this is a good place to start and if you have this is even better to learn how he got there.

This enjoyable memoir of the author's discovery of Buddhism, and his daunting job as a director at a care home for the elderly in Great Britain, is filled with anecdotes of the elderly residents, both humorous and sobering, mixed with the author's gentle amusement at his own youthful foibles. Residents recounted the desperation experienced by poor working families in the 20s and 30s, whose main relief was the Workhouse, memories of the wars, and happier memories. I will likely read more from this author. If you are interested in British social history, Buddhism, or coming of age chronicles, and appreciate humor, you may enjoy this.

I chose four stars because I felt like he should have went on to tell how the elder home ended up improving or closing. And I think a revisit to see how the people were doing to thank them for pointing him in the right direction. Bertie was my favorite character. Even though it was a story on Frank Kusy's trying to find out who he wanted to be. I think the stars were the people behind him, Bertie, his girlfriend Anna, Kevin, his former co workers who introduced him to Buddhism and many others. It was truly funny at times that involved the elderly's antics and sad when some of them died. I think you will enjoy this book as much as I did.

You don't cross many travel type books with a front story that reminds one of a Month Python routine. A young aloof man wanders down life's dark hall and finds tiny gems of life sprinkled with adventure and a new sense of self worth. A crazy quilt of wacked out seniors and being greeted as a movie star in a foreign land are just two of the never ending surprises Frank finds as he treks around the local English area he call "home" then on to india and Japan. Well written, funny and at times deeply enlightening. I will read more from this gentleman.

I think that Frank Kusy is my favorite author. He is the modern everyman. I found a lot of myself in him. Things that happened to him had happened to me as well. I can relate to him. He is witty and insightful as well as informative. I highly recommend his book to everyone.

One again Frank did not disappoint! I had read "Kevin and I in India" and loved it so I wanted to keep going and getting to know how Frank got into Buddhism. But if I am to be perfectly honest, to read some more of his humor. Too Young To Be Old has plenty of Frank's great British wit! He tries desperately, all the while he is trying to figure out what he wants to do in life, to run a aging folks home in South London. Many obstacles stand in his way, but with kindness and humor he manages and learns quite a bit along the way. I have "Off the Beaten Track", the next installment on his travels to India waiting to be read.

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