

# **Barbary Shore: A Novel**

Norman Mailer

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#### Barbary Shore: A Novel Norman Mailer

Published at the height of the McCarthy era, Norman Mailer's audacious novel of socialism is at once an elegy and an indictment, a sinuous moral thriller and an intellectual slugfest. Wounded during World War II, Mike Lovett is an amnesiac, and much of his past is a secret to himself. But when Lovett rents a room in Brooklyn, he finds that his housemates have secrets of their own: One betrays a husband no one ever sees; another may have been a Communist executioner. Combining Kafkaesque unease with Orwellian paranoia, *Barbary Shore* plays havoc with our certainties and delivers its effects with a force that is pure Mailer.

#### Praise for Barbary Shore

"A work of remarkable power, of amazing penetration, both into people and the determining forces of American life."—*The Atlantic Monthly* 

"Vibrant with life, abundant with real people . . . [Mailer has] a scintillating skill in observation, a mature sense of meaning."—*The Philadelphia Inquirer* 

"This book is nothing short of amazing."—Newsweek

"Barbary Shore [is] about the kind of country—and what you might call the psychic territory—that American war heroes were returning to."—The Guardian

#### **Praise for Norman Mailer**

"[Norman Mailer] loomed over American letters longer and larger than any other writer of his generation."—*The New York Times* 

"A writer of the greatest and most reckless talent."—The New Yorker

"Mailer is indispensable, an American treasure."—The Washington Post

"A devastatingly alive and original creative mind."—Life

"Mailer is fierce, courageous, and reckless and nearly everything he writes has sections of headlong brilliance."—*The New York Review of Books* 

"The largest mind and imagination [in modern] American literature . . . Unlike just about every American writer since Henry James, Mailer has managed to grow and become richer in wisdom with each new book."—*Chicago Tribune* 

"Mailer is a master of his craft. His language carries you through the story like a leaf on a stream."—*The Cincinnati Post* 

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