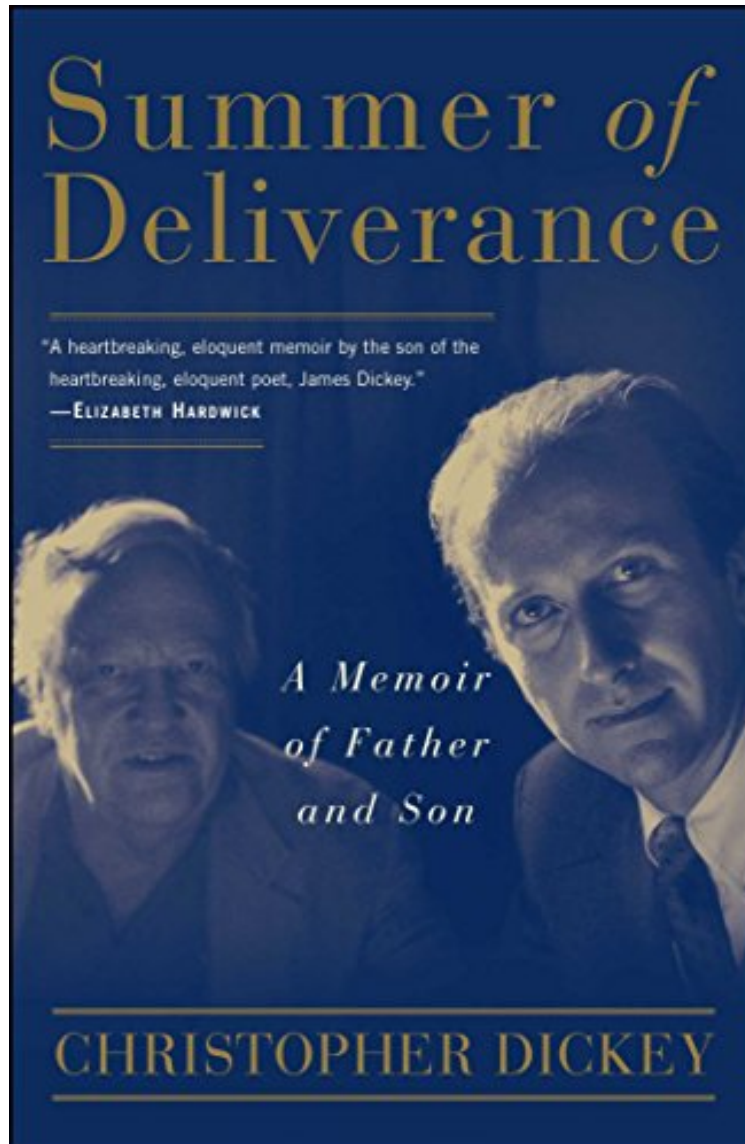


(Ebook free) Summer of Deliverance: A Memoir of Father and Son (English Edition)

## Summer of Deliverance: A Memoir of Father and Son (English Edition)

Von Christopher Dickey  
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**Von Christopher Dickey : Summer of Deliverance: A Memoir of Father and Son (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Summer of Deliverance: A Memoir of Father and Son (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Eloquent

and compelling. Von Ein Kunde "Summer of Deliverance" is an eloquent and compelling work by the son of a remarkable (even sometimes brilliant) self-destructive poet. Christopher Dickey pulls no punches in this memoir about his relationship with his father, James Dickey, who died in 1997. Once a loving and focused parent, Dickey began a steady decline into alcoholism, half-truths, and embarrassing showmanship after his first novel, *DELIVERANCE*, was made into a successful film, in 1971. All of Christopher's pain and heartache are here--everything from his father driving his first wife (Christopher's mother) to drink and an early death to the poet's frightening bout with alcoholic hepatitis in 1994. Christopher does a workmanlike job of dramatically organizing his assemblage of details and facts. And, to his credit, he accesses himself just as relentlessly as he does his father. Also, like his dad, Christopher has an uncanny eye for the poetic. Whether it is recalling lyrical lines of conversation with the elder Dickey or simply remembering poignant moments (e.g., when his father, frail and hooked to an oxygen machine, utters with heartfelt forthrightness, "Son--I do love you so much"), Christopher pens it so winningly right. Quibbles? I question his speaking so harshly about the University of South Carolina. For both USC and Dickey prospered by his tenure there. Still, with *SUMMER OF DELIVERANCE*, we have a clearer picture of both the frailties and the greatness of a legendary poet.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Speaks to the Heart of the Universal Father/Son Relationship Von Kathy and Fred (video@adnc.com) I finished the book and have spent a couple of days sorting out my thoughts, a process that will probably take much more time. I circled the book warily on the night stand for about three days, knowing it would be an absorbing experience. I started reading it last Saturday early afternoon, then awoke, restless with my thoughts, at 4:30 a.m. Sunday to finish it. It was heavy, but not sad, because it was about victory, a 90-yard grind-it-out fourth quarter winning drive. The words and thoughts flowed smoothly, but left large wakes. The author answered the main questions, but left others unanswered for readers in terms of how they relate them to their own lives: exactly the way it should be done. A book like that should not only reveal, it should challenge. I feel sympathetic to the dad because his burden was greater than most. By that I mean power does corrupt, and to be a lavishly lauded writer is power. All of a sudden here are fame, money and women. So, dad could be an asshole. It's a very big club, made bigger by those who don't admit it. The thing is--and I think this is most important--there was enough good in him left over to make the author want to reach out, and somewhere he learned or developed the grace to want to make that reach. I think that not having to die alone is a form of redemption, because it means someone cares enough to be at your side. The good we do as humans can't erase the bad, and neither can it outweigh it on some judgment-day scale. Both are what they are, and life is what it is. The great value of the book is that it shows how love can wade through hell. It instructs in the art of groping for self.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Summer of Deliverance - A Poignant Story of Forgiveness Von Ein Kunde Summer of Deliverance, written by James Dickey's son, Christopher Dickey, is a fascinating mix of biography and autobiography. It tells the story of a man who lived life to its fullest yet drank most of it away, and the son who struggled in his shadow. James Dickey, while an accomplished and prolific Southern poet, will always be best known for his best selling novel, *Deliverance*. The novel, and its subsequent film adaptation, is the story of a fateful canoe trip taken by four suburban Atlanta men down a North Georgia river. Born to a wealthy Atlanta family, Dickey spent his early career criss crossing the country with his wife, Maxine, and their two sons, taking several teaching positions along the way. Dickey began to garner national recognition with his appointment as the Poetry Consultant to the Library of Congress, an honor second only to the Poet Laureate. He was commissioned to write and recite a poem for Jimmy Carter's presidential inauguration. Disappointed to learn that he would not be reciting it at the actual swearing in, a la Robert Frost at JFK's Inauguration, but rather at a televised gala the night before, he was barely able to recite the poem, after enjoying one too many beers backstage with Paul Newman before the show. But it was the release of *Deliverance* that put him on the literary map. *Deliverance* was based on an earlier Dickey poem titled *Springer Mountain*. Chris Dickey spends a surprisingly short amount of time discussing the actual writing of the book, yet devotes four chapters to the filming of the movie. While James Dickey only made brief appearances on the set, including a cameo as the sheriff, Chris worked the entire shoot as a stand in. Colorful stories of Burt Reynolds' steady stream of female visitors, local inmates being used as film extras, and the unfriendly locals are well documented. The success of *Deliverance* brought instant fame and fortune to Dickey, and to say that it went to his head would be a gross understatement. It fueled an already growing drinking problem, which led to marital infidelity and mental abuse of wife and sons. Chris describes a father who could build you up to make you feel so special, only to tear you down with one of his drunken episodes. He dragged his wife down until she developed a drinking problem of her own, that she died from in 1976. Two months later, Dickey remarried a woman more than half his age. Soon after, father and son ceased to communicate, an impasse that lasted 20 years. Chris became a respected journalist, covering the turmoil in Central America for *The Washington Post*, and is now the Paris Bureau Chief for *Newsweek* magazine. But his father's failing health drew him home to Columbia, South Carolina, to care for his father, and to try and begin a dialogue to help work through their problems. During their time together, James was completely sober, and they spent a great deal of time talking about their lives. Slowly they began the healing process before James died. *Summer of Deliverance* is a compelling study of the dichotomy of a public personal and the private reality. The result is a

poignant story of forgiveness and understanding between father and son.

Kurzbeschreibung Summer of Deliverance is a powerful and moving memoir of anger, love, and reconciliation between a son and his father. Hailed as a literary genius of his generation, James Dickey created his art and lived his life with a ferocious passion. He was a heavy drinker, a destructive husband and father, a poet of grace and sensitivity, and, after the publication and subsequent film of his novel, *Deliverance*, a wildly popular literary star. Drawing on letters, notebooks, diaries, and his explicit conversations with his father, Christopher Dickey has crafted a superb memoir of the corrosive effects of fame, a moving remembrance of a crisis that united a family, and an inspiring celebration of love between father and son..de Given the amount of emotional injury poet James Dickey (1923-1997) inflicted on himself and his family, it's a remarkable achievement that in this surprisingly tender memoir, Christopher Dickey not only discovers new love for his father but imparts it to readers as well. Arrogant, alcoholic, unfaithful to his wife, and manipulative with his children (he boasted of Christopher, "I made his head"), James Dickey emerges here as an all-too-human figure whose weaknesses are partially redeemed by his fierce passion for his art and by a late-life attempt to make amends for years of careless, destructive acts. His son's book is, among other things, a cautionary tale about the temptations of fame and money: Dickey's bestselling novel *Deliverance* (1970) pushed the poet to a level of commercial success he was ill equipped to deal with. The drinking got worse, the affairs more flagrant, the writing sloppier, and after Christopher's mother died in 1976, father and son seldom spoke. They reconciled in 1994; this book began as their mutual project to describe the making of the Hollywood film version of *Deliverance*. Good though those chapters are, it's the author's unflinchingly honest yet compassionate portrait of his father that stands out. Noted for his journalism, particularly covering Central America's gruesome civil wars of the 1980s, Christopher Dickey proves that he can plumb the intricacies of the human heart as incisively as the horrors of military conflict. His father would be proud. --Wendy Smith *Pressestimmen* Elizabeth Hardwick A heartbreaking, eloquent memoir by the son of the heartbreaking, eloquent poet, James Dickey. David Kirby *The New York Times Book* Angry, affectionate...both gut-wrenching and hypnotic. A father-son conflict worthy of the pen of Sophocles. Joseph P. Kahn *The Boston Globe* As unsentimental a father-son memoir as one can imagine. James Dickey may have died a broken man, but he was given a tremendous opportunity to get at least one thing right. By the evidence of this book, he succeeded, too. David Bottoms *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* An exquisite balance of blistering candor and healing grace.... Writing so wonderful that it simply transcends the limits of the genre.