

The Soft Machine

a novel by

William S. Burroughs

The author of Naked Lunch



About William Burroughs and The Soft Machine

"It is an absolutely devastating ridicule of all that is false, primitive and vicious in current American life: the abuses of power, hero worship, aimless violence, materialistic obsession, intolerance and every form of hypocrisy."

—Terry Southern

"...Burroughs seems to want to illuminate almost every level of hell by bouncing light off a chaotic collection of drug-induced fantasies of sodomy, murder, masochism, sadism and other such human pursuits."

—*Publishers' Weekly*

"Its images concern, among other subjects, the addict waiting for the connection that never comes; human flesh obliterated, exploded or transformed by cannibalism or hermaphroditism, or invaded by animals and insects; homosexual superpotency; death by hanging and the equation of sex and death. In Mr. Burroughs's hands writing reverts to acts of magic...as though he were making some enormous infernal encyclopedia of all the black impulses and acts that, once made, would shut away the fiends forever..."

—Conrad Knickerbocker,
The New York Times

Julian
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