

# Men's vaginas and frigid nannies:

## The trouble with getting laid when you're an actor

I really wanted to hate this book. I am not even remotely close to being an Ethan Hawke fan. I thought that I could have a giggle at his expense by reading his pretentious little novel and snigger with my office-mates at his bollocky attempt to be an author of sorts.

### The Hottest State

Ethan Hawke

Vintage

As I find myself defending this book, I can now safely say that Ethan Hawke should most definitely give up the day job. *The Hottest State* is not the best book I've read, but I can confidently state it is an improvement on Hawke's "acting" (which, let's face it, went downhill pretty damned fast after *Dead Poets Society*).

*The Hottest State* is the story of William, the self-obsessed budding actor and Sarah, the judgemental, singing, songwriting child-minder. William gets introduced to Sarah in a bar by a friend of hers who lives in cloud

cuckoo land (he claims that "men have vaginas", but William, quite sensibly, doesn't think so). William decides he's in love with Sarah and elbows his way into her life. Sarah humours him. Perhaps Sarah realizes that William is only in love with her because he can't connect with her, but she goes ahead and has the fling anyway. This might be because she couldn't 'get any' any other way.

What does Hawke tell us about society?

Love sucks.

What were my conclusions?

Sarah is boring, Sarah is irritating. William should open his eyes and see that she's not really worth the hassle. He should get back together with his stereotypical blond of an ex-girlfriend. At least she was always mad for it, unlike Sarah who's a bit frigid. William is a wishy-washy little twit. The survival instinct dictates that humans should act not terribly unlike randy bunnies in the mating season. These two are

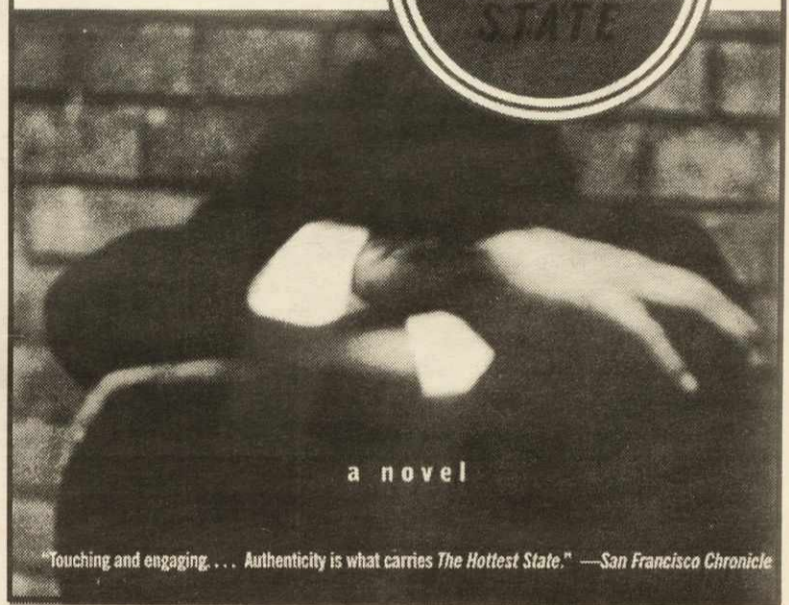
plagued by 'feelings'.

Hawke has a knack for bringing his characters to life. Even though there are parallels between the lives of Hawke and William, and the main subject of the book may well be autobiographical, William is most definitely a separate character.

I could quite happily kick the shit out of both Sarah and William without an attack of conscience, yet one must also bear in mind that a good author gives life to his characters. You won't catch me lining up to watch his next movie but I may have to beat up my workmates for his next book.

EUGENIA BAYADA

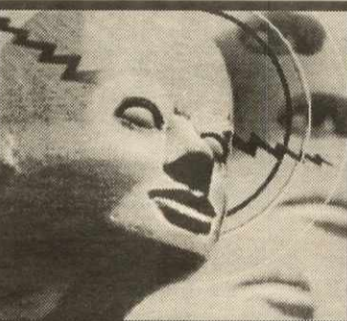
# ETHAN HAWKE



a novel

"Touching and engaging. . . Authenticity is what carries *The Hottest State*." —San Francisco Chronicle

## REVIEWS



## + SPEWS

### I Know What You Did Last

Summer

Various Artists

Columbia/Sony Soundtrax

*I Know What You Did Last Summer* is the new movie from the creators of *Scream*. The movie itself is decent, playing on essentially the same plot as its predecessor. However, having seen

*Scream*, it was somewhat disappointing to find *I Know What You Did Last Summer* so predictable. Between the two, *Scream* was far better and more original than *I Know What You Did Last Summer*. The soundtrack, like the movie, falls into the same ho-hum category. It has its highlights, but for the most part the music just isn't good.

The album features such well known artists as Our Lady Peace, Korn, Soul

Asylum and even The Offspring — who sing a song called "D.U.I." about drinking and driving, and how much they love it. The song makes sense in the context of the movie, but on its own it is fairly unintelligent.

For the most part the music on the soundtrack falls under the rock and metal categories respectively.

For the amount of good songs that are on this soundtrack it is definitely not worth buying. You'd be better off buying the individual artist's albums.

And if you haven't seen the movie yet, wait for it to come out on video.

PATRICK SHAUNESSY

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# Euphoria

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last year, Sean Brown, accepted the cheque which is to be deposited in a memorial fund in Stephen's honour.

Finally, the judges came out with the verdict. As they praised and commented on each performance, the audience waited impatiently. Then, the final judge said that the vote, although difficult, was unanimous. The Class of 2000 were crowned winners for the second year in a row.

The tickets were inexpensive, the proceeds all go to a worthy cause, and the students put on an unbeatable show. Make sure you catch this act next year.

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