


# Vanishing Rooms: A Novel

*By Melvin Dixon*

Download now

Read Online

**Vanishing Rooms: A Novel** By Melvin Dixon

Prior to Melvin Dixon’s death from AIDS in 1992 when he was on the verge of breaking out as an acclaimed novelist, his talent was compared to that of Toni Morrison and James Baldwin. In Vanishing Rooms, the author amply demonstrates his literary promise with a compelling love story of interracial sex and urban violence set in Manhattan’s West Village in the 1970s.

**Download** Vanishing Rooms: A Novel ...pdf

**Read Online** Vanishing Rooms: A Novel ...pdf

# Vanishing Rooms: A Novel

*By Melvin Dixon*

**Vanishing Rooms: A Novel** By Melvin Dixon

Prior to Melvin Dixon’s death from AIDS in 1992 when he was on the verge of breaking out as an acclaimed novelist, his talent was compared to that of Toni Morrison and James Baldwin. In Vanishing Rooms, the author amply demonstrates his literary promise with a compelling love story of interracial sex and urban violence set in Manhattan’s West Village in the 1970s.

**Vanishing Rooms: A Novel By Melvin Dixon Bibliography**

- Rank: #674289 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Cleis Press
- Published on: 2001-06-09
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .66" h x 5.94" w x 8.50" l, .65 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 211 pages

**Download** Vanishing Rooms: A Novel ...pdf

**Read Online** Vanishing Rooms: A Novel ...pdf

**Download and Read Free Online Vanishing Rooms: A Novel By Melvin Dixon**

## Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review
Completed prior to Dixon's early death from AIDS in 1992, *Vanishing Rooms* is a lovely, lyrical narrative ballet from a talent who just seemed to be reaching full bloom. It's also a bittersweet suggestion of how that talent might have overcome the occasional pretentious false note to attain true virtuosity had it not been robbed of time. Set in New York City in the fall of 1975, the story shifts fluidly among the voices of Jesse (a young black dancer whose drugged-out white boyfriend Metro has just been brutally murdered by Village gay-bashers), Ruella (a sassy, lonely black female dancer who falls in love with grief-stricken Jesse after taking him in) and Lonny (a 15-year-old, sexually confused Italian street tough so freaked out by his gang's murder of Metro that police find him curled up inside the white chalk outlines of Metro's body on the street the next day). Dixon's poetic and well-honed prose deserves its likening to James Baldwin and Toni Morrison--this despite its regular lapses into Ntozake Shange preciousness, much of it employing the cliche of dancing as a metaphor for human relations, or turning on Jesse's annoying insistence on calling Ruella by the funky nickname "Rooms" (perhaps to echo the title, taken from a Robert Hayden poem). Many of the themes here, too--of the "darker" side of interracial desire, the lasting scars inflicted on black, gay, or otherwise "outsider" childhoods, and the need to either transcend one's demons through art or purge them in a twilit world of drugs and anonymous sex--have become over familiar, especially in the decade since this book was written. But unlike many novels set in NYC between Stonewall and the onset of the plague years, *Vanishing Rooms* forgoes recreating that frenetic era in all its naturalistic detail for a more broadly brushed, expressionistic landscape. That elegant lens, which Dixon enhances with the chilly, burnished tones of Manhattan in the fall, suffuses *Vanishing Rooms* with an exquisitely wistful sense of loss--a pressing sense of what we might have hoped for, from Dixon and the rooms his words had yet to fill, that almost undermines this tender novel's considerable accomplishments. --*Timothy Murphy*

From Publishers Weekly
The disturbing issues of racism and homophobia are forcefully examined in Dixon's provocative new novel (after Trouble the Water ), in which he skillfully illuminates the mixed emotions of distinctive urban characters whose lives are changed by tragedy. When a group of homophobic thugs in Manhattan brutally assaults and murders a Louisiana-born gay white man called Metro, his black lover and roommate, dancer Jesse Duran, begins to see New York as a cold battlefield of racial and sexual hostilities. Seeking solace, Jesse turns to a fellow dancer--a sensitive, self-doubting black woman named Ruella McPhee. The poetically charged narrative depicts Ruella's growing love for Jesse, as well as Jesse's conflicting feelings about his sexuality, and about Ruella and Metro. Utilizing three different voices in alternating chapters, Dixon creates convincing psychological characterizations. He captures a true feminine quality in Ruella's voice; Jesse's ruminations reveal a self-involved person looking for stability. The remaining voice is that of Lonny, a sexually confused 15-year-old who unwittingly contributes to the assault on Metro. This realistic portrait of pain and loss carries strong emotional resonance.
Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal
In this novel by a professor of English at Queens College, CUNY, three people are tragically affected by the death of a gay man in New York City, and each tells his or her story: Jesse, a black dancer whose white lover is killed in a gay-bashing; Ruella, another dancer, to whom Jesse turns in his grief; and Lonny, a white teenager whose gang of friends escalate a name-calling incident into gang rape and murder. Each character has a distinct voice and a distinct set of personal problems. Jesse and Ruella can give voice to their emotional needs only through the dance, while Lonny turns to dance of another kind entirely. Dixon's powerful tale is

rich in psychological insight, with action that is at times vividly brutal. Recommended, especially for African-American and gay fiction collections.
- *Debbie Tucker, Cincinnati Technical Coll., Ohio*
Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

## Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Cary Burgess:**

Here thing why this kind of Vanishing Rooms: A Novel are different and dependable to be yours. First of all reading a book is good but it depends in the content from it which is the content is as scrumptious as food or not. Vanishing Rooms: A Novel giving you information deeper and different ways, you can find any book out there but there is no guide that similar with Vanishing Rooms: A Novel. It gives you thrill reading journey, its open up your current eyes about the thing which happened in the world which is maybe can be happened around you. You can actually bring everywhere like in area, café, or even in your method home by train. Should you be having difficulties in bringing the published book maybe the form of Vanishing Rooms: A Novel in e-book can be your choice.

**Bryant Kelly:**

Reading a guide tends to be new life style within this era globalization. With reading you can get a lot of information that may give you benefit in your life. With book everyone in this world may share their idea. Textbooks can also inspire a lot of people. Lots of author can inspire all their reader with their story as well as their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the publications. But also they write about advantage about something that you need illustration. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your kids, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors nowadays always try to improve their expertise in writing, they also doing some research before they write on their book. One of them is this Vanishing Rooms: A Novel.

**Sylvia Cunningham:**

On this era which is the greater individual or who has ability in doing something more are more special than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time not much but quite enough to possess a look at some books. One of several books in the top listing in your reading list is definitely Vanishing Rooms: A Novel. This book that is certainly qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in becoming precious person. By looking up and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

**Mary Barrientes:**

A lot of e-book has printed but it is unique. You can get it by internet on social media. You can choose the most beneficial book for you, science, witty, novel, or whatever by simply searching from it. It is referred to as of book Vanishing Rooms: A Novel. You can contribute your knowledge by it. Without making the

printed book, it could possibly add your knowledge and make a person happier to read. It is most essential that, you must aware about book. It can bring you from one place to other place.


## Download and Read Online Vanishing Rooms: A Novel By Melvin Dixon #QI2TE6HVWCL

# Read Vanishing Rooms: A Novel By Melvin Dixon for online ebook

Vanishing Rooms: A Novel By Melvin Dixon Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Vanishing Rooms: A Novel By Melvin Dixon books to read online.

## Online Vanishing Rooms: A Novel By Melvin Dixon ebook PDF download

### Vanishing Rooms: A Novel By Melvin Dixon Doc

#### Vanishing Rooms: A Novel By Melvin Dixon Mobipocket

#### Vanishing Rooms: A Novel By Melvin Dixon EPub

#### QI2TE6HVWCL: Vanishing Rooms: A Novel By Melvin Dixon