

APPALACHIAN STUDIES / GAY/LESBIAN STUDIES / MEMOIR

“With *Loving Mountains, Loving Men*, Jeff Mann takes another step in enlightening us about the seductively homey ways of his West Virginia environment at the same time he tells us more about his life in evocative prose and in poetry you want to reread and savor. Mann is carving out a unique place and voice for himself in our literature.”

—*Felice Picano*

“Jeff Mann writes with courage and honesty about being a gay Appalachian, and therefore a double outsider. Yet he mines the universal —family, friends, unrequited love, anger, adolescent angst, the joy of a committed relationship, and a sense of place. The mix is leavened with Mann’s wonderful poems. And he describes a great deal of delicious-sounding food!”

—*Denise Giardina, author of Storming Heaven and The Unquiet Earth*

“The sheer beauty of the prose in the memoir and the language of the poetry is incredible. This is one of the great watershed books of Appalachian literature. Its contribution to the fields of Appalachian studies and gay/gender studies is significant.”

—*Danny L. Miller, coeditor of An American Vein: Critical Readings in Appalachian Literature*

“What a welcome addition to the literature of wholeness Jeff Mann’s memoir is! The urge to forge together the private and public spheres here produces a heartfelt and skillful voice that speaks directly to our universal desire for integration of all the seemingly disparate elements that make us human. Jeff Mann’s richly detailed account of growing up gay in West Virginia fills a void in the literature of the region and successfully undermines a large handful of the stereotypes about Appalachia.”

—*Irene McKinney, Poet Laureate of West Virginia*

Jeff Mann is a professor of creative writing at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia. He is the author of a collection of poetry, *Bones Washed with Wine*, and a memoir, *Edge*.



Series in Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia

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