



## Letters to Montgomery Clift

By Noel Alunit

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“I started my life in America and my search for my parents, well only my mother now— with Monty as my guide. The journey to find my mother would not be complete without him.” And so begins Letters To Montgomery Clift, a first novel by Noel Alunit; a coming of age story of Bong Bong Luwad, a Filipino boy, who enlists the spirit of 1950s screen idol Montgomery Clift to help him find his mother who is imprisoned in the Philippines under the Marcos regime.

After being sent to America by his mother, he is taught by his Aunt to write letters to saints and dead relatives to ask them for favors. As he watches the movie *The Search*, where Montgomery Clift helps a young boy find his mother, he starts to believe that Monty can do this for him. His letters begin and through time he starts to see visions of Monty himself.

As he reaches adolescence and his hopes of finding his mother diminish, Bong Bong begins to fall deeper into his fantasy world with Clift.

When eventually he travels back to his homeland and finds the whereabouts of his mother, he is able to bid a final farewell to Monty and begin his life anew back in the States with his family. Letters To Montgomery Clift is a novel of endurance and hope. It is a tale of growing up, coming out and going home.

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# Letters to Montgomery Clift

*By Noel Alunit*

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## Letters to Montgomery Clift By Noel Alunit Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1150417 in Books
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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

This occasionally radiant coming-of-age tale crams human rights violations, the cultural and emotional turmoil of immigrant life, self-mutilation, family ties, abortion, coming out and the ubiquitous search for self all into a brisk, sometimes jarring read. In the midst of the atrocities of the Marcos regime in the Philippines in 1970s, eight-year-old Bong Bong Luwad is smuggled to Los Angeles, where he stays with his abusive, alcoholic Auntie Yuna, who writes "letters to God and dead relatives." Each chapter begins with missives to the eponymous dead movie star who catches Bong's imagination, filling in for his missing parents and rousing his burgeoning sexuality. Bounced around the foster care system after Auntie Yuna goes to the liquor store and never returns, Bong ends up with a well-to-do foster family, the Filipino Arangans, who are picture-perfect on the outside, but harbor their own mysteries, disillusionments and shames, one of which drives Bong away from them. He finds a confidante in their rebellious daughter, Amada, and a range of opportunities provided by their wealth, but he connects with Amnesty International and holds on to the hope that his parents are still alive. The obsessive letters are a rather clumsy expository device and the ending is less than credible, but Alunit's debut is affecting enough to suggest that when he hits his stride, he will be a writer to reckon with. (Feb. 15)Forecast: Though unlikely to find a large mainstream audience, this should strike a chord with gay and/or Filipino readers.

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### **Review**

Alunit knows about loss and sorrow. Fortunately for readers of his novel, he knows even more about resilience and hope. -- *Aimee Liu, Cloud Mountain*

Noel Alunit has arrived with quiet passion, wit, and wonderful words. -- *Russell Leong, Editor, Amerasia Journal*

Noel Alunit will break your heart and then put it back together again with his absorbing and heartfelt first novel. --*Peter Gadol, Light at Dusk*

From the Publisher

Finding a 'new' talent is the best part of an editor's job and Mr. Alunit's talents are numerous. He creates almost a new fiction genre with Letters and his creativity is matched only by his writing ability.

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Jeffrey Brown:**

This Letters to Montgomery Clift book is not really ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book will be information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. This specific Letters to Montgomery Clift without we comprehend teach the one who examining it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't be worry Letters to Montgomery Clift can bring any time you are and not make your bag space or bookshelves' turn into full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even mobile

phone. This Letters to Montgomery Clift having excellent arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.

**Angelina Rone:**

The reserve untitled Letters to Montgomery Clift is the publication that recommended to you to read. You can see the quality of the book content that will be shown to a person. The language that author use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The article writer was did a lot of exploration when write the book, and so the information that they share to you is absolutely accurate. You also could get the e-book of Letters to Montgomery Clift from the publisher to make you much more enjoy free time.

**Nelson McNamee:**

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book might be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the reserve untitled Letters to Montgomery Clift can be great book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

**Danilo Ernest:**

As a college student exactly feel bored to help reading. If their teacher questioned them to go to the library as well as to make summary for some publication, they are complained. Just very little students that has reading's internal or real their passion. They just do what the trainer want, like asked to the library. They go to right now there but nothing reading significantly. Any students feel that reading is not important, boring along with can't see colorful images on there. Yeah, it is to be complicated. Book is very important for you. As we know that on this age, many ways to get whatever you want. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore , this Letters to Montgomery Clift can make you experience more interested to read.

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