Then We Came to the End: A Novel

Amazon Best of the Month Spotlight Title, April 2007: Its 2001. The dot-com bubble has burst and rolling layoffs have hit an unnamed Chicago advertising firm sending employees into an escalating siege mentality as their numbers dwindle. As a parade of employees depart, bankers boxes filled with their personal effects, those left behind raid their fallen comrades offices, sifting through the detritus for the errant desk lamp or Aeron chair. Written with confidence in the tricky-to-pull-off first-person plural, the collective fishbowl perspective of the we voice nails the dynamics of cubicle culture--the deadlines, the gossip, the elaborate pranks to break the boredom, the joy of discovering free food in the breakroom. Arch, achingly funny, and surprisingly heartfelt, its a view of how your work becomes a symbiotic part of your life. A dysfunctional family of misfits forced together and fondly remembered as it falls apart. Praised as the Catch-22 of the business world and The Office meets Kafka, Im happy to report that Joshua Ferriss brilliant debut lives up to every ounce of pre-publication hype and instantly became one of my favorite books of the year. --Brad Thomas Parsons

My Personal Review:
This book is hilarious. At least it was to me, having worked in advertising. But its more than just that. Its about the comraderie and absurdity of workplace relationships that holds true for any context. You dont think hell be able to sustain the humor for an entire book, but he does it, beautifully. And its more than just funny; it actually develops some real heft. A very satisfying read with what I thought was a brilliant last sentence.

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