

SMITH, Andrew (*1959), USA

100 Sideways Miles (2014)

Dt Auf Umwegen (2015), Üb: Hans-Ulrich Möhring

Der Jugendbuchautor hat einen schnodderigen Entwicklungsroman vorgelegt. Der Name des Protagonisten Finn Easton verweist ausdrücklich auf Mark Twain und stilistisch gibt es Anklänge an Kurt Vonnegut. Finns (traumatische) Epilepsie spielt eine wichtige Rolle und alle gehen unbefangen damit um. Die Anfälle werden von einem Blumenduft eingeleitet, der mit einem Parfüm verwechselt werden kann; schön! Sie enden mit langsamer Reorientierung und Wiederkehr der Sprache, gefolgt von einem Verstimmungszustand. Finn ist ein geübter Schwimmer, hat aber keinen Führerschein. Anfälle treten auch in Phasen starker Attenz auf. Behandlung ist nichtexistent. Der Autor beabsichtigt wahrscheinlich eine Enttabuisierung und hat sich halbwegs gut informiert.

Zum Autor (Wiki 20.3.25):

„**Andrew Anselmo Smith** (born July 16, 1959) is an American author and short story writer in the young adult fiction genre. He has written ten novels including *Winger* and *Grasshopper Jungle*, which is currently being adapted into a movie. Smith is known for his dark subject matter, and his randomized writing style.



Andrew Smith was born in California in 1959. He decided to pursue a career as a writer because he was the editor of his high school newspaper. He traveled around the world and worked in various jobs such as working in metal mills, as a longshoreman, in bars and liquor stores, in security, and as a musician. After graduating from college, he tried pursuing careers as a journalist, writing for newspapers, and writing radio stations, but he felt it wasn't the kind of writing that he wanted to do for the rest of his life. After much traveling around the world, Smith finally settled for a job as a high school teacher. He taught advanced placement classes and coached a rugby team. The writing that he was doing on the side was never for publication; he would write for fun until he was challenged by one of his lifelong friends to get one of his books published. In 2008 his first novel, *Ghost Medicine*, was published, followed by several more novels including *Grasshopper Jungle* and *The Alex Crow*.

He is currently married, has two children, and teaches government, US history, and economics at Canyon High School in Santa Clarita, California. Smith's

novel *Grasshopper Jungle* was never meant to be published, as he had decided to quit writing for others, but his son urged him to publish it.”

Literatur