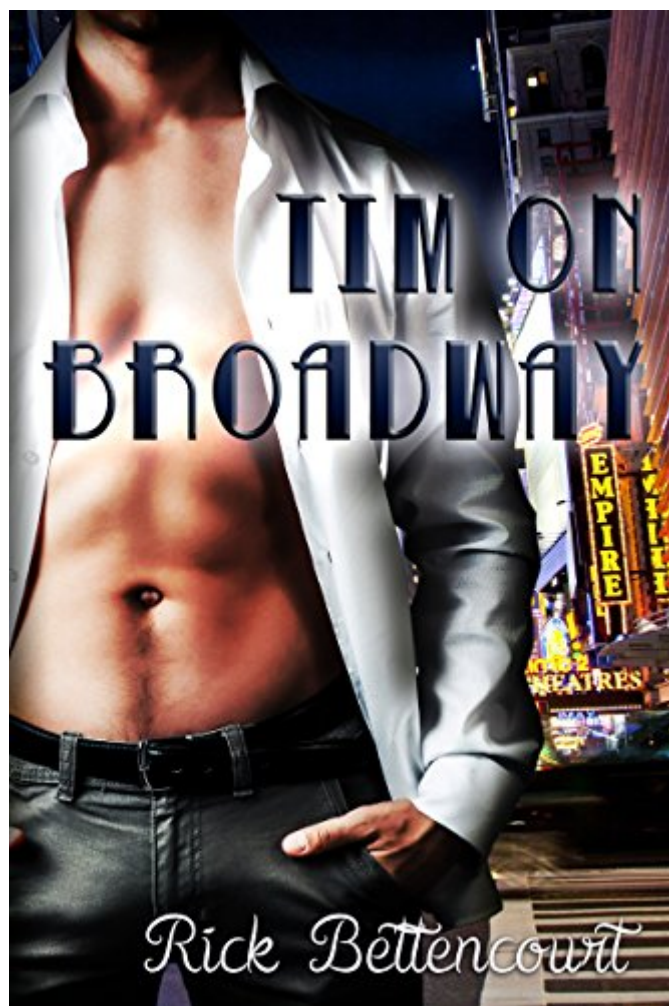


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# Tim On Broadway



## Synopsis

Tim loves drama and plays. Fired from the grocery store because he got caught with a hotter-than-Hades bagger, Tim Benton is down on his luck. While he's obsessed with getting tickets for a once-in-a-lifetime show, he can't keep his mind off Javier, the bad-boy who's straighter than the arrow piercing his heart. TIM ON BROADWAY is a coming of age gay romance, played out in New York City, Maine, and Salem, Massachusetts. It explores ideas about one's place in the world, and will have you laughing, crying, and cheering for Tim. His office antics will entertain and humor you. Magical realism at its best: A diva, psychic happenings, and a real Salem witch help Tim to find himself along the way. This is a stand-alone novel with about 75,000 words and was nominated for a 2014 Lambda Literary Award in gay romance. Praise for TIM ON BROADWAY: "In the so-called gay genre it's among the best that I've read in a while, and what a nice reward for those of us who spend a lot of time searching for something worthwhile." - Bill M. "A refreshingly different style." - An Customer "Rick Bettencourt steps into an enlarging spotlight of fellow LGBT writers - a circle stage front that includes such names as David Sedaris, Edmund White, Felice Picano, Robert Rodi, Michael Cunningham, David Leavitt, Alan Hollinghurst, Colm Tóibín, et al - and comes on very strong with this new book TIM ON BROADWAY." --Grady Harp, Literary Aficionado

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a beautiful story - well written, really funny at times and very touching, in every way. Get the complete First Season version and enjoy yourself as you accompany Tim on his journey - it seems less a romance than a romantic tale of someone's self discovery. You don't have to be a Broadway fan (or gay) to appreciate this work, though it might help you understand some of the main character's motivations and moods. Rick Bettencourt deserves a lot of praise for having written this; it should be read by as wide a range of readers as possible - in the so-called gay genre it's among the best that I've read in a while, and what a nice reward for those of us who spend a lot of time searching for something worthwhile. Highly recommended - grab this one and get ready to be really pleased by your choice.

This tale was nominated for a Lambda Literary Award last year and it shows. The quality of the writing and the story itself are way above average for the genre. Tim is an endearing character and I loved watching him grow into himself as the story went on. His love interest, Javier, was also a work in progress throughout the story. I loved the cultural references and the diva character that Tim delighted in and gained wisdom from. The secondary characters were entertaining as well. Loss, loneliness, self discovery and self acceptance were all themes woven throughout the tapestry of this novel. Bravo! Encore please!

The protagonist in the story is fat and neurotic, a refreshing change from most 'gay' novels where the lead character is a hunk who sleeps with everyone in sight. Tim is also funny, kind, and hardworking. Like most of us, he wants to be loved and to give love, but is not quite sure how to get there. He has a dream that comes true and it was satisfying to experience that with him. This reminded me of how I felt about Barbra when I was a teenager back in the late 60s. Unfortunately my dream of meeting her has not come true. At least not yet. The supporting characters are well drawn and several of them I would like to see in a sequel or a prequel, or perhaps Mr. Bettencourt could provide us with both. There is one thing that is very special about this book: It has a sincere spiritual element that helps propel the story forward in a completely believable way. I can not recall

this done with such a gentle touch in any other novel I've read. I would recommend this book to anyone: Gay, straight or any other label. It's a good read.

70 of 75 for 2015. This is NOT a gay harlequin. Tim is a fat, out-of-work momma's boy whose mother died in a horrific car wreck three years ago. A wreck that Tim blames on himself as he was driving at the time and did end up going the wrong way down a one-way street. Tim has one friend, a plump woman he's known most of his life. He is all but a virgin, and his self-loathing will probably keep him that way unless someone can get through to make him see how wonderful he really is. Javier is a straight Venezuelan co-worker who "lets" Tim give him a blowjob in exchange for a loan of \$1000. Will Javier pay back the loan, and if so, with what? Will he stay in Tim's life, even though he's straight? Will the two find true love and redemption at a production of West Side Story? Well, those are the questions if this really were a harlequin romance, but it's so much, much more. And Rick Bettencourt is a much better story teller than your average formulaic romance author. I don't want to give away a bit of this story which just itself is redemptive reading. I give this book my highest recommendation.

At first, I honestly wasn't sure how much I was going to like Tim on Broadway. It was quirky and original, so I appreciated that, but it felt a bit chaotic initially. It's certainly not like any other book I've read. Tim and Javier weren't polished—they were a bit of a mess to be honest—but they did feel real. Tim has zero self-esteem and Javier's personal life is a train wreck. And yet, for all their flaws and mistakes, they brought out the best in each other and learned from those mistakes (eventually). I liked watching them grow and I liked their way their relationship developed. And what initially felt like chaos in the early part of the story wound up being part of its charm. It's a bit like the characters actually, messy and a little imperfect, but worth it. Tim on Broadway was originally released as five short stories. If the first one hadn't been available for free, I probably wouldn't have decided to buy the whole thing, but I am glad I did. It may not be the book for everyone, but if you're willing to invest a little time into the story, you might be surprised by how much you enjoy it.

Rick Bettencourt's book Tim on Broadway was a welcome surprise. It reminded me of the 1972 James Kirkwood, Jr. classic P.S. Your Cat is Dead. When the book opens, the main character Tim

is unemployed and buried in debt. He has major phobias including not wanting to be in a car since his mom died a few years ago. Tim can't stop eating and has self-image issues. He has a major crush on the straight hunk Javier who is seemingly straight. Tim is also determined to go to attend the comeback concert of his favorite singer - Carolyn Sohler. I don't want to give too much away, but this book was captivating and I did not want to put it down. Four and a half stars.

As a rule, I do not write reviews nor publish my rating of a book, but I wanted to make an exception for Tim on Broadway. Tim is a unique character and the book -mostly written from Tim's POV- has a refreshingly different style. Tim at first does not recognize his own value, and is surprised when so many others do see it. This book does not have juicy sex scenes, but is delightfully witty and a joy to read. Also, many "professional" publishers in this genre could take example from the high quality of the editing in this self-published book. Highly recommended!

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