



RICHARD VIGILANTE BOOKS

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What Does it Mean to Be a Man in Our Time?

Ungoverned politicians? Not *Compleat*
Disgraced financiers? Not *Compleat*
Doped-up sport stars? Not *Compleat*

The Compleat Gentleman, Brad Miner's timely guide,
shows that classic coolness is called for—and it's as
much about *manhood as manners*

The times demand an updated edition of Miner's brilliant challenge to modern men: to recover the oldest and best ideal of manhood—the gentleman.

In this new edition of *THE COMPLEAT GENTLEMAN: The Modern Man's Guide to Chivalry*, Miner outlines a manly model who is neither prude nor prig nor fop. The gentleman is a classic combination of strength and selflessness, contemplation, correct action and, yes...*cool*. He is the aristocrat not of wealth or birth, but of virtue.

Miner is too wise in the ways of young men to think they will respond to a lecture or another guidebook on which fork to use or how to keep a bowtie from spinning. Instead he tells a story of an ideal and the men throughout history who have tried—always imperfectly—to live up to it.

The Compleat Gentleman is packed with examples and anecdotes showing how men can achieve their practical and heroic ambitions. Miner:

- Traces the concept of manliness from the jousting fields of the twelfth century to the decks of the *Titanic*, then to our modern-day monasteries and movie theaters.
- Defines three masculine archetypes that combine in the character of the "compleat gentleman": the **warrior** for truth and beauty; the **lover** whose passion exemplifies his respect for women; and the **monk or scholar**, the man of disciplined mind who knows he must be able to discern truth if he is to defend it.
- And finally, Miner shows that the true gentleman always practices these virtues with the discretion, decorum, and nonchalance that the Renaissance called *sprezzatura*, and we call *cool*.

Brad Miner is an experienced talk show guest who interacts effortlessly with hosts and live audiences alike. He covers the range of topics stemming from this book—including **gentlemanliness** and **chivalry**, **marriage** and **fatherhood**, **manners** and the **decline of civility**, **war**, the **martial arts** and **religion**—with wit and an engaging style.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Brad Miner is a former literary editor of *National Review* and the founding editor-in-chief of the American Compass Book Club. He is currently senior editor of *The Catholic Thing* (www.thecatholicthing.org). Miner's other books include *Smear Tactics* and *The Concise Conservative Encyclopedia*. He lives in Westchester County, New York.

Praise for Brad Miner's

The Compleat Gentleman: The Modern Man's Guide the Chivalry

“Here is a welcome reminder that men can be gentlemen without turning into ladies—or louts.” – Michelle Malkin

“I cannot imagine a better gift for a young gentleman on the verge of graduation” – C.B. Behrens

“Miner argues that bravery, respect for women, and devotion to the truth are needed more than ever.” – *Newsday*

“What can the word 'gentleman' have to do with 21st-century America? A lot...Miner writes with wit and charm.” – *Wall Street Journal*

“Erudite and witty...consistently entertaining.”
-- Publishers Weekly

“An attempt to recover the ideal of gentlemanliness and reintroduce it to the modern era.”
– David Frum

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