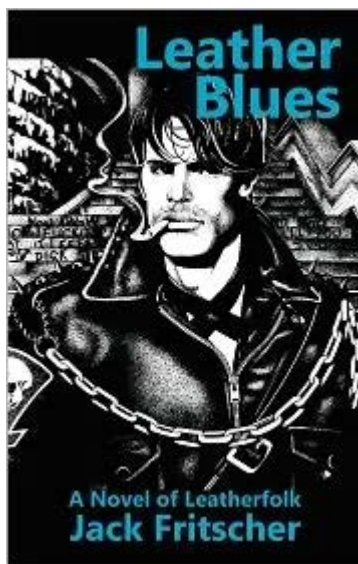


## Reviews by Amos Lassen

Books, Movies and Judaica and Random Thoughts About Whatever

### "Leather Blues: The Adventures of Denny Sargent: A Novel of Leatherfolk" by Jack Fritscher— The Rites of Passage



Fritscher, Jack. "Leather Blues: The Adventures of Denny Sargent" Palm Drive Publishing, 1969, 2011.

The Rites of Passage

Amos Lassen

I suppose having been raised a southern Orthodox Jewish gay boy; my sex life has always tended more toward the vanilla. Now that does not mean that my fantasy life does not wander into other areas and I have always been curious about the leather scene. Knowing that Jack Fritscher is an excellent and an honest writer I would sometimes read him to fulfill my fantasies. Just as I was thinking about Jack this week, I received a package of his books and today I read "Leather Blues". If you do not know Fritscher, let me fill you on. He is one of the pioneers of our community and founding editor of "Drummer" magazine. He had once been the lover of legendary artist Robert Mapplethorpe and was a friend to icons of LGBT life, Sam Steward and Larry Townsend and Fritscher is a multiple award winner from literature to leather. Probably his most famous book is "Some Dance to Remember". "Leather Blues" was actually written in 1969, a year before Stonewall and it is a look at the w

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culinity that only someone like Jack Fritscher could write. This is the story of bikes and leather, S&M and m/m sex and we see it as Denny Sargent begins his initiation into the world of men sexually together. The book is a coming-out story in a sense of Denny who really wants to learn about the leather culture.

Now I have been around a long time but I always enjoy learning something new and for the leather culture this is a great place to start as it explains what the brotherhood of leather is and where it came from. This is Denny's awakening and self-acceptance into the lifestyle and it can be read and reread and never bore.

We watch Dennis become Denny who was the boy next door. When his neighbor's nephew, Sam, a biker, comes for a visit, Denny and Sam explore each other and Denny moves from boy to man. By the time he is eighteen, he knows what he wants and meets Chick who introduces him to the world of S&M. Here you get "everything you need to know" but in a fictionalized form and some even regard it as a handbook. It's a fairly short book—92 pages but there is a great deal of information and some very hot reading. I think I have been reading this over the years since I first knew about it and every time it is new exciting.

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This entry was posted in erotica, GLBT fiction on September 3, 2011 [<http://reviewsbyamoslassen.com/?p=9270>]

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