A Video Chat with 
Author Jay McInerney – 
Capturing the Zeitgeist

By Elman + Skye

Like Norman Mailer & Sebastian Junger, you wrote a major best seller early in your career. What were you thinking when it happened, and what are your reflections on early success now?

I am hard pressed to think of anyone who started their career with a big hit, and didn't have a bit of a let down with their next book.

There is a concept called “The Imposter Syndrome” applied to situations when everyone else thinks you're better at something than you do. Something you said in an interview suggested that you might feel that way a bit.

After being fired as a fact checker by The New Yorker, did you ever publish anything in the magazine?

Was John Updike's “Rabbit” series an inspiration for your trilogy?

You moved around a lot as a kid. What impact did that have on your writing, and when did you first become interested in writing as a career?