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Hilarious childhood biographies and full-color illustrations reveal how Leonardo da Vinci, Beatrix Potter, Keith Haring, and other great artists in history coped with regular-kid problems. Every great artist started out as a kid. Forget the awards, the sold-out museum exhibitions, and the timeless masterpieces. When the world's most celebrated artists were growing up, they had

regular-kid problems just like you. Jackson Pollock's family moved constantly—he lived in eight different cities before he was sixteen years old. Georgia O'Keeffe lived in the shadow of her "perfect" older brother Francis. And Jean-Michel Basquiat triumphed over poverty to become one of the world's most influential artists. Kid Artists tells their stories and more with full-color cartoon illustrations on nearly every page. Other subjects include Claude Monet, Jacob Lawrence, Leonardo da Vinci, Vincent van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, Frida Kahlo, Beatrix Potter, Yoko Ono, Dr. Seuss, Emily Carr, Keith Haring, Charles Schulz, and Louise Nevelson. Discover the true tales of extraordinary felines with this heart-warming and inspirational collection, perfect for fans of *A Streetcat Named Bob* and *Nala's World*. Meet some of the world's most incredible real-life cat heroes in this awesome compendium of true stories, including: Scarlett, the brave mother who went into a burning building five times to rescue her kittens. Emily, the cat who survived an epic journey across the Atlantic trapped in a shipping container from America to France. Oscar, the care-home cat who predicts when residents are about to pass on

and comforts them in their final hours. Whether they're testing the boundaries of their nine lives or demonstrating unusual talents, cats are always full of surprises. In *Super Cats*, prepare to meet the most surprising of all. From loyal companions who put their lives at risk to help others to intuitive cats who detected danger when no one else did, these extraordinary felines will capture your heart and make you marvel at their astonishing powers. Ten true stories of real-life heroes during the attacks on 9/11! When Captain Jay Jonas of the Fire Department of New York hears an emergency radio message about the World Trade Center, he has no idea of the terrible conditions he and his team will face. Arriving at the burning building, the firefighters must summon all their courage. On the same morning, just outside Washington, D.C., a jetliner piloted by terrorists slams into the Pentagon. Can Colonel Philip McNair save lives inside the flaming building? From the World Trade Center and the Pentagon to a hijacked plane above Pennsylvania, these ten stories of true American heroes on the day that changed America -- September 11, 2001. *FATE* magazine has published thousands of ghost stories,

true experiences of ordinary people who have had extraordinary encounters with the hereafter. Compiled and edited by Andrew Honigman, this collection features the best of these chilling, bizarre, and heartwarming tales. These detailed accounts of messages, gifts, blessings, and assistance from the spirit world provide remarkable proof of life after death. In February 2007, we asked people from any background to send us their true personal accounts of immigration to Britain. The response was significant, and the range of entries overwhelming. Six judges including Shami Chakrabarti of Liberty and the novelist Kate Mosse selected the best, most illuminating and most powerful entries to be published in this book. The result is the widest-reaching contemporary survey of the immigrant experience published in many years. In these pages you'll discover sixteen very different voices, each one presenting a very different point of view. In taking us around the world, each account shows a new side to the most complicated journey of all: finding a place to call home. A witty and addictively readable day-by-day literary companion. At once a love letter to literature and a charming guide to the books most worth



reading, *A Reader's Book of Days* features bite-size accounts of events in the lives of great authors for every day of the year. Here is Marcel Proust starting *In Search of Lost Time* and Virginia Woolf scribbling in the margin of her own writing, "Is it nonsense, or is it brilliance?" Fictional events that take place within beloved books are also included: the birth of Harry Potter's enemy Draco Malfoy, the blood-soaked prom in Stephen King's *Carrie*. *A Reader's Book of Days* is filled with memorable and surprising tales from the lives and works of Martin Amis, Jane Austen, James Baldwin, Roberto Bolano, the Brontë sisters, Junot Díaz, Philip K. Dick, Charles Dickens, Joan Didion, F. Scott Fitzgerald, John Keats, Hilary Mantel, Haruki Murakami, Flannery O'Connor, Orhan Pamuk, George Plimpton, Marilynne Robinson, W. G. Sebald, Dr. Seuss, Zadie Smith, Susan Sontag, Hunter S. Thompson, Leo Tolstoy, David Foster Wallace, and many more. The book also notes the days on which famous authors were born and died; it includes lists of recommended reading for every month of the year as well as snippets from book reviews as they appeared across literary history; and throughout there are wry illustrations by

acclaimed artist Joanna Neborsky. Brimming with nearly 2,000 stories, *A Reader's Book of Days* will have readers of every stripe reaching for their favorite books and discovering new ones. "Terrifying" true stories of criminals who live seemingly normal lives, perfect for fans of *Mindhunter*—"these are the stories that keep me up at night" (Sgt. Joseph Kuns, LAPD). "He seemed so normal" is an all-too common sentiment from the neighbors of violent criminals when their heinous acts are finally exposed. There are often no obvious indicators that separate the pleasant neighbor from the sadistic murderer. Even serial killers like Jeffrey Dahmer, Ted Bundy, and John Wayne Gacy managed to circulate unnoticed among their communities. They are neighbors and students, professionals and friends living out criminal double lives. In *Double Lives*, true crime author Eric Brach presents both a nonfiction exposé and a nationwide search that details the exploits of some of the worst criminals in recent American history, all of whom succeeded in going undetected for years while perpetrating one crime after another—all in their own hometowns. Monsters of every race, age, gender, and

socioeconomic class are profiled in this roller-coaster of crime. Along the way, the author discusses the criminals he grew up with in his own seemingly innocent community, and provides a personal look at the current scourge of opioid addiction, making *Double Lives* a sensational yet sobering read. From the shores of Gig Harbor to the slopes of Mount Rainier, the towns surrounding Puget Sound all have incredible stories to share. How did Old Fort Nisqually, now perched on a lofty bluff above Tacoma, move twenty-two miles from its original 1843 site in DuPont? Did Eatonville's copper-infused paint inspire the phrase "painting the town red"? Read about the famed Pie Goddess of Enumclaw and about a cookbook compiled by Emma Smith DeVoe of Parkland that included helpful tips from suffragettes. Join author Dorothy Wilhelm, of the television show *My Home Town*, as she explores these beloved town tales and uncovers the rest of the story. 'Swift-moving tales, always readable, often captivating. Dary is ever the master of narrative. This is a contribution to the literary heritage of the state.' -Thomas Isern, coauthor of *Plainsfolk Chosen* by Paul Auster out of the four thousand stories

submitted to his radio programme on National Public Radio, these 180 stories provide a wonderful portrait of America in the twentieth century. The requirement for selection was that each of the stories should be true, and each of the writers should not have been previously published. The collection that has emerged provides a richly varied and authentic voice for the American people, whose lives, loves, griefs, regrets, joys and sense of humour are vividly and honestly recounted throughout, and adeptly organised by Auster into themed sections. The section composed of war stories stretches as far back as the Civil War, still the defining moment in American history; while the sequence of 'Meditations' conclude the volume with a true and abiding sense of transcendence. The resultant anthology is both an enduring hymn to the strange everyday of contemporary American life and a masterclass in the art of storytelling. Presents the stories of people who survived devastating events, including floods, tsunamis, hurricanes, fires, explosions, and volcanic eruptions. Contains informative, lively stories accompanied by rare photographs, giving insight into some of the people, places and events that have

left their imprint on the Everglades area.

#1 Bestseller in Animal Care & Pets, Essays

? The Heartwarming Compassion of Animals

True tales of kindness. This book is packed with stories of random acts of kindness, big and small, performed by various animals.

Author and known speaker on animal-related issues Stephanie LaLand has gathered a

multitude of stories sure to fill your heart

with happiness and hope. From dogs to

dolphins, learn true stories of animal

compassion, devotion, and bravery. Proof

that there is something special about

animals. Anyone who's had a pet knows there

is something special about them. We see it

in their eyes when they look at us

affectionately or play with others or help

someone in need. Animal behavior is

interesting because in many ways, how they

act and the things they do are similar to

the way we care for each other. Animals are

affectionate and smart creatures, and this

book highlights just a few of the ways that

they practice compassion. The beauty of the

relationship between humans and animals. Not

only does LaLand include random acts of

kindness by animals in this book, but she

also integrates instances of human

compassion for animals. For example, she

shares the story of a man who rebuilt his new house to look exactly like his old one so that his beloved cat would not be traumatized by the move. Stories like this one emphasize the unique bond that we share with animals and demonstrate just how beautiful that relationship can be. Read Stephanie LaLand's *Random Acts of Kindness of Animals* and discover... Inspiring true stories that will surprise you and warm your heart Acts of genuine, selfless compassion performed by our beloved animals The truth of the amazing connection between humans and animals Readers of other animal books such as *Unlikely Friendships*; *Beyond Words: What Animals Think and Feel*; *Mama's Last Hug*; and *Devoted: 38 Extraordinary Tales of Love, Loyalty, and Life With Dogs* will love *Random Acts of Kindness by Animals*. Five noted cases from the sixteenth century to World War II - Hugo Grotius, Joshua Barney, John Surrat, the siege of Paris, and the U.S. sub Puffer. Jon Ronson's subjects have included people who believe that goats can be killed by the power of a really hard stare, and people who believe that the world is ruled by twelve-foot lizard-men. In *Out of the Ordinary*, a collection of his journalism from the Guardian, he turns his attention to

irrational beliefs much closer to home, investigating the ways in which we sometimes manage to convince ourselves that all manner of lunacy makes perfect sense – mainstream, domestic, ordinary insanity. Whether he finds himself promising his son that he will be at his side for ever, dressed in a Santa costume, or trying to understand why hundreds of apparently normal people would suddenly start speaking in tongues in a Scout hut in Kidderminster, he demonstrates repeatedly how we all succumb to deeply irrational beliefs that grow to inform our everyday existence. Out of the Ordinary is Jon Ronson at his inimitable best: hilarious, thought-provoking and with an unerring eye for human frailty – not least his own. Praise for *The Men Who Stare at Goats*: 'Not only a narcotic road trip through the wackier reaches of Bush's war effort, but also an unmissable account of some of the insanity that has lately been done in our names' *Observer* Praise for *Them*: *Adventures with Extremists*: 'A funny and compulsively readable picaresque adventure through a paranoid shadow world' Louis Theroux, *Guardian* *Stories of life in modern Mexico* reveals the spirit, drama, and humor of surviving daily life in and around

Mexico's system of political, economic, and social organizations. Funny and totally true childhood biographies and full-color illustrations tell the tales from the challenging yet defining growing-up years of J. K. Rowling, Beverly Cleary, J. R. R. Tolkien, and 12 other great writers. Every great author started out as a kid. Before the best sellers, fan clubs, and beloved stories we know today, the world's most celebrated writers had regular-kid problems just like you. Sam Clemens (aka Mark Twain) loved to skip school and make mischief, with his best friend Tom, of course! A young J. R. R. Tolkien was bitten by a huge tarantula—or as he called it, “a spider as big as a dragon.” Toddler Zora Neale Hurston took her first steps when a wild hog entered her house and started chasing her! Kid Authors tells their stories and more—the diverse and inclusive cast that includes Roald Dahl, Beverly Cleary, J. K. Rowling, Jules Verne, Lewis Carroll, Stan Lee—through kid-friendly texts and full-color cartoon illustrations on nearly every page. “Ordinary people of diverse faiths, including the non-religious, have experienced the wonder of angels. This fascinating collection of true stories



highlights how spiritual beings--manifesting as a kind stranger, a radiant figure, or a comforting presence--have touched lives around the world"--Page 4 of cover. The hilarious New York Times bestseller "sharply observes the lives of globe-trotting, overindulging investment bankers" (Entertainment Weekly). "Some chick asked me what I would do with 10 million bucks. I told her I'd wonder where the rest of my money went." —@GSElevator For three years, the notorious @GSElevator Twitter feed offered a hilarious, shamelessly voyeuristic look into the real world of international finance. Hundreds of thousands followed the account, Goldman Sachs launched an internal investigation, and when the true identity of the man behind it all was revealed, it created a national media sensation—but that's only part of the story. Where @GSElevator captured the essence of the banking elite with curated jokes and submissions overheard by readers, Straight to Hell adds John LeFevre's own story—an unapologetic and darkly funny account of a career as a globe-conquering investment banker spanning New York, London, and Hong Kong. Straight to Hell pulls back the curtain on a world that is both hated and

envied, taking readers from the trading floors and roadshows to private planes and after-hours overindulgence. Full of shocking lawlessness, boyish antics, and win-at-all-costs schemes, this is the definitive take on the deviant, dysfunctional, and absolutely excessive world of finance.

“Shocking and sordid—and so much fun.”

—Daily News (New York) “LeFevre’s workplace anecdotes include tales of nastiness, sabotage, favoritism, sexism, racism, expense-account padding, and legally questionable collusion.” —The New Yorker

Magical narrative case studies of a shamanic animal communicators adventures in the land of the spirits, as she uncovers the core causes for an animals illness and distress, and enlists loving spirits to heal those problems, roots and all. Transcripts of Carla Persons shamanic sessions are brought to life by New York Times bestselling author, Hillary Johnson. A collection of 36 extraordinary stories originally told on stage, featuring work by writers, entertainers, thinkers, and community leaders. Spanning comedy and tragedy, Alien Nation brilliantly illuminates what it’s like to be an immigrant in America. America would not be America without its immigrants.

This anthology, adapted from storytelling event “This Alien Nation,” captures firsthand the past and present of immigration in all its humor, pain, and weirdness. Contributors—some well-known, others regular (and fascinating) people—share moments from their lives, reminding us that immigration is not just a word dropped in the news (simplified to something you are “for” or “against”), but a world—rich with unique voices, perspectives, and experiences. Travel from the Central Park playground where “tattle-tales” among nannies inspire Christine Lewis’s activism to an Alexandrian garden half a century ago courtesy of writer André Aciman. Visit a refugee camp in Gaza as described by actress and comedian Maysoon Zayid, and follow Intersex activist Tatenda Ngwaru as she flees Zimbabwe with dreams of meeting Oprah. Witness efforts from comedian Aparna Nancharla's mother to make Aparna less shy, and Orange is the New Black's Laura Gómez makes an unlikely connection in a bed-and-breakfast. Compelling and inspirational, Alien Nation is a celebration of immigration and an exploration of culture shock, isolation and community, loneliness and hope, heartbreak and promise—it’s a poignant

reminder of our shared humanity at a time we need it greatly, and a thoughtful, entertaining tribute to cultural diversity. Everyday at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home is a day of little miracles. As each animal arrives, staff do their very best to provide a safe home for them, yet only a new owner's love will set our furry friends on the true path to happiness. In *Lost & Found* you'll meet, among many others: Lucky, the three-legged kitten, who brought comfort to a bereaved man Guinness the staffie, whose effervescence helped her owner overcome divorce and cancer Harper the rescue dog, who helped treat a very ill little boy

Touching, often funny and heartbreaking but always bringing you close to tears, the stories in *Lost & Found* tell of the unbreakable bond between us and our four-legged friends. 'I'll never forget the sense of hope and the happiness felt every time a down-on-its-luck animal eventually found a new home.' Paul O'Grady

A hilarious, highly original collection of essays based on the Botswana truism: "only food runs!" In the tradition of Bill Bryson, a new writer brings us the lively adventures and biting wit of an African safari guide. Peter Allison gives us the guide's-eye view of

living in the bush, confronting the world's fiercest terrain of wild animals and, most challenging of all, managing herds of gaping tourists. Passionate for the animals of the Kalahari, Allison works as a top safari guide in the wildlife-rich Okavango Delta. As he serves the whims of his wealthy clients, he often has to stop the impulse to run as far away from them as he can, as these tourists are sometimes more dangerous than a pride of lions. No one could make up these outrageous-but-true tales: the young woman who rejected the recommended safari-friendly khaki to wear a more "fashionable" hot pink ensemble; the lost tourist who happened to be drunk, half-naked, and a member of the British royal family; establishing a real friendship with the continent's most vicious animal; the Japanese tourist who requested a repeat performance of Allison's being charged by a lion so he could videotape it; and spending a crazy night in the wild after blowing a tire on a tour bus, revealing that Allison has as much good-natured scorn for himself. The author's humor is exceeded only by his love and respect for the animals, and his goal is to limit any negative exposure to humans by planning trips that are minimally

invasive—unfortunately it doesn't always work out that way! Peter Allison is originally from Sydney, Australia. His safaris have been featured in National Geographic, Conde Nast Traveler, and on television programs such as Jack Hanna's Animal Adventures. He travels frequently to speaking appearances, and splits most of his time between Botswana, Sydney, and San Francisco. Did you know that J.K. Rowling came up with Harry Potter while waiting for a delayed train? Or that Winnie the Pooh was inspired by a real bear who lived in the London Zoo? Or that Dav Pilkey's teacher once ripped up his drawings as a kid and told him he'd never make a living making silly comics? (Maybe we should introduce her to Captain Underpants.) In *The Stories Behind the Stories*, you'll hear all these incredible stories about your favorite kid's books and authors and much more! Includes full-color illustrations plus other fascinating facts and tidbits to satisfy even the most curious reader. Whether you've dated, mated, or just plain slept around, if you're a gay man looking to hook up, you've probably had your share of boy trouble. Was he passive aggressive, a withholder, stalker, or snippy vegan? The one-night

stand you thought you'd never escape, the date you couldn't flee fast enough? They may be Hell to live through, but they make for riveting post mortems. Here twenty gay writers have the last word in this collection of sexy, funny, scary, heartbreaking and delightfully vengeful accounts of adventures at the deep end of the dating pool. Ever have one of those days? Like the kind where you find yourself selling garbage or hiking in the middle of someone's backyard? Well, Victoria Schmitz has had plenty. Call it a young heart or sheer stupidity, but it is obvious that she has had her fair share of bad luck! From sour romances to holiday blunders and chance happenings to elderly rivalries, Victoria shares her most personal life experiences. Her sarcastic tone mixed with her light-hearted nature makes for a hilariously intelligent first novel. Whether it is fate, a naïve soul, bad choices, or all of the above, Victoria is living proof that life hardly ever goes according to plan. Rather than dwell on this unfortunate trail of incidents we call life, she laughs at them. Come along for the ride as she invites us to laugh -- with and at her! Funny and totally true childhood biographies and full-color

illustrations tell the tales from the challenging yet defining growing-up years of great writers, artists, athletes, and presidents. Anna David's True Tales of Lust and Love began as a one-time-only reading and storytelling show in January of 2012, a venue for writers and comedians to share and laugh at their dating disaster stories. But after selling out the venue and attracting immediate press and buzz—with articles in The LA Weekly, LA Times, Time Out, Flavorpill, and LAist, among others—David agreed to produce the show every month. It has continued not only to sell out but also to attract a growing list of authors, comedians, and Hollywood writers. As Time Out declared, "This is the place to go to see strong female performers." With the show now booked indefinitely, and with audio recordings of each performance available on iTunes, Anna has collected the most popular and entertaining pieces into the first ever True Tales of Lust and Love anthology. The book includes essays organized into three sections—Casual Sex, Dating, and Out of the Ordinary—which collectively offer up funny, raucous, insightful, and surprisingly touching confessions about the quest for lust and love. Everyone has dating disaster



stories, everyone needs to share and laugh at them, and this anthology will give readers the opportunity to do just that, with contributions from the funniest writers and comedians around, pulled from the world of books, TV, and film. True Tales of Lust and Love is the perfect complement for a funny or cynical Valentine's Day—and beyond. The context in which healthcare is delivered continues to be one of extreme organisational turbulence and increasing workload, factors that exacerbate the anxiety felt by staff about keeping themselves, and their patients, truly safe. At the same time there is a focus on so-called 'failures of compassion' in healthcare services. The need for creative conversations to promote flexibility, hope and resilience in staff has never been greater. In True Tales of Organisational Life, the author describes ways in which space can be created to strengthen the capacity to withstand suffering, whilst acknowledging the creativity and meaningfulness of healthcare work. She describes the application of systemic and narrative psychology to develop interventions at an individual, team, group, and organisational level. The success of

these interventions to develop caregivers' confidence to manage the relationships with their patients and with themselves, as opportunities for healing and compassion, is compelling. Case studies illuminate the work described throughout, and the link between storytelling and health is explored.

Narrates natural disasters and man's inhumanity to man for those readers fascinated by terror It's one thing to travel abroad—to stay in charming hotels and deliberate over whether to visit this museum or relax at that café, even to head off the beaten track for a glimpse of "real" life—and another thing altogether to move to another country. Expat chronicles the experiences of twenty-two ordinary women living extraordinary lives in outposts as far flung as Borneo, Ukraine, India, Greece, Brazil, China and the Czech Republic. In vivid detail, these writers share how the realities of life abroad match up to the expat fantasy. One woman negotiates the rough courtesies of Serbia, finding lives limned by harshness and an insurmountable spirit. Another is tutored on English manners by an eclectic bunch from Liverpool: "The cardinal sin in America is to be insincere, whereas the cardinal sin in

England is to be boring." For some, their new home prompts them to reconnect or confront lost parts of themselves: One woman rediscovers her Judaism—in Japan; another writer's Western outlook is challenged by Javanese mysticism. Many share their own naïve blunders and private confessions: a Thanksgiving dinner that doesn't translate in Paris, a sudden yearning for bad Hollywood films. And all discover that what it means to be "American" is redefined, again and again. Expat taps into the bewilderment, the joys and surprises of life overseas, where the challenges often take unexpected forms and the obstacles overcome are all the more triumphant. Featuring an astonishing range of perspectives, destinations and circumstances, this collection offers a beautiful portrait of expatriate life. "Would you believe that some people's lives have been saved by animals? This is a fascinating book with stories about animals that have risked their lives to save the lives of their masters. Read about a dog that rescued two kids from a burning house, two wild elk save a boy from freezing in the mountains, a courageous cat fights off a deadly intruder, and two dolphins that saved a girl from a terrifying

shark attack. Animal lovers will be amazed by the unbelievable tales in this book!"--Résumé de l'éditeur. A witty, insightful, and delightfully snarky blend of pop culture meets memoir meets real-life Devil Wears Prada as readers learn the stories behind twenty-five years at Vanity Fair from the magazine's former deputy editor "Dilettante offers the best seat in the house into the workings of one of the great cultural institutions of our time."—Buzz Bissinger, New York Times bestselling author of Friday Night Lights Dana Brown was a twenty-one-year-old college dropout playing in punk bands and partying his way through downtown New York's early-nineties milieu when he first encountered Graydon Carter, the legendary editor of Vanity Fair. After the two had a handful of brief interactions (mostly with Brown in the role of cater waiter at Carter's famous cultural salons he hosted at his home), Carter saw what he believed to be Brown's untapped potential, and on a whim, hired him as his assistant. Brown instantly became a trusted confidante and witness to all of the biggest parties, blowups, and takedowns. From inside the famed Vanity Fair Oscar parties to the emerging world of the tech

elite, Brown's job offered him access to some of the most exclusive gatherings and powerful people in the world, and the chance to learn in real time what exactly a magazine editor does—all while trying to stay sober enough from the required party scene attendance to get the job done. Against all odds, he rose up the ranks to eventually become the magazine's deputy editor, spending a quarter century curating tastes at one of the most storied cultural shops ever assembled. *Dilettante* reveals Brown's most memorable moments from the halcyon days of the magazine business, explores his own journey as an unpedigreed outsider to established editor, and shares glimpses of some of the famous and infamous stories (and people) that tracked the magazine's extraordinary run all keenly observed by Brown. He recounts tales from the trenches, including encounters with everyone from Anna Wintour, Lee Radziwill, and Condé Nast owner Si Newhouse, to Seth Rogen, Caitlyn Jenner, and acclaimed journalists Dominick Dunne and Christopher Hitchens. Written with equal parts affection, cultural exploration, and nostalgia, *Dilettante* is a defining story within that most magical time and place in

the culture of media. It is also a highly readable memoir that skillfully delivers a universal coming-of-age story about growing up and finding your place in the world. Chilling real-life tales of haunted houses, possession, evil spirits, ghosts, curses, and psychic phenomena

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