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Attempting Normal



Synopsis

People make a mess. Marc Maron was a parent-scarred, angst-filled, drug-dabbling, love-starved comedian who dreamed of a simple life: a wife, a home, a sitcom to call his own. But instead he woke up one day to find himself fired from his radio job, surrounded by feral cats, and emotionally and financially annihilated by a divorce from a woman he thought he loved. He tried to heal his broken heart through whatever means he could find - minor-league hoarding, Viagra addiction, accidental racial profiling, cat fancying, flying airplanes with his mind - but nothing seemed to work. It was only when he was stripped down to nothing that he found his way back. *Attempting Normal* is Marc Maron's journey through the wilderness of his own mind, a collection of explosively, painfully, addictively funny stories that add up to a moving tale of hope and hopelessness, of failing, flailing, and finding a way. From standup to television to his outrageously popular podcast, *WTF with Marc Maron*, Marc has always been a genuine original, a disarmingly honest, intensely smart, brutally open comic who finds wisdom in the strangest places. This is his story of the winding, potholed road from madness and obsession and failure to something like normal, the thrillingly comic journey of a sympathetic f---up who's trying really hard to do better without making a bigger mess. Most of us will relate.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Rarely is there a book that reveals such frighteningly funny and grossly abnormal honest episodes in a person's life that the reader may feel dirty after some chapters. But so what, the experience is

worth it. It is laugh out loud funny (and sad), and you realize that stand-up comics (or most of them) are truly different or more scary than clowns, mimes, and street deviants. Maron tells us that many are self destructive and intense who crave acceptance, acknowledgement, and approval from others. In this book, Maron shares his experiences with us in the hope that we are all going to be okay; this sharing of experiences, and your realization that we all go through a lot of crap, can heal the world or at least you. Maron, one of America's top insightful and thoughtful comedians, is an obsessive over-thinking ruminater (The Ruminater). He is a hoarder of items and experiences. He opens the book wondering why he hoards so many trinkets and how his mother and brother would deal with his relics should he pre-decease them (A college library is not going to crave his scribbles and framed 'Apocalypse Now' lobby card). Maron fills the book with life events that inform us of his family and friends: his father competing for attention with his grandfather's corpse at his grandfather's NJ funeral; his interactions with other comics "doing their time;" a heroin addled comic who did his finest when high; his feral cats on the night before the 2004 GOP convention; his self-funded research project titled "Who is My Ex F*ing" after his 2nd wife left him; the "freedom" of masturbation in a hotel room; the girlfriend who was incapable of orgasm due to past issues abuse.

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