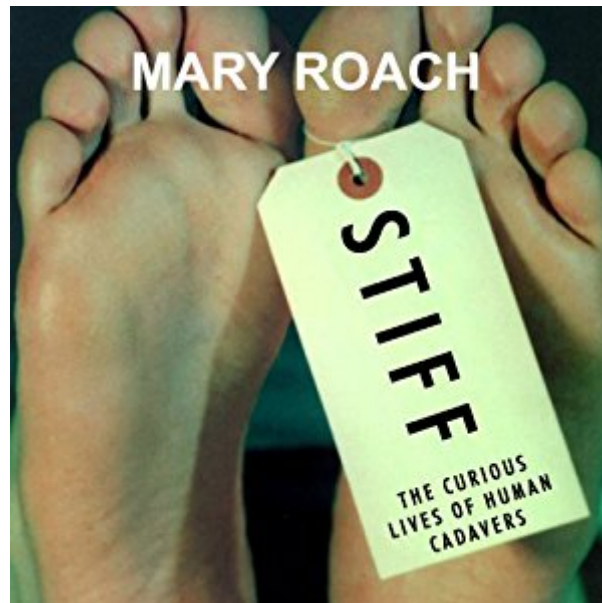




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Stiff: The Curious Lives Of Human Cadavers



Synopsis

"One of the funniest and most unusual books of the year....Gross, educational, and unexpectedly sidesplitting." •Entertainment WeeklyStiff is an oddly compelling, often hilarious exploration of the strange lives of our bodies postmortem. For two thousand years, cadaversâ •some willingly, some unwittinglyâ •have been involved in science's boldest strides and weirdest undertakings. In this fascinating account, Mary Roach visits the good deeds of cadavers over the centuries and tells the engrossing story of our bodies when we are no longer with them. --This text refers to the Preloaded Digital Audio Player edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Customer Reviews

Wonderful book! I borrowed it from the library and read it on a recommendation from a coworker - she had read it because it was on her daughter's summer reading list - otherwise, we adults may not have known it existed. Halfway through it, I bought a copy on to ship to my niece who is planning to be a doctor. She reported back that she was loving it!The author has written other books about the human body as well. You will never think about roasting pans the same way again. And the original "body snatchers" were not aliens. :) Pick up a copy and check it out. It is NOT for the faint of heart however as the author writes in a very forthright, detailed manner. The book reads like fiction, even though it certainly isn't made up.

Smoke Gets in Your Eyes is a much better read if you're into death procedures. This book is slightly outdated, and seemed to have a difficult time finding its voice.

This is my favorite book ever. Mary Roach is a fantastic writer who sees the humor in everything, including cadavers, and delivers it like smooth butter. She love exploring science, history, and the human experience, and loves sharing it with the reader. It was a very inspiring book for me going through anatomy and physiology, and how much respect and generosity go towards anatomy education. If there was anything that could change someone's mind about the medical field, this book would be it. For readers not in the medical/anatomy field, this could be considered a graphic book. The author doesn't try and hide it, but doesn't go out of her way to gross the reader out, however there are a few situations that she describes that could gross someone out. In fact, when you get past (some of) the gory details, her humor is the perfect shade of darkness that makes you feel really good about being a human. Like I said earlier, this book conveys and really inspires how much respect in the medical education community people give cadavers, and could potentially encourage someone to donate their body for science. Bonk, Spook, and Packing for Mars are all good reads and of similar mood for sex, the afterlife, and space, respectively. Mary brings the same 'light-dark' humor in the deceased, and really makes you feel good about being a human in the 21st century.

Have you ever wondered what happened to cadavers? Did you think that all these bodies were used for amazing discoveries, cures, etc? This strange "life" of the deceased is written in a witty, often dry-humored style. You will learn more than you dreamed about the journey of a corpse in the medical field. Excellent read! Also, a strong choice for upper level classes in high school such as AP Language and Composition.

Jaunting between the present and past, Stiff examines the aspects of the human body post mortem. Roach's approach takes on an incredible human aspect that more than scratches the surface, but does not become engrossed in the gory details. Her book is interesting and flows nicely. I am going to read more of her writings.

Fast, quirky and well written. Will tell many people to read this! I hope to read more by the author, the way she writes makes me want to be friends with her.

In finding this book I was at first mortified and queasy to think I could actually read a book about cadavers, especially reading the notes and finding the chapters a bit startling. But out of curiosity,

and being in the science field, I decided to take the chance. The material is indeed not necessarily for those who have a sacred respect for the human body, pre and post-death. But approaching the research with an open mind and being able to separate the idea of the living, breathing human and the deceased, "shell" helps. Ms. Roach approaches the material with sound research and facts and has obviously done her homework, including visiting some of the more grisly procedures in the name of science. And as the description states, she does throw in some very funny humor, easing the serious material and reminding the reader they're in a safe place. I found myself detailing the chapters I read that day to my partner while getting ready for bed. Luckily he's a nurse otherwise it may not have been a good thing to do before going to sleep. He may not have been happy with my report about what plastic surgeons practice on or the stages of decay. Let's be honest: No one enjoys thinking about death or what could happen to ourselves if we were involved in an accident. But this material is fascinating and extremely informative. Not only that, it opened my mind to organ and full-body donation in the name of science, as well as the many other choices that exist for what to do with my shell once I'm gone. Looking forward to reading more of her books as soon as possible. Highly recommended to anyone with an interest in the subject.

I really enjoyed reading this book. It was very interesting to learn about what can happen to a corpse once it has been donated for organ removal, etc.

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