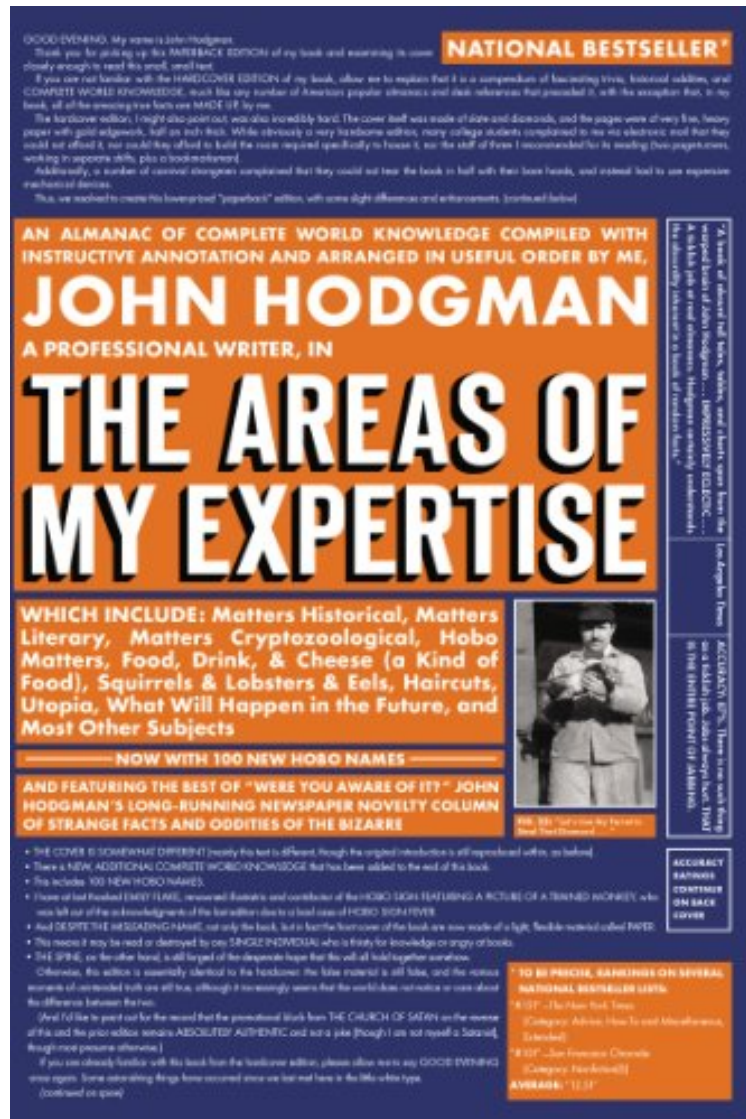


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The Areas of My Expertise: An Almanac of Complete World Knowledge Compiled with Instructive Annotation and Arranged in Useful Order

John Hodgman

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Absolutely HILARIOUS...provided you get this kinda humor
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This is honestly the funniest thing ive ever read. I find humor in print isnt an easy thing to convey. Just head to the humor section of any mega book store and you'll find that its lacking. That being said i was very skeptical going into reading Hodgman's book. Much to my surprise and amazement, it turned out to be a genuine laugh-out-loud read throughout. So much so that i felt i need to share it with others and thus, this is my first review on . If you are like me, you come to this site to check out reviews before buying books. There is a catch with this book, you really have to like and understand his kind of non-sequitor humor. As you can see in the reviews, theres alot of people who didnt like this book. I think the problem is not that this book isnt hilarious...it is...i think its just a type of comedy that folks 'get' or not. Sooo i'd suggest you bounce over to the books website areasofmyexpertice.com and look around and decide if his humor is your thing before buying. As for me, ive already bought 4 additional copies to share with friends. I think its that good. Then again, im one of the lucky few that will be ready for the next Hobo Wars....i know the signs.
5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Amazing. And Hilarious. Amazingly Hilarious. It's a book (and a CD set)!
By Austin Hoffman
Are you reading this review? Hello? Yes. If you are, that means that you are somewhat likely perhaps maybe a little interested in this book (or Audio CD for those of you that would prefer to receive your funny through a sense other than that disgusting eye-reliant one). Errr. Now I've forgotten what I was doing. No no no, I remember now, I was writing a review of the most excellent 'The Areas of My Expertise' by John Hodgman. Within this great tome or (as Mr. Hodgman put it) "cumbersome audio CD set", you may find interesting facts and trivia. Or you may not, I'm not psychic. What I can tell you is that, to myself and several select friends, this is one of the most humorous books in the realm of literary genius. Within minutes of opening this book (assuming that you have chosen to read it and not just pretend to in order to impress members of the opposite sex with your ability to hold a book open and make thoughtful noises) you will become overwhelmed with the literary hilarity, or as I am putting it 'literarity'. In short (or tall), you'll laugh. Quite a bit. If you enjoy such humorous things as a monkey boxing a cat, or a robot boxing a kangaroo, H.B.'s (Hobo Boxes) or just Boxcars themselves, you should (or would be in your best interest to) enjoy this book. Immensely. Greatly. No, I will not combine another word. Ah. Yes. The review. It is quite a good book cover, don't you think? Blue and Orange, thats Nature's goodness. And it can be right in your home. Or car. Or garbage bin of a material you selected when you purchased it (the bin, not the book). The cover contains knowledge. What knowledge? The knowledge of John Hodgman. What John Hodgman? Don't be silly. It is the very John Hodgman who wrote 'The Areas of My Expertise'. The work contains interesting facts on furry lobsters, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and the attempted Hobo takeover of the United States Government in the 1930's. It also lists over six-hundred and ninety-nine names of the aforementioned Hobo-folk. The end of the review? A summary? Buy the book or audio CD. Buy it now, you will most likely not regret it unless you don't find it funny. But many have, and you can too. You want to, don't you? Then buy it.

The Areas of My Expertise is a lavish compendium of handy reference tables, fascinating trivia, and sage wisdom—all of it completely unresearched, completely undocumented and (presumably) completely untrue, fabricated by the illuminating, prodigious imagination of John Hodgman, certifiable genius. In an age when fake facts are all the rage, John Hodgman proves he is a man ahead of his time. Look out for John Hodgman's latest book, Vacationland, available from Viking in Fall 2017.

.com With his Daily Show appearances and his "I'm a PC" Apple ads, John Hodgman has only become more famous since the hardcover edition of his all-you-need compendium of facts, The Areas of My Expertise was released. He has also become smarter. To reflect this, the paperback edition of The Areas of My Expertise has been expanded to include 100 new hobo names and new, additional complete world knowledge. John Hodgman and his fur-hatted associate, Jonathan, have prepared an exclusive video for customers explaining the above. Click here or on the image above to watch John Hodgman describe the only book you'll ever need. From Publishers Weekly
In this super-literate, ultimately exhausting exercise in literary parody, New York Times magazine contributor Hodgman has produced "a compendium of COMPLETE WORLD KNOWLEDGE." From sections titled "What Will Happen in the Future" to "What You Did Not Know About Hobos," he piles up smart-alecky nonsense in layer upon layer of surreal, wholly fictional factoids. Whether highlighting American presidents who had hooks for hands, or sketching out the mythical secrets of Yale University, Hodgman creates a strange and intermittently hilarious parallel universe where lists of history's worst haircuts (in addition to the Mullet, there are the Scrape, the Scab and the Shag-Swoop) are printed alongside descriptions of "famous novels that were not originally published as books." Sprinkled throughout with breathless "factual" interjections—"Were you aware of it? The body of Thomas Edison was never buried. Instead it was displayed for many decades in a traveling carnival.... DOES IT EVEN SEEM POSSIBLE?"—this "almanac" demonstrates Hodgman's formidable imagination, if not his ability to amuse consistently. The individual passages are

funny but get lost in an already overstuffed work. For the hyper-well-read fans of publications like McSweeney's, this is a treasure trove of twisted absurdist miscellany. For others, however, it may just be too much of a good thing.

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Wonderfully absurd." —The New York Times "Hilarious . . . Nabokov's Pale Fire as directed by Wes Anderson." —Time Out New York "If Borges and Ben Franklin got drunk and decided to write a book together, the result might have been something a lot like this freaky 'almanac'." —Tom Perrotta "Even if you buy this book for the 700 hobo names alone, you will have gotten more than your money's worth." —Dave Eggers "A book of absurd tall tales, tables and charts spun from the warped brain of John Hodgman . . . Impressively eclectic." —The Los Angeles Times