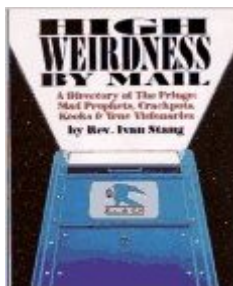


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HIGH WEIRDNESS BY MAIL



Synopsis

Book by Stang, Ivan

Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Fireside (May 15, 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 067164260X

ISBN-13: 978-0671642600

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 7.5 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #322,680 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Publishing & Books > Bibliographies & Indexes > Business #60 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Publishing & Books > Bibliographies & Indexes > Literature #209 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Business & Professional

Customer Reviews

This hysterical hobbyist's guide belongs in every hip library. Coot cat Reverend Ivan Stang, high holy of the Church of the SubGenius, has compiled a bestiary of American creeps and crazies so that you can write to them and receive mail that is weird, horrible, wonderfully absurd, or a combination of all three. Each entry has a paragraph or two and the last known mailing address of some fringe loonies. The book is only current through 1988, though; the only thing wrong with it is that it's high time for an update--with URLs, of course. Let's see ... there are catalogs of perpetual motion machines; brochures from South American flying saucer cults; something called "The Battle Cry of Aggressive Christianity" (Christian, not likely--aggressive, you bet); and bizarre roundups such as "News of the Weird," the Church of Beaver Cleaver, and so on. What makes this book so funny is the author's willingness to list (and ridicule) any group, no matter how repulsive. This means, too, that High Weirdness contains a group to offend everyone; consider yourself warned. In fact, if you aren't offended by some of these groups, you must be pretty offensive yourself. So there.

This book is like something out of a Borges book. It is an endless list of bizarre fringe organizations and people desperate to get strange opinions out to the masses. It is not only an excellent cultural

artifact of how people in the 80s found weird crap in the days before the internet, it is also a thought provoking work where you can look at an address advertising a dog psychic and wonder if that same person is still reading the minds of dogs all these years later.

Excellent

info in this book will leave you wondering that people like this exist, especially in america.

This book is filled with totally strange and crazy type of stuff. Very interesting how many crazy and kooky things there are in the world. Since this book was wrote back in 1988. You may still be able to find info. on some of the stuff in this book online but who knows. This is a must have book for those who love kooky stuff.

interesting. got it before The Book of the SubGenius and still haven't finished it.

You should know, The SubGenius Must Have Slack. This includes temporal slack. These days, "High Weirdness by Mail" wallows in temporal slack. It fattens itself upon such anachronistic dissonance and preens and poses and presents itself as a pristine document soaking in such temporal slack. A snapshot worthy of fascination. Play-by-snail-mail wackiness. Some circa 1988 pre-eMail deliciousness that turns in time...highlighting its fading wacko personal touch against the coming e-fecion we continually breathe today. A timestamp document, at the dawn of the bulldada of the web -- about the bulldada off the web. Which seems a purer form of bulldada, yet watch out for nostalgic self-deception. Bulldada = Bulldada. It's a constant. (See George Carlin's work, the master of observation, RIP, damn.) Oh, brave new world. "The Whole Earth Catalog" has a similar effect today. Yet not so slacky and less fascinating. Too crunchy, less funky. You know. You do. And it can be had for cheap so get some High Weirdness now. You'll wish it was 20-years ago and you had a lot of stamps and time to spare. And an anonymous PO box.

Yes, the above title is what many readers would call this book after perusing its fascinating and repelling pages. I got my copy soon after publication and was tempted to contact some of those groups, but demurred at the prospect of receiving shovel-fuls of mail and packets as related by the author. I have browsed through this book from time to time, and I recommend it as a natural depression cure-all: if after reading a few pages, you're not laughing hysterically, there's no hope for

you. What's truly weird is some of the wackier groups sound suspiciously like our current Administration nominees - well, YOU be the judge. Well worth checking out, readers.

Who knows how many of these people still exist, and this was from before the Internet, but the attitude and range will change your life. A little. It's still great to read and wonder.

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