

Known and Strange Things: A Comprehensive Exploration of John Hodgman's Essays



Known and Strange Things: Essays by Teju Cole

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 14798 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
X-Ray : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 375 pages



John Hodgman is an American humorist, writer, and actor best known for his appearances on *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* and his podcast

Judge John Hodgman. He has also written several books, including two collections of essays: *More Information Than You Require* and *Known and Strange Things*.

The Absurd and the Profound

Hodgman's essays are a unique blend of humor, wisdom, and insight. He has a knack for finding the absurdity in everyday life and turning it into something profound.

For example, in the essay "The Great Cat Nap," Hodgman reflects on the simple act of taking a nap. He writes, "A nap is not just a nap. A nap is a tiny, portable universe, a pocket dimension where anything can happen." He goes on to imagine all the strange and wonderful things that could happen in a nap, from meeting talking animals to traveling to the moon.

Hodgman's ability to find the humor in the mundane is one of his greatest strengths as an essayist. He can take even the most ordinary experiences and turn them into something extraordinary.

The Power of Storytelling

In addition to his humor, Hodgman is also a gifted storyteller. His essays are full of vivid descriptions and memorable characters. He has a way of making his readers feel like they are right there with him, experiencing the events he describes.

For example, in the essay "The Concert," Hodgman recounts a time he attended a concert by the band Devo. He describes the concert in such detail that the reader can almost feel the music and the energy of the

crowd. He also captures the feeling of alienation and loneliness that he experienced that night.

Hodgman's storytelling skills are evident in all of his essays. He has a gift for making the reader feel like they are part of the story.

The Importance of Observation

One of the things that makes Hodgman's essays so memorable is his keen sense of observation. He pays attention to the details of the world around him, and he uses those details to create his essays.

For example, in the essay "The Man with the Golden Arm," Hodgman describes a man he sees on the street who has a golden arm. He goes on to imagine the man's life and the events that led to him having a golden arm.

Hodgman's ability to observe the world around him and to find the stories in those observations is one of his greatest strengths as an essayist.

John Hodgman's essays are a unique and wonderful contribution to the world of literature. His blend of humor, wisdom, and insight is sure to entertain and inspire readers of all ages.

If you are looking for a great read, I highly recommend picking up a copy of *Known and Strange Things*. You won't be disappointed.

References

- Hodgman, John. *Known and Strange Things*. Viking Books, 2013.
- *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*.

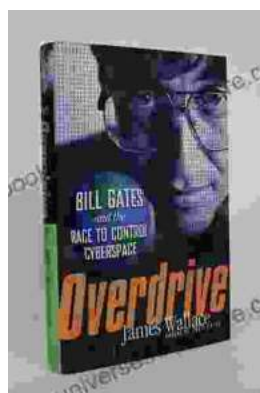
- *Judge John Hodgman.*



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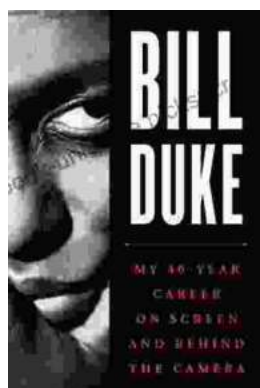
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