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Fun As Hell (Kindle Single)



Synopsis

A down-on-his-luck reporter sets out to write about a military training facility that has invited tourists to experience war firsthand. But after his girlfriend decides to join him on this madcap daytrip he is forced to unravel a bigger story. This uniquely told narrative "call it truly strange" weaves a fast-paced, humorous and gripping account together with the author's recollections of writing for newspapers in New York, the Middle East and Washington, falling in love and traveling to places touched by violence. Fun as Hell is a captivating ride with sharp turns. What it reveals about war, the media, relationships and our times will shake readers and leave them hungering for more.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

L.J.Kummer's "Fun as Hell" charts a freelance reporter's course across the globe, from NYC to Abu Dhabi and a scattering of twenty countries between. Along the way, Kummer rubs elbows with Tom Wolfe, tosses live hand grenades into an emerald pond in Cambodia, drinks the blood of a beheaded rooster, is chewed out by Lauren Bacall, and is immersed in a bathtub of crude oil at a Soviet health spa. But while Kummer admits to being attracted--maybe even magnetized--to the

strange, "Fun as Hell" contains more than just his adventures abroad. Instead, he cleverly uses each escapade to frame his thoughts on what makes writing meaningful and worthwhile, to elucidate what's at stake for a writer today, and the consequences of reporting false information. The risks of being a reporter ripple far beyond the danger of getting the story, Kummer says. "You're trying to unravel what's going on," he says. "If you're not careful you risk actually helping to make the world more jumbled." Engaging, intelligent, funny, sometimes deeply emotional, and absolutely unique, I can honestly say "Fun as Hell" is the only book I've ever read that conjures guidance for writers out of explosive scenes from an "Extreme Driving + Weapons Training" day trip. L.J. Kummer is awesome. Don't hesitate. Buy it. Read it. Love it. You won't regret it!

L.J. Kummer makes great use of the Kindle single format. The backdrop is a an extreme-driving-and-weapons-training course for civilians taught by former military special-ops. But this is more than an absurdist look at military-action tourism; it's also about a life at a crossroads. The course provides a great jumping off point for Kummer's ruminations on the two most important things in his life - his girlfriend and his vocation (journalism) - at a point when he may be in danger of losing both. It's both thought provoking and a fun read. Recommended in particular for those with an interest in journalism.

Fun as Hell is a book that will stick with me. I will keep reflecting about what I do and how I see the world. Luke raises questions that we all have and instead of answers gives us situations and ideas. he lets us make our own decisions. I also really like how he uses his story and Molly's story to remind us of the humanity that guides us all. And he has a subtle sense of humor that further reminds us of the humanity that binds us all. it was a fun and thought provoking read and very well put together. I highly recommend it.

Anyone who is still trying to make sense of the senselessness that seems to have been freshly re-minted post 9/11 - the constant warring turned to ignorable headlines and so much more - will enjoy reading L. J. Kummer's "Fun as Hell." L. J. Kummer blends his own fascinating path as a journalist, which brought him through the NY Times and all over the world at still a rather young age, with a much deeper consideration of why we do the things we do, as citizens and as individuals that compose a nation. I think anyone who ever gave a damn about making sense of this strange soup we're in will find a kindred voice in that of L. J. Kummer.

I kept reading because I thought there was a plot and I read one review that said to expect humor and madcap events. This is the first person account of a journalist who is trying to find himself and also hold on to a relationship with his med student girlfriend. The present is mixed with flashbacks from his international journalism career that get very confusing for all the events he references. The story line about the day in the military training camp for tourists has some crashing but his description isn't particularly absurd or madcap and he keeps cutting away to flashbacks. Meanwhile he has a lot to say about journalism gone wrong, particularly war reporting. The disappointing part is that one would expect a writer who claims to be an experienced journalist to be able to write with a little more focus.

A friend recommended this book, and by the title / description, I expected just an entertaining adventure story. Instead, I was pleasantly surprised to find a much more layered, sophisticated piece of writing. With deeply memorable phrasing, the author weaves together his challenges with relationship, career and even societal perceptions of violence - all wrapped in the tale of a daylong outing. It's a short read, but it packs in so many big questions. My only criticism is that it's a single and not a full-length novel. I could have read a story two or three times in length. I hope this is just the first installment in a series.

Fun As Hell is just what I want to read, just what I want to know, and just right for me. Can't wait to read more! just thinking, Fun as Hell would make a great movie! scenes of the CIA training/crashing cars, scenes of Molly delivering babies, Kummer's romantic life, flashbacks to life in the Middle East and travel escapades... I would definitely rent it! screenwriter?

This Kindle single is about a reporter who's questioning his place in life. It's very short and bounces back and forth between what's happening currently and his beginnings as a wanna-be reporter. I would probably give it 5 stars if I had any interest in news reporting or politics. I bought it based on the title, but the title seems to have very little to do with this short story. It was worth a read, though.

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