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Ben Schott (Author)

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Ben Schott (Author) : Schott's Original Miscellany [Hardcover] before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Schott's Original Miscellany [Hardcover]:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Bathroom reading at its finest!By Esther SchindlerI doubt you'll read more than five or ten pages of this book at a single sitting. You won't want to -- that's enough trivia for anybody. But I love this little tome, as it's full of "Gosh I never thought of that!" and "How 'bout _THAT_!" items that educate and entertain. It's like a best-of-Digg for educated folks.The only way to explain this intentionally Miscellaneous collection is by example. Within a few pages are: A list of the British Poets Laureate (1668-2004), the ten commandments (which was a useful resource when we got into an argument about the proper order), the wording of the U.S. presidential inauguration, a map of cricket fielding positions, eponymous foods (such as Beef Wellington, named to honor the Duke of Wellington), international envelope sizes, and diagrams showing how to wrap a sari. And there's 150 more pages of stuff like this. You probably don't NEED to know these things, but you'll be delighted that you do. It's a marvel of serendipitous information and fodder for bar bets (assuming a fairly literate bar).This is perfect stocking stuffer for a well-read friend. Including oneself.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. You could use some of these facts as pick-up lines in bars... Not university town bars...By S. JeffriesIf you look at your home library and realize you have a lot of reference books on the shelves, Ben Schott's book is the book for you! I love it. Apparently, Mr. Schott got the idea for this book because he often wrote down collections of interesting factoids and gifted them to friends and family. As all great ideas are born, someone said, "Ben. You should write this s*** down and publish it." Maybe they didn't use "s***" as a descriptor, but Schott ran with the idea and published this book.

Now, Schott has many books of Miscellany. All of which I own and enjoy. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Strange but wonderful
By Lara Weinheimer
This is truly a weird book. It is full of the most useless, unusual, bizarre stats and facts I have ever run across. I can't decide if the author is eclectic, eccentric or crazy. And, what does that make me when every few days I read a section and laugh out loud. Here is a smattering of what is included: glove sizes, international paper sizes, ballet terms, cloud types, the hierarchy of falconry (really! Who knew there was a hierarchy?), chat room acronyms, etc.

Where else can readers find, packed onto one page the 13 principles of witchcraft, the structure of military hierarchy, all of the clothing-care symbols, a list of the countries where people drive on the left, and a nursery rhyme about sneezing?