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Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas: A Savage Journey To The Heart Of The American Dream



Synopsis

This cult classic of gonzo journalism is the best chronicle of drug-soaked, addle-brained, rollicking good times ever committed to the printed page. It is also the tale of a long weekend road trip that has gone down in the annals of American pop culture as one of the strangest journeys ever undertaken.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Heralded as the "best book on the dope decade" by the New York Times Book Review, Hunter S. Thompson's documented drug orgy through Las Vegas would no doubt leave Nancy Reagan blushing and D.A.R.E. founders rethinking their motto. Under the pseudonym of Raoul Duke, Thompson travels with his Samoan attorney, Dr. Gonzo, in a souped-up convertible dubbed the "Great Red Shark." In its trunk, they stow "two bags of grass, seventy-five pellets of mescaline, five sheets of high-powered blotter acid, a salt shaker half-full of cocaine and a whole galaxy of multicolored uppers, downers, screamers, laughers.... A quart of tequila, a quart of rum, a case of Budweiser, a pint of raw ether and two dozen amyls," which they manage to consume during their short tour. On assignment from a sports magazine to cover "the fabulous Mint 400"--a free-for-all biker's race in the heart of the Nevada desert--the drug-a-delic duo stumbles through Vegas in hallucinatory hopes of finding the American dream (two truck-stop waitresses tell them it's nearby, but can't remember if it's on the right or the left). They of course never get the story, but they do commit the only sins in Vegas: "burning the locals, abusing the tourists, terrifying the help." For Thompson to remember and pen his experiences with such clarity and wit is nothing short of a

miracle; an impressive feat no matter how one feels about the subject matter. A first-rate sensibility twinger, *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* is a pop-culture classic, an icon of an era past, and a nugget of pure comedic genius. --Rebekah Warren

'*Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* is a scorching epochal sensation. There are only two adjectives authors care about any more - 'brilliant' and 'outrageous' - and Hunter Thompson has a freehold on both of them' Tom Wolfe --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

I admit that I only read the book after seeing the movie when I was younger, and even after hearing the song by Avenged Sevenfold "Bat Country", but this story changed a lot about the way I think. "The American Dream" is the theme of this adventure story (though I use the term adventure in place of "drug binge fueled blaze across Nevada), and two unlikely companion take their wild "trip" to the heart of Nevada: Las Vegas to find the dream and write about it to bring home. This story is very crazy to be honest but it is time and time again one of my favourite stories. If you are into half truth and half fiction stories where it is hard to draw the line between what could have really happened and what exactly was fabricated you will enjoy the wild ride Thompson will put you through in *Fear and Loathing*. It has twists and turns and bizarre events at every turn. It will keep you enthralled and engaged and you can buy a ticket to take this ride safely from the comfort of your home.

It's Hunter S. Thompson's masterpiece of Gonzo journalism, wherein the narrator is moving and participating within the action of the tale as it unfolds. It's a really fun book to read if you did drugs when you were a youngster and were a bit of a rebel in your youth. Thompson's use of language is a delight in itself, which is probably the real reason why he was able to make a living as a writer, and it is a rather timeless piece of one paranoid's survival of a long, lost weekend, where the poor soul "strayed very close to the edge." While being "timeless," the narrative can only be fully appreciated by a reader who knows the music of Jefferson Airplane, who once took too much LSD at some time in the past, and who now safely can re-read a easily flowing tale from a roller coaster lover, who briefly escaped from his straight jacket long enough to leave us an absurd tale of excess and debauchery --- and excess it was.

Better to enjoy Hunter's experiences in book form than in real life. Shame he took his own life, but I respect his choice. I think he lived more in his 70+ years than I could, even if I lived past 100. I think

Depp and Torres did an awesome job with the movie version. Highly underrated!

Yeah, it great. "With a bit of luck, his life was ruined forever. Always thinking that just behind some narrow door in all of his favorite bars, men in red woolen shirts are getting incredible kicks from things he'll never know."

I had never heard of Hunter S. Thompson but continued to recommend Fear and Loathing to me. I continued to pass it over. One day I decided to see why they kept bringing it forward. Well.....because it is a fantastic read! It's not for the faint of heart as it is drug addled from the start not to mention very strange in general. I read any great memoir I can but there are a lot of differing opinions on whether or not this story was really in his experiences. Certainly, that is not really relevant. It's a good book and enjoyed it!

Hunter S Thompson's Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas is a relatively fast paced narratives that focuses heavily on the narrator's interpretation of events rather than the events themselves. This drug-fuelled narrative is an interesting blend of 'stream of consciousness meets the unreliable narrator.' This book is best enjoyed by readers with the flexibility to appreciate a tale for what it is. If you are looking for a strong plot-driven story then you will not find it here. The strengths of Fear and Loathing lie in the descriptive language used by Thompson to deconstruct and completely satirise the notion of the 'American Dream'

This is a work that I say started a revolution in journalistic storytelling, along with his other books. I think this guy made writing matter by putting yourself in the middle of the piece.

Awesome hardback edition! I only wish it had "Mescalito" in the extra articles by the good Doctor.

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