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Trashed



Synopsis

Every week we pile our garbage on the curb and it disappears "like magic! The reality is anything but, of course. *Trashed*, Derf Backderf's follow-up to the critically acclaimed, award-winning international bestseller *My Friend Dahmer*, is an ode to the crap job of all crap jobs "garbage collector. Anyone who has ever been trapped in a soul-sucking gig will relate to this tale. *Trashed* follows the raucous escapades of three 20-something friends as they clean the streets of pile after pile of stinking garbage, while battling annoying small-town bureaucrats, bizarre townfolk, sweltering summer heat, and frigid winter storms. *Trashed* is fiction, but is inspired by Derf's own experiences as a garbage man. Interspersed are nonfiction pages that detail what our garbage is and where it goes. The answers will stun you. Hop on the garbage truck named Betty and ride along with Derf on a journey into the vast, secret world of garbage. *Trashed* is a hilarious, stomach-churning tale that will leave you laughing and wincing in disbelief. Find teaching guides for *Trashed* and other titles at abramsbooks.com/resources.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Although I found this book enjoyable, and liked the series of facts spread throughout this book on trash and the history of trash, I couldn't really engross myself in it 100%. I don't know if it's because the topic is that of "trash" and there are a few gory scenes in there, or if it's because of the storyline itself, but I simply could not immerse myself in this book. I will take the easy way out here and use another reviewer's excellent take on this book that reflects how I felt about it: "There's this thing I

tried to express before in a review of a play, about dialog and how it works and doesn't work, and then I read this article about Mad Max: Fury Road that crystallized the whole thing for me. Here's what director George Miller says about dialog. At a simple level, you're not trying to use dialogue as exposition, you're using it as part of behaviour, and language itself is distorted. Dialog can be really grating as exposition and really effective as characterization. Dialog tells you a lot, not through the information contained in sentences, but the language used and the way things are said. I think this is especially true and noticeable in film, plays, and comics because they have the expository visual tools to carry some of the load as well, so when dialog is used as exposition, it's extra painful. I won't call Trashed lazy because it's not lazy, but when I write expository dialog, it's laziness. Always. It's a failure of imagination to show and demonstrate something in a better way. "This may possibly be the core of the issue for me: the dialogue. The conversations seemed a bit contrived and not very realistic.

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