



Stranger Than Fiction: True Stories

By Chuck Palahniuk

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Chuck Palahniuk's world has always been, well, different from yours and mine. In his first collection of nonfiction, Chuck Palahniuk brings us into this world, and gives us a glimpse of what inspires his fiction. At the Rock Creek Lodge Testicle Festival in Missoula, Montana, average people perform public sex acts on an outdoor stage. In a mansion once occupied by The Rolling Stones, Marilyn Manson reads his own Tarot cards and talks sweetly to his beautiful actress girlfriend. Across the country, men build their own full-size castles and rocketships that will send them into space. Palahniuk himself experiments with steroids, works on an assembly line by day and as a hospice volunteer by night, and experiences the brutal murder of his father by a white supremacist. With this new direction, Chuck Palahniuk has proven he can do anything.

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Stranger Than Fiction: True Stories By Chuck Palahniuk Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

This collection from shock novelist Palahniuk (*Choke*; *Lullaby*) is an eye-opening look at the raw material that goes into Palahniuk's fiction, as well as proof that the novelist's art is derived from keen observation and recording of details. Often these are as grotesque as a closeup in a horror film (e.g., in talking to a group of wrestlers enduring Olympic tryouts, Palahniuk focuses on their injuries, both physical and emotional). Half the essays are magazine assignments and include insightful profiles of rock star Marilyn Manson, indie-movie queen Juliette Lewis and a high schooler who wants to explore space via a homemade rocket. Others offer the author's impressions of a demolition derby, the Rock Creek Lodge Testicle Festival and life aboard the USS *Louisiana*. Palahniuk often philosophizes, dwelling on the effects his fiction has had on "reality," especially the obsession his fans have had with his novel *Fight Club*. Palahniuk is fixated on the transformation of life's raw material into fiction and the writing process itself, which he sees as having the potential for self-fulfillment. (Incidentally, Brad Pitt, who played *Fight Club*'s protagonist, emerges as Palahniuk's alter ego, and a number of the essays play on this theme, creating a patchwork memoir.) Palahniuk's fans will undoubtedly revel in the secrets the author reveals. Newcomers might initially feel queasy, but they're likely to warm up to his visceral prose and come to enjoy it.

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From [Booklist](#)

From *Fight Club* (1996) and the guys who fight for sport to *Choke* (2001) and a young man who might literally be the son of Jesus, Palahniuk's novels are consistently populated with extraordinary eccentrics. So it's no surprise that in this collection of previously published magazine pieces, he writes mostly of the bizarre. Palahniuk focuses on themes of solitude and community, on our need to feel simultaneously special and a part of something. He attends the Olympic wrestling trials, for instance, and examines why men endure cauliflower ear and debilitating injury to participate in a sport that no one watches or cares about. The personal essays (Palahniuk describes a romp through Seattle while wearing a dog costume, for instance) don't shine as much as the journalistic pieces, although fans will be interested to learn personal details about Chuck and his experiences with quasi celebrity. But the best narratives here-- particularly a lengthy one on Americans who build European-style castles--show Palahniuk's deep compassion for oddballs and misfits, a hard-boiled kindness for which his fans revere him. *John Green*
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Review

"Full of wonderful moments...Palahniuk's voice is so distinctive and intimate--he writes as though he is recounting a great story to a close friend." --*Los Angeles Times*

"Step into Palahniuk's dark worldview and watch for what crawls out. These stories are true to him and no one else." --*The Oregonian*

"One of the oddest and most oddly compelling collections to come along for some time." —*The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*

"In Chuck Palahniuk's world, the ride is fast, often disturbing, and there is never any holding back." —*The New Orleans Times-Picayune*

"Eccentric, idiosyncratic, and often entertaining." —*The Onion*

"Priceless grace notes from an exceptionally droll and sharp-eyed observer." --*The New York Times*

"Rarely does a collection of essays continually resonate with a main theme and accumulate a weight that would lead you to call it a great book. . . . This is a pretty great book." —*The Seattle Times*

"The book's lurid appeal rests largely on being let in on Palahniuk's secrets, the raw material for much of his fiction. . . . Acts that give spice to his novels are made more menacing when encountered in the real world."
--*Black Book*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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What do you about book? It is not important together with you? Or just adding material when you need something to explain what your own problem? How about your time? Or are you busy particular person? If you don't have spare time to complete others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have extra time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They should answer that question since just their can do that. It said that about publication. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is suitable. Because start from on pre-school until university need that Stranger Than Fiction: True Stories to read.

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his/her effort to place every word into delight arrangement in writing *Stranger Than Fiction: True Stories* however doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource information that maybe you can be one among it. This great information can certainly drawn you into brand new stage of crucial thinking.

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