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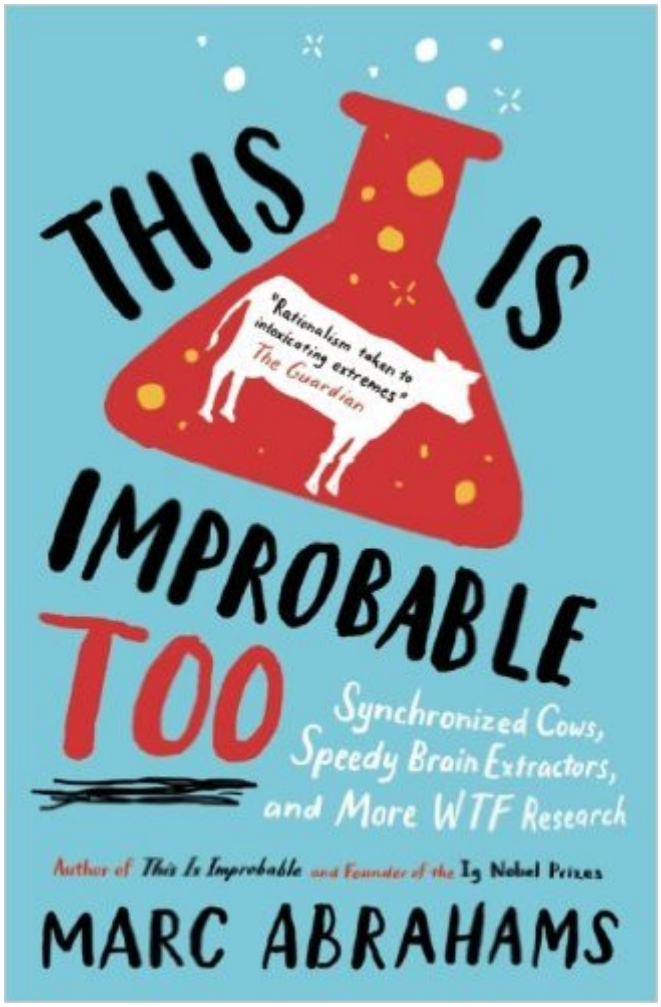
This Is Improbable Too: Synchronized Cows, Speedy Brain Extractors And More WTF Research



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Synopsis

Marc Abrahams collects the odd, the imaginative, and the brilliantly improbable from around the world. Here he investigates research on the ins and outs of the very improbable evolutionary innovation that is the human body (brain included). This Is Improbable Too explores the odd questions that researchers are asking, such as: What's the best way to get a monkey to floss regularly? How much dandruff do soldiers in Pakistan's army have? If you add an extra henchman to your bank-robbing gang, how much more money will you earn? Why is it so impossible to estimate the number of stupid people in circulation? How many dimples will be found on the cheeks of 28,282 Greek children? Who is the Einstein of pork carcasses? This Is Improbable Too also investigates unlikely medical cases, including a boy with an "Eiffel head injury" (involving a toy tower), and even more unlikely inventions, such as a patented system for attacking your enemy with a bio-waste bomb.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

WTF research rides again in this second installment on improbable science. Because this book is so similar in style, etc., as the prior one, my review of â œThis is Improbableâ •, applies to this one as well. So, I have included it below, with appropriate adjustments in square brackets.â œTo think that serious research was done (and most likely continues to be done) on the topics outlined in this book just boggles the mind. Fortunately, the author has such a way with words that reading about these works is an absolute pleasure, which would not likely be the case if one were to read the

original papers. On average, each work of research is described in just one to two pages. These are grouped into [in this case ten] chapters, each of which has its own particular topical slant [but most of which, in this case, focus on various parts of the human body]. Once again, this bookâ ™s most important feature, in my view, is the authorâ ™s continuous tongue-in-cheek and often absolutely hilarious summaries of the research. His careful choice of words to suit each topic is absolutely priceless. Despite the fact that I found some of the research summaries to be rather uninteresting, in many of the other cases I laughed to the point of having tears in my eyes. And itâ ™s mainly for these many prize winners that I gave this book a perfect score. All in all, because the author has ensured that the book is devoid of specialized jargon (unless included for effect) anyone looking for laughs can enjoy this book tremendously, while, as a bonus, learn about how some hard-earned research money is being spent.â •

Wonderful compilation of science humor from the Annals of Improbable research (sort-of) successor to the Journal of Irreproducible Results,.Since I'm a long-term subscriber, I've read them before, but still it's fun to have them collected.

This book is written with a very dry wit perfectly suited to its material - a 'Ripley's Believe It or Not' of scientific research topics.

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