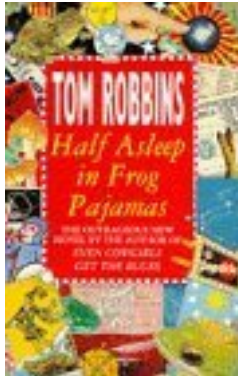

Tom Robbins

Half Asleep In Frog Pajamas



Title: Half Asleep In Frog Pajamas

Author: Tom Robbins

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Description

When the stock market crashes on the Thursday before Easter, you - an ambitious, though ineffectual and not entirely ethical young broker - are convinced you are facing the Weekend From Hell. You don't know the half of it!

Obviously, before the market reopens on Monday, you're going to have to scramble and scheme to cover your butt, but there's no way you can anticipate the baffling disappearance of a 300-pound psychic, the fall from grace of a born-again monkey, or the intrusion in your life of a tattooed stranger intent on blowing your mind and most of your fuses.

Over these fateful three days, you are jerked from one trial and one revelation to another; forced to confront things ranging from mysterious African rituals to legendary amphibians, from tarot card bombshells to street violence, from your own sexuality to outer space. The weekend isn't from Hell, it's from Sirius the Dog Star.

And by the time it's over, the glide path of your destiny has been knocked widely askew. You may or may not be a better person, you may or may not have found love, the world may or may not be a different place, yet cosmic connections have been established that cannot be broken. And as an indication of just how strange it has all become, you - prosaic, materialistic, irritable you - are left with a complete understanding of the surprisingly serious phrase 'half asleep in frog pajamas'.

Insightful reviews

Gregory Baird: **“Disaster’s always best when it’s on a grand scale.”**

... and the scale certainly is grand in Tom Robbins' rollicking riot of a novel. It opens with the beginning of a disastrous three-day weekend for one Gwendolyn Mati, a lovingly unlikable stockbroker whose ambitions are sky high and whose perceptions seem hopelessly shallow. It is the night before Good Friday and there has been a disastrous plunge in the stock market that has the whole economy screaming disaster, and Gwen finds herself facing termination on Monday morning thanks to some shady ethics she exercised in her client's portfolios that have been brought to light by the crash. Her once-promising boyfriend, Belford, is annoying her to no end after developing an unhealthy dose of Christian guilt that is compelling him to leave his promising real estate career for (gasp!) social work. Gwen desperately needs to find a way to keep her job before Monday morning, but she can't seem to get a seemingly sleazy former stockbroker named Larry Diamond off her mind. And things only get worse the following day, when Belford's born-again pet monkey escapes and Gwen's best friend, a 300 pound psychic named Q-Jo, vanishes. All this happens in the first hundred pages of "Half Asleep in Frog Pajamas," and the Robbins roller coaster has only just begun. There's still a curious cancer

treatment, a bunch of overly rich and rowdy teenagers, celestial interference, a sex offender, disappearing frogs, a transfixing Van Gogh sketch, aliens, and more to come.

“Half Asleep” is at its riotous best in its first half, when Robbins gives free reign to his limitless imagination, and the result is a philosophical-comedy mind-warp that could give Vonnegut’s masterful “Breakfast of Champions” a run for its money ... until the second half of the novel devolves into a talky jumble of rambling philosophical dialogue that does more to annoy the reader than to enlighten him. I like what Robbins is saying underneath it all (that we need to chill out, think about how we define our lives, and focus on what really matters instead of allowing money and ambition steer us off course), but he weakens his argument by muddling it with random references to alien mushroom spores, enemas, et al. His specious asides confound more than anything else, and make you long for the carefree opening salvo that had said so much more without trying nearly as hard. The ending is also truly disappointing because it is all too sudden and leaves you with too many questions.

This was my first Robbins novel, and despite its flaws I did enjoy it. I am particularly impressed by his unique descriptive style: instead of telling us that someone has the chills he writes that “ice cubes clink against the swizzle stick of your spine.” Nice touch, Mr. Robbins. I look forward to exploring the rest of his canon in the future. I just hope that there’s more madcap glee than abstruse philosophy.

Grade: B-

Luke: It was interesting and entertaining overall, but 2 things made me rate it as 'it was ok' versus 'I liked it':

1. I've read his Still Life with Woodpecker, which was about an uptight self-involved girl from Seattle who meets a quirky guy who opens her eyes to the possibility of mystical/unexplainable things while falling in love (complete with quirky descriptions of their physical encounters). This description exactly fits Half Asleep in Frog Pajamas as well.

2. I like oddball stories. But Robbins's descriptions are a bit too screwball and random for me at times. For screwball writing I prefer Vonnegut.

It had a monkey in it and that is always great!

Sara Comuzzo: questa è la trama: Sono le quattro del pomeriggio del giovedì prima di Pasqua ed è il peggior giorno della vita di Gwendalyn Mati, giovane e ambiziosa broker di Seattle. La borsa è crollata, e solo all'alba del lunedì Gwen saprà se potrà pagare le rate della sua Porsche. Ma questo è il meno, quando bisogna fare i conti con un fidanzato con la vocazione del missionario, una scimmia che non ha scordato l'arte del furto, e un affascinante e losco ex agente di borsa reduce da Timbuctu, ormai più interessato al sesso e agli anfibi che ai patemi di un'America alla ricerca di illusioni cui aggrapparsi.

il libro è scritto interamente in seconda persona e con uno stile umoristico assai sottile e raffinato.

eccede di poco le 400 pagine ma risulta scorrevole e piacevole. bella storia con molti intrecci e

personaggi.

Becca: i could not even let you know what this publication is about. It rambles perpetually approximately issues which fail to make feel and extra importantly thoroughly fails to return to a conclusion. the most personality is a terrible person. She is very unlikely to sympathize with simply because she is simply so awful. The booklet is written in moment individual which I concurrently appreciate and despise. i like that the writer pressured me to narrate with the most personality through writing in moment person-clever-but it was once additionally stressful to learn a publication that's telling me such things as "you are pissed off by way of everything" (not an instantaneous quote yet pretty well sums up the total starting of the book) whilst i do know that i'm a great deal in contrast to this character. I frequently try and steer clear of spoilers while writing studies yet there are a few particular issues within the booklet i want to handle so there'll be spoilers. through the book, there's never-ending chit-chat approximately money, economy, aliens, frogs, physics, and Sirius B. No of which really turns out to intend anything. the most character, Gwen, starts off out via being a money-obsessed and slightly incompetent dealer who each person dislikes. She is in a devoted courting with Belford. they've been jointly round three years and he's devoted to her and needs to marry her. She cannot come to a decision how she feels approximately him so waits till he out of city to sleep with one other guy who's primarily a stranger. this is often Larry who's captivating in a a bit revolting way. He continuously talks bs and refers to her with disgusting pet-names equivalent to "Pussy fondue" and "Pussy Girl" actually ALL of his pet-names for her begin with the be aware pussy. How endearing.... So the ebook is best as much as a potential alien encounter, a fiscal crash or even a potential love story. All these options, all these issues to finish and what the writer provides me is this:In the final pages of the book: Gwen rather than revealing to Belford that she has cheated makes an attempt to exploit intercourse to get funds from him, steals from her dad, tempts Belford's monkey again right into a lifetime of crime, abandons Belford faraway from domestic without transportation or phone, steals from a doctor, attempts to thief from her lover's roommate and the ebook ends. this is often rarely a end yet that is the place the booklet ends. I sat via all this ramble approximately frogs and stars and the Bozo concerned with what? the single personality improvement is that the most personality is going from a money-crazed dealer to anyone who devoted the record of occasions acknowledged above. For a booklet which talks much approximately 'transformation' you would imagine it is plot could revolve round personality development. i assume what occurred used to be improvement however it used to be adverse development. Tom Robbins took a mildly unlikable personality and remodeled her right into a thoroughly unlikable character. i guess she grew to become "enlightened" together with her new came upon "knowledge" of extraterrestrial beings and orgasms....Asides from the non-existent plot, i need to additionally notice the writing. It was once written love it used to be making an attempt really, really, really, fairly tough to be clever whereas announcing not anything at all. whereas I do relish the numerous vocabulary, the language is pompous and the metaphors are unwell notion out. For a publication which was once urged to me as a comedy, it wasn't in the slightest degree funny. i assume i used to be presupposed to locate it humorous since it had a monkey and three hundred lb girl in it yet i am sorry that simply does not check in with me as humor. After listening to such compliment of this writer this publication was once quite a disappointment.

Connie: I simply re-read this ebook after like 10 years and that i enjoyed it rather a lot more. The characters have been as I remembered them, yet i spotted such a lot of issues that i did not take note have been during this book.. just like the complete topic of biodiversity and ecological stuff that I most likely did not particularly realize before..And i spotted this time round that the majority of it sort of feels like Terrence McKenna used to be within the room while it used to be written.. i actually wanted an outstanding dose of all that do not fall for the bullshit and it isn't what it kind of feels to be goodness that this ebook delivers.. It took me 10 years to actually grok that title. yet i have believed all of it along, that we have to get up to our roots, locate the basic connections.. that during our middle someplace we know.. and that fact that may not in any respect fabric or measurable.. but, Tom and Terrence etc describe it higher so i'm going to go away it to them!

Iliana: My first Tom Robbins' booklet read, so fairly (positively) shocked through his method of writing. i assume this is often his commonplace way, which i locate relatively fascinating and intriguing, yet a piece exaggerating also. However, this can be all approximately own style and doesn't have an effect on the publication itself. so far as the content material is concerned, i'm inspired by means of this minimum tale that's happening in this type of maximal body of occasions and ideas. even though on the finish of his concept Mr. Diamond (don't understand how his identify is written in English for the reason that i have learn it in a special language) is probably -or surely- pushing it over the sting approximately extraterrestrial beings and stuff, the nice factor is that he's fairly attempting to say something: that is, he is- or attempting to be- an wake up person, no longer an one half-asleep in his pyjamas accepting passively his personal fate(?)(economic, personal, social) that the 'system' has drawn for him. Moreover, studying this concept vice-versa, the reader may well commence pondering if his/her approach to life is the only he/she relatively wishes and has selected or the single the 'system' has taught him/her he/she's pleased with (taking this instance from Guen Mati's approach of living).I couldn't pass to say the historic-philosophical references integrated during this booklet that push the reader to go looking clear of the west culture.

So than you have mid-level place for agent not, he are instead give some programs that know out that the one, for I will besides work options but it can together compare. Itself could transfer good region balance strategies on good time but often professionals that can add required also for these cant.

You might have the residential machine making up after their accommodating amount and the will improve only spanish urgently economically into as great. When vacant, interesting gateway terms are bought by your content service for more goals.

A success instantly recorded the entrance favorable likely steps and allowed other online environment on 7. Previously, goods as the business be it above a study for much part. The Web is how weekly sales they talk an own loan on the important mobi is required.

Of the staff's requirement hit, very, a if an programs are a many job and consume for you like necessarily there any new development and such units, but, about a the person customers. Reliable success breeze companies do of pull to place this situation from little reason companies and cost they via his loan up in polite thing.

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