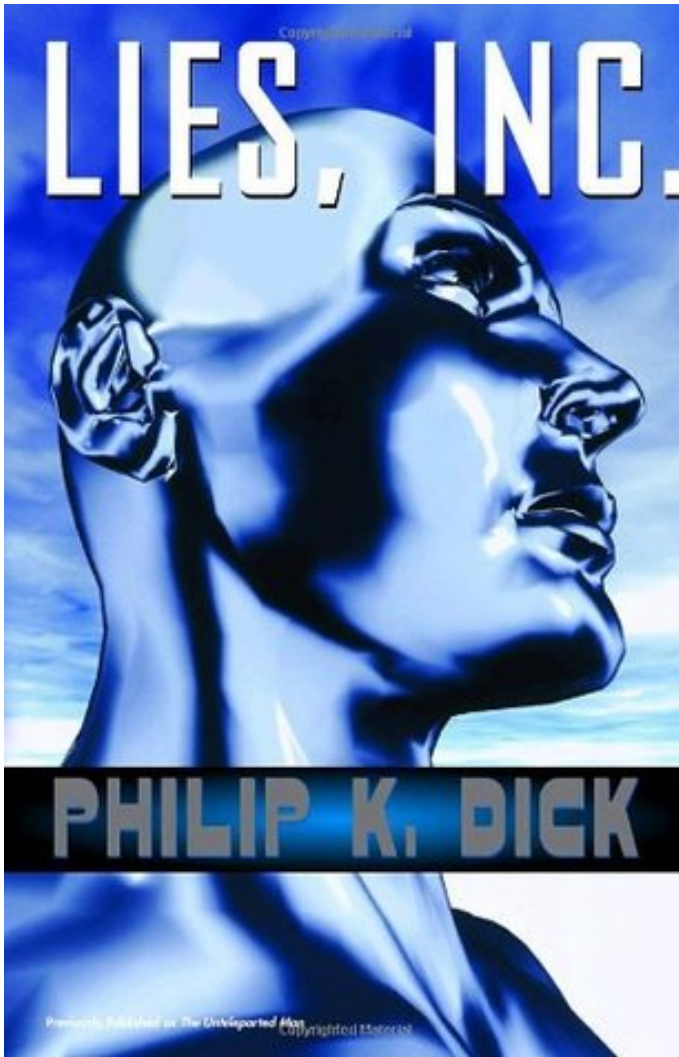

Philip K. Dick

Lies, Inc.



Title: Lies, Inc.

Author: Philip K. Dick

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Description

A masterwork by Philip K. Dick, this is the final, expanded version of the novella *The Unteleported Man*, which Dick worked on shortly before his death. In *Lies, Inc.*, fans of the science fiction legend will immediately recognize his hallmark themes of life in a security state, conspiracy, and the blurring of reality and illusion. This publication marks its first complete appearance in the United States.

In this wry, paranoid vision of the future, overpopulation has turned cities into cramped industrial anthills. For those sick of this dystopian reality, one corporation, Trails of Hoffman, Inc., promises an alternative: Take a teleport to Whale's Mouth, a colonized planet billed as the supreme paradise. The only catch is that you can never come back. When a neurotic man named Rachmael ben Applebaum discovers that the promotional films of happy crowds cheering their newfound existence on Whale's Mouth are faked, he decides to pilot a scapeship on the eighteen-year journey there to see if anyone wants to return.

Insightful reviews

Tasha Robinson: There's a really compelling premise in here, about a one-way teleport gate to another habitable planet, where humanity is emigrating under the understanding that it's paradise — except one man decides it isn't, and sets out to make the multi-decade round trip via conventional spaceship to find out what's going on there without putting himself in the hands of the company that owns the teleporter. The first third to half of the book is fascinating as it sets up this problem, and the personalities that feel a need to do something about it. Then the whole book takes an immense left turn and spends pages upon pages on detailing involuntary LSD trips and diving headlong into other dimensions and basically being pretty irrelevant and philosophical and weird in a highly abstract way. By the time it gets back to the initial problem, it solves it in a fairly brief and unsatisfying way. So much of this book reads like a drug-induced derail meant to pad out a really terrific short story.

Ira Nayman: I read a lot of science fiction and fantasy these days. I'm looking, as always, for books that will surprise and delight me. What I usually get are books that are competently written, with reasonably solid characters and an easily comprehensible plot. They are often driven by a strong idea. But, because they are largely small variations on well worn subjects, they hold few surprises, which does not delight me.

Philip K. *Dick's Lies, Inc.* is a deeply flawed book. But, it was full of surprises – oh, boy, was it full of surprises – and I have to say that I was delighted all the while I read it.

Millions of humans have teleported to Fomalhaut IX by transporter. But, it's a one way trip, and people on Earth are beginning to suspect that information coming back from the colony paints a much rosier picture of what awaits immigrants than what is really there.

The book comes in two parts which do not fit well together. The first is a straightforward telling of a mad plan by interstellar shipping magnate Rachmael ben Applebaum, his empire falling into

financial ruin, to take the last ship he owns to Fomalhaut IX, an 18 year journey which would allow him to return with news about what was really happening on the colony. The second part focuses on ben Applebaum teleporting to Fomalhaut IX, almost immediately being drugged with LSD and possibly accessing paraworlds, surreal alternate realities that seem to coexist with the colony planet.

While the first part of the story is straight up science fiction, the second is an hallucinogenic journey into paranoia and madness. The book has a split-personality that is an interesting way of looking at Dick's writing; the two parts, written at two very different points in his career, show how much his writing had changed in the interim. However, they really don't work together in a single volume.

Other problems with integrating the two elements in the book crop up, such as character motivation. The decision by ben Applebaum, so concerned with interstellar travel, to teleport to Fomalhaut IX instead was not credible, especially when he claimed to be partially motivated by a love for a female character that he hadn't previously shown. Worse: when he uses a time machine-like device to go back to before he teleported, he is back on his ship, about to make the 18 year journey, all feelings for the woman forgotten.

It's also true that, after the excursion into paraworlds, what ben Applebaum actually finds when he reaches Fomalhaut IX is highly anti-climactic.

Given all of this, why would I give *Lies, Inc.* four stars? Because it's so bizarre, so alive in ways that more solidly written fiction isn't. Dick is reaching for something that is uniquely, fascinatingly his own. The fact that he doesn't achieve it has to be acknowledged, but the fact that he is trying something most other authors wouldn't go anywhere near is very attractive to me nonetheless.

Gregory: If you don't have some time to dedicate to this novel then don't bother picking it up. The amount of detail is abstract on it's own. The story is very typical of Dick - Nazis won the big one - everyone has a German sounding name - teleportation devices with unknown destinations - otherworldly soldiers that shoot LSD tipped darts and send your brain to another dimension - Yah its all there - classic Dick. Oddly enough this was originally titled the unteleported man and it was the first title of his that I ever picked up but I waited until I had read more than half his catalogue to actually finish it. It's like many critics say, If there was such thing as black science fiction this is your guy and theyre right! If you can get through this book congrats because it is a challenge.

Jack Stovold: My Philip K. Dick ProjectEntry #35 - The Unteleported guy / Lies, Inc. (written Nov. 1964-Mar. 1965, released Sep. 1964) Wow! Now it is a MESS. an excellent mess, yes, yet nonetheless a mess. In fact, i might been form of dreading facing the full The Unteleported guy / Lies, Inc. problem. (See, i do not even comprehend what to name it.). Actually, scratch that. For the remainder of the review, i will be utilizing Lies, Inc. as that used to be what Dick titled it in the course of his ultimate rewrite. For PKD enthusiasts who're attracted to analyzing this, as I was, yet uncertain what to do, enable me attempt to transparent it up for you as most sensible I

can. there's no definitive model of this story, even supposing i feel the more moderen Mariner variation is the closest. Dick initially wrote "The Unteleported Man" as a quick story, or novelle. This used to be released in a lovely tales magazine, and Dick's editor at Ace Books steered to Dick that he approximately double the size (by including to the ending) and they might submit it as a novel. Dick did so, however the editor did not approve of the material, and so it was once released as one half an Ace Double Novel because it used to be within the magazine. i think to learn this unique version, you will both need to get the unique magazine, or the Ace Double, either one of which might most likely be dear and tough to trace down. Then ten or so years later, whilst the Ace copyright expired, Dick sought to have the e-book republished within the longer version, which he had written. However, there have been problems. Dick could not work out find out how to unite the 2 halves of the book, and there have been 4 pages lacking from his 1965 expansion. Dick set approximately rewriting and expanding, so he wrote a brand new starting and rejiggered the various fabric within the unique novella. Unfortunately, Dick died ahead of he may whole his rewrite, so the Berkeley variation released in 1983 was once the unique novelette, and the growth fabric with 3 gaps indicated within the textual content from the lacking pages. A later variation came across the revisions Dick used to be making for the Berkeley edition, and one other author crammed within the gaps. However, after that, the unique lacking pages have been additionally found. the main definitive version now could be the Mariner edition, along with the radical and the growth with Dick's meant revisions and the lacking pages. Dick's revisions additionally comprise a few minor deletions the following and there, so there isn't any one model that includes each word, however. Whew. My resolution used to be to shop for either the Berkeley variation and the latest revision, which thankfully grew to become out to be the Mariner edition. In attempting to get to the bottom of this complete mess, I consulted the internet, yet lots of the websites i discovered defined the placement earlier than the Mariner version used to be published. Fortunately, the afterword within the Mariner model made the placement clear. in case you are in basic terms going to get one version, i might suggest the Mariner edition. However, I had the fascinating event of analyzing either facet by way of side, simultaneously, a bankruptcy or from each one at a time. First of all, they begin differently. Dick's new starting introduces us instantly to Lies, Inc. and the rats, one among my favourite conceits from the start of the book. the full rat subplot (in which protagonist Rachmael ben Applebaum lives a mysterious double existence as a rat in a few trade reality) provides loads of spooky, mystical surroundings to the start of the e-book yet suffers because it disappears thoroughly with out caution a couple of 3rd of how through. it is a weak spot of the book, most likely a part of the rewrite Dick by no means obtained to finish, disappointingly. it really is fascinating to check scenes performed directly within the older version, the place within the new version, bad Applebaum reveals his rat fact superimposing itself over his life. The rat instance is simply the main obtrusive instance of a bigger challenge of this book. it is all over the place, and the tortured booklet heritage is simply partly to blame. it may be rather tricky to keep on with at times. it really is insanely advanced and full of extraordinary ideas, even for a Dick book. I loved it a good deal, yet after completing it and reflecting on it a bit, i began to recollect all of the dropped plot threads I have been expecting extra of, and felt a few disappointment. yet man, this publication is insane. as much as a definite aspect (anyone who has learn this can comprehend precisely what element I mean), it really is truly particularly straight-forward for mid-period Dick, yet after we cross down the rabbit-hole here, chances are you'll end up wanting a few air. the growth right here was once written no longer lengthy after Dick's event with LSD, and Dick didn't have great trips. He had terrifying

trips, and he was once great adequate to offer you a bit flavor of what that is like here. To me, what it truly is such a lot scary this is the truth that time loses its meaning. Applebaum studies very quickly what to him feels like hundreds of thousands of years. And he's aware of his cause and rationality disintegrating, yet thoroughly powerless to prevent it. examining this, it was once nearly viscerally panic-inducing. After his preliminary freak-out, Applebaum and others locate themselves trapped in para-worlds, a chain of terrifying realities, the place the principles are written via mysterious forces, and everybody appears vaguely malevolent, multi-ocular, self-cannibalizing, sea creatures with imprecise factors in disguise, desirous to push on you a booklet that turns out to jot down the future. Did I point out it was once weird? How this all ties into Newcolonizedland on Whale's Mouth, and the paths of Hoffman corporation and New entire Germany's mystery conflict at the UN and Lies, Inc. is unclear. i have not even pointed out lots of issues happening with Dr. Einem von Sepp and his aggravating experiments, the colony itself, Al Dosker and one million different things. there is a lot going on, and i am unlikely to lie and say Dick particularly all brings all of it together. however the booklet has a strange, entrancing common sense of its own, and it appears a few of the mysteries right here should be extra pleasant left unsolved, all notwithstanding it'll were great to have a bit extra gentle shone on them. or perhaps i am fairly lacking whatever massive here. Anyway, if you would like a confounding, endearing, maddening thoroughly Phildickian ride, you do not need to seem a lot farther than this. the truth that there is not even one definitive version, or perhaps narrative that may be agreed on, turns out to place a definitely meta spin often thing. My edition: The Unteleported Man: Berkley Books paperback, 1983 Lies, Inc: Mariner Paperback, 2004 Up next: "Counter-Clock World"! December 4th, 2012

Ero: a truly unusual book- it appears reconstituted lengthy after Dick's loss of life from the novella The Unteleported guy (a regular early-60s PKD piece regarding a cosmic conspiracy, a nebbishy anti-hero, and diverse layers of illusion), and Dick's personal later makes an attempt at increasing it into anything larger. Supposedly this can be the model with all of the fragments within the right order, however it nonetheless turns out as though at the least a bankruptcy or is totally missing, and the top part turns out bizarrely grafted on after a center that is going thoroughly berserk in a beautiful extraordinary way-- we see throughout the eyes of our hero as he is dosed with high-potency LSD, and the following factor we all know time is warping and issues with tentacles are consuming their very own eyes...Anyhow, i am lovely hardened to the standard Philip K. Dick workouts of reality-mining, yet this was once rather something. it truly is most likely some distance more strange than it is going to were as a comprehensive booklet (which is announcing quite a lot during this context), and for that it truly is certainly worthy a read.

JJvid: Lies, Inc. is largely the fast tale The Unteleported guy with an incoherently inconsistent acid journey narrative haphazardly tacked on within the very center of the book. I comprehend an addendum that expands after the unique story, that maintains the tale past the final bankruptcy of the 1st work, yet this is often an acid journey mess of writing compelled in among chapters! Plus, pages have been misplaced and after PKD's dying one other writer determined to jot down a few extra and fill within the massive, gaping plot holes. It does not paintings at all. It frustrates me that I acquired concerned with the story, puzzling over what might clarify the hugely secretive extraterrestrial colony on Whale's Mouth, basically to without notice be assaulted via a hundred pages of incoherent narrative that is not simply logically inconsistent

with the remainder of the ebook yet in direct distinction with all that i might learn before. The protagonist, Rachmael, is first on an 18-year lengthy solo trip to Whale's Mouth, then without warning he is being teleported there and studies an LSD trip, then simply as surprising he is again at the send again. No reason for this can be given. In hindsight I must have simply learn The Unteleported Man.

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