



Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

The Vanishing Hitchhiker: American Urban Legends And Their Meanings



Synopsis

The book that launched America's urban legend obsession! The Vanishing Hitchhiker was Professor Brunvand's first popular book on urban legends, and it remains a classic. The culmination of twenty years of collection and research, this book is a must-have for urban legend lovers.

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; Revised ed. edition (December 17, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0393951693

ISBN-13: 978-0393951691

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.7 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 26 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #93,480 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Humor &

Entertainment > Humor > Urban Legends #214 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social

Sciences > Folklore & Mythology #251 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Urban

Customer Reviews

"A uniquely entertaining book, edifying scholarship, diverting social history." A uniquely entertaining book, edifying scholarship, diverting social history. --Elaine Kendall"

Jan Harold Brunvand lives in Salt Lake City, where he is professor emeritus at the University of Utah. He is the author of numerous books, including The Vanishing Hitchhiker; The Choking Doberman; The Baby Train; Too Good to Be True; and Be Afraid, Be Very Afraid.

Let me begin by saying that I am not someone who enjoys reading. I was required to purchase this book for a class. With that said, I actually enjoyed reading this. It was interesting to see the variations on different urban legends, and even learn some new ones. There were several that I knew one form of, but did not realize had morphed from an earlier variation. The book is written as an informative piece, more like a textbook than a story. The chapters are set up to be for one or two legends each, and can include multiple variations of those legends. Each legend has an explanation of where it was first heard, and even what could be considered a historical reasoning for its existence. I found it interesting to follow the evolution of an urban legend through time. I would

recommend this book to anyone who enjoys horror stories or science fiction. This is more of a historical view of both, but you will realize that many films take these urban legends and twist them to fit their own plot. Very interesting book for a non reader. Pros: Informative. Interesting. Good separation of legend to legend. Cons: Sometimes too informational.

Jan Harold Brunvand's "The Vanishing Hitchhiker" is the first of several books he has published which take a scholarly look at Urban Legends. Where did these legends start, how have they evolved to fit a new time or situation. Urban Legends are interesting stories, as you will find people who are swear that they happened (usually not to them, but to a friend or a relation or a relation of a friend, etc.), and you can even find cases where they are reported as happening. They can be based on something which really happened, or something which never have happened, but regardless, their spread and retelling takes on a life and purpose of its own. The first chapter of the book deals with all the foundational information. What are "Urban Legends"? How should they be interpreted? Brunvand uses "The Boyfriend's Death" legend to help explain the phenomena and how they are studied. By far this is the most important chapter of the book, as this is then the material the reader will use on the majority of the rest of the book. Chapters 2 through 7 are all about the legends, broken into groupings such as Automobile, Teenage Horrors, Contaminations, the dead, kind of a catchall he titles "Dalliance, Nudity, and Nightmares, and then finally two favorite media legends. Chapter 8 then looks at urban legends in the making, where he looks at legends which never take off into the population as a whole (or haven't yet), or have gone into a period of inactivity, etc. This is a good introduction into the study of Urban Legends. My negatives are all on the writing style of the book, and not the content. The presentation could have been much more accessible and interesting. While that may not matter as far as the quality of the information is concerned, it would have helped bring more people to a point where they can appreciate the topic and the significance of studying these stories.

A fascinating exploration of the traditions involving vehicular folklore as well as the roots of newer American urban and traveling legends, with clear examples and specific versions of the legends given. Most, if not all, of the examples are clearly examined, analyzed, and considered, with explanations of meaning and significance included for consideration.

Easy to see how simple assumption or hearsay can become fact, truth, or in today's environment even law. Displays how truth and fiction can walk the same line and be reported as such.

I love this book. Its about how urban legends begin. I learned about some urban legends i never have heard before to.

I really liked the book, but thought that each story could've used a few less comparisons to other versions and could've used a few more other urban legends. Otherwise it was a really good read.

good book. like it alot. will try read again.

I was so happy when I received this book. It was in very good condition. So happy I bought it from here rather than paying for it at my school. Saved me so much money.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Vanishing Hitchhiker: American Urban Legends and Their Meanings A Beginner's Urban Survival Prepping Guide: Basic Urban Self Defense Guide And Survival Tips in the Prepping Urban Environment(The Prepper's Urban survival ... A Beginner's Urban Survival Prepping Baby Names : Unusual and Surprising baby names with their meanings (FREE BONUS): Baby Names : Baby names 2016 (Baby names, baby names book, baby names ... names and meanings, baby names book free,) Urban Homesteading: Become a Self Sustainable Urban Homesteader to Get off the Grid, Grow Food, and Free Yourself (Urban Homesteading: A Complete Guide ... a Self Sustainable Urban Homesteader) Tarot Card Meanings: The 72 Hour Crash Course And Absolute Beginner's Guide to Tarot Card Reading (Tarot Card Meanings, Tarot Cards, Fortune Telling, Wicca) Myths & Legends: An illustrated guide to their origins and meanings The Vanishing Girl (The Vanishing Girl Series Book 1) Astrology: The 12 Zodiac Signs: Their Traits, Their Meanings & The Nature of Your Soul (Astrology For Beginners, Zodiac Signs) VISIONS OF EDEN: ENVIROMENTALISM, URBAN PLANNING, AND CIT (URBAN LIFE & URBAN LANDSCAPE) Silent Sunflowers: A Balkan Memoir : Two American Artists and Their Search for Vanishing Folk Art The City Shaped: Urban Patterns and Meanings Through History American Photojournalism: Motivations and Meanings (Medill School of Journalism Visions of the American Press) Llewellyn's Complete Dictionary of Dreams: Over 1,000 Dream Symbols and Their Universal Meanings (Llewellyn's Complete Book Series) The Name Book: Over 10,000 Names - Their Meanings, Origins, and Spiritual Significance Auras:How to See Auras and Understand their Meanings (Auras, Chakras, Empath, Twin Flames Book 1) The Language of Flowers: 800 Flowers and Their Beautiful Timeless Meanings The Last Step (Legends & Lore edition): The American Ascent of K2 (Legends

and Lore) American Bloomsbury: Louisa May Alcott, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller,
Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Henry David Thoreau: Their Lives, Their Loves, Their Work American
Urban Form: A Representative History (Urban and Industrial Environments) Life, the Universe and
Everything (Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)