

Impossible Owls Essays

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On his intrinsic merits and interest, Jung deserves an essay rather than a tome. Is Carl Gustav Jung, the Swiss psychiatrist, of the company about whose lives we can afford to be spared no detail? I ...

Carl Jung: the Madame Blavatsky of psychotherapy
Mole insists that, as an owl, Owl is required to migrate by the first of April ... without which it would be impossible to approach the world realistically." Pogo taken as a single work (the daily ...

The Happy Place

Who? Where? 'It was the owl that shrieked, the fatal bellman / Which gives the stern'st good-night. He is about it.' At the

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moment of Duncan's death, Lady Macbeth hears an owl shrieking.

Use of language in Macbeth

It is impossible here to do more than suggest what Baldwin takes thousands of words to explain in his New Yorker essay. The first ... that "International night owls fill the Bahamas with merriment.

A Black Man Talks to The White World

Billy Hofer said he thought it was an owl, but it in no way suggested an ... face of the chasm to the river to drink. It seemed to me impossible. Would they try it while we were there to see?

Camping with President Theodore Roosevelt

Yeah, honey, I know something about talking with ghosts" "I've known of secret graves guarded by the night owl in oak & poplar" "I know ... This new book only makes the debate more impossible to ...

Everyday Mojo Letters to Yusef

Appalled by the contrast between her former "bright falcon" and the "barn owl" who turns up after five years ... extraordinary and unquestionable but at the same time almost impossible for him." ...

"Demons" at 150

While exalting the books of my professors, they never mentioning publication, making it seem impossible ... classes paid bills and fit my night-owl nature. I invented a method weaving my ...

What do mentors and protégés owe each other?

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As with any service industry, there are self-styled counselors out to make a quick buck with essay rewrites and impossible admissions ... Are you a night owl or an early riser?") ...

Your college cheat sheet

Latest special at Aldi', Caity captioned the video, jokingly adding the mission impossible theme tune to compliment the rat's upward plight. She told Daily Mail Australia an Aldi employee had ...

Disgusting moment enormous RAT is spotted climbing up a shelf inside an Aldi supermarket as shoppers walk nearby

If illustrations are so important in the modern publication,—and to do with-out them would seem well-nigh impossible,—how ... unless it might be a moth-eaten owl, a plethoric paper wasps ...

If Public Libraries, Why Not Public Museums?

Broken Fevers, Tenea D. Johnson (Rosarium 978-1732638853, \$14.95, 272pp, tp) March 2021. Tenea D. Johnson's Broken Fevers is a wildly imaginative short story collection that tackles some important ...

Short Fiction

New highly realistic simulators, such as the £36m Gladiator, will allow US and UK pilots to face real-life scenarios that would be impossible or impractical in the real world. Typhoon pilots ...

Flying is just for wars says the RAF as they tell pilots to swap the skies for simulators

The first thing one notices, looking at the horror genre as it exists on HBO Max, is that there's an unusual level of genuine curation involved here. The overall scope of the

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service might not ...

The 50 Best Horror Movies on HBO Max Right Now

SEPs are patents that protect technology essential to a standard. It is impossible to manufacture standard-compliant products such as smartphones without using technologies covered by one or more ...

LG seeking patent lawsuits as source of cash

In fact, it is impossible to pack everything in one trip ... several varieties of kestrels and the magnificent forest eagle owl, along with a whole multitude of other birds.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER. SEMI-FINALIST FOR THE PEN/DIAMONSTEIN-SPIELVOGEL AWARD FOR ART OF THE ESSAY. One of Amazon, BuzzFeed, ELLE, Electric Literature and Pop Sugar's Best Books of 2018. Named one of the Best Books of October and Fall by Amazon, BuzzFeed, TIME, Vulture, The Millions and Vol. 1 Brooklyn. "Hilarious, nimble, and thoroughly illuminating." —Colson Whitehead, author of *The Underground Railroad* A globe-spanning, ambitious book of essays from one of the most enthralling storytellers in narrative nonfiction In his highly anticipated debut essay collection, *Impossible Owls*, Brian Phillips demonstrates why he's one of the most iconoclastic journalists of the digital age, beloved for his ambitious, off-kilter, meticulously reported essays that read like novels. The eight essays assembled here—five from Phillips's *Grantland* and MTV days, and three new pieces—go beyond simply chronicling some of the modern world's most uncanny, unbelievable, and spectacular oddities (though they do that, too). Researched for months and even years on end, they

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explore the interconnectedness of the globalized world, the consequences of history, the power of myth, and the ways people attempt to find meaning. He searches for tigers in India, and uncovers a multigenerational mystery involving an oil tycoon and his niece turned stepdaughter turned wife in the Oklahoma town where he grew up. Through each adventure, Phillips's remarkable voice becomes a character itself—full of verve, rich with offhanded humor, and revealing unexpected vulnerability. Dogged, self-aware, and radiating a contagious enthusiasm for his subjects, Phillips is an exhilarating guide to the confusion and wonder of the world today. If John Jeremiah Sullivan's *Pulphhead* was the last great collection of New Journalism from the print era, *Impossible Owls* is the first of the digital age.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER 'Hilarious, nimble, and thoroughly illuminating' Colson Whitehead, author of *The Underground Railroad* 'Recalls the work of John Jeremiah Sullivan and the late David Foster Wallace, with a dash of Janet Malcolm' *Vogue* From its opening journey into remote Alaska for the Iditarod Sled Dog Race, *IMPOSSIBLE OWLS* leads us on a kaleidoscopic exploration of contemporary reality. Brian Phillips takes us to a sumo tournament in Japan, the jungle in India, the studio of a great Russian animator, a royal tour of the Yukon Territory with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and into the weird heart of America. This exhilarating debut visits borders both real and imagined, and asks what it means, in our age, to travel to the end of the map.

'Hilarious, nimble and thoroughly illuminating' Colson Whitehead, author of *The Underground Railway* From its opening journey into remote Alaska for the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in Alaska, a quest that culminates on the frozen

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sea between the United States and Russia, Brian Phillips's *Impossible Owls* leads us on a kaleidoscopic exploration of contemporary reality. He takes us to a sumo tournament in Japan, where he becomes obsessed with the suicide of a famous writer; to the jungle in India, where he considers the intertwined histories of conservation movements and man-eating tigers; to the studio of a great Russian animator; to a royal tour of the Yukon Territory with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge; and into the weird heart of America, where he visits the gates of Area 51. Exhilarating, moving and insightful, this remarkable debut visits borders both real and imagined, and asks what it means, in our age, to travel to the end of the map.

A rollicking debut book of essays that takes readers on a trip through the muck of American myths that have settled in the desert of our country's underbelly. Early on July 16, 1945, Joshua Wheeler's great grandfather awoke to a flash, and then a long rumble: the world's first atomic blast filled the horizon north of his ranch in Alamogordo, New Mexico. Out on the range, the cattle had been bleached white by the fallout. *Acid West*, Wheeler's stunning debut collection of essays, is full of these mutated cows: vestiges of the Old West that have been transformed, suddenly and irrevocably, by innovation. Traversing the New Mexico landscape his family has called home for seven generations, Wheeler excavates and reexamines these oddities, assembling a cabinet of narrative curiosities: a man who steps from the stratosphere and free-falls to the desert; a treasure hunt for buried Atari video games; a village plagued by the legacy of atomic testing; a showdown between Billy the Kid and the author of *Ben-Hur*; a UFO festival during the paranoid Summer of Snowden. The radical evolution of American identity, from cowboys to drone warriors to space explorers, is

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a story rooted in southern New Mexico. *Acid West* illuminates this history, clawing at the bounds of genre to reveal a place that is, for better or worse, home. By turns intimate, absurd, and frightening, *Acid West* is an enlightening deep-dive into a prophetic desert at the bottom of America.

“Impishly witty and ingeniously irreverent” essays on topics from cell phones to librarians, by the author of *The Name of the Rose* and *Foucault’s Pendulum* (*The Atlantic Monthly*). A cosmopolitan curmudgeon the *Los Angeles Times* called “the Andy Rooney of academia”—known for both nonfiction and novels that have become blockbuster *New York Times* bestsellers—Umberto Eco takes readers on “a delightful romp through the absurdities of modern life” (*Publishers Weekly*) as he journeys around the world and into his own wildly adventurous mind. From the mundane details of getting around on Amtrak or in the back of a cab, to reflections on computer jargon and soccer fans, to more important issues like the effects of mass media and consumer civilization—not to mention the challenges of trying to refrigerate an expensive piece of fish at an English hotel—this renowned writer, semiotician, and philosopher provides “an uncanny combination of the profound and the profane” (*San Francisco Chronicle*). “Eco entertains with his clever reflections and with his unique persona.” —*Kirkus Reviews* Translated from the Italian by William Weaver

A *New York Times* Notable Book for 2011 One of *Entertainment Weekly’s* Top 10 Nonfiction Books of the Year 2011 A *Time Magazine* Top 10 Nonfiction book of 2011 A *Boston Globe* Best Nonfiction Book of 2011 One of *Library Journal’s* Best Books of 2011 A sharp-eyed, uniquely humane

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tour of America's cultural landscape—from high to low to lower than low—by the award-winning young star of the literary nonfiction world. In *Pulphed*, John Jeremiah Sullivan takes us on an exhilarating tour of our popular, unpopular, and at times completely forgotten culture. Simultaneously channeling the gonzo energy of Hunter S. Thompson and the wit and insight of Joan Didion, Sullivan shows us—with a laidback, erudite Southern charm that's all his own—how we really (no, really) live now. In his native Kentucky, Sullivan introduces us to Constantine Rafinesque, a nineteenth-century polymath genius who concocted a dense, fantastical prehistory of the New World. Back in modern times, Sullivan takes us to the Ozarks for a Christian rock festival; to Florida to meet the alumni and straggling refugees of MTV's *Real World*, who've generated their own self-perpetuating economy of minor celebrity; and all across the South on the trail of the blues. He takes us to Indiana to investigate the formative years of Michael Jackson and Axl Rose and then to the Gulf Coast in the wake of Katrina—and back again as its residents confront the BP oil spill. Gradually, a unifying narrative emerges, a story about this country that we've never heard told this way. It's like a fun-house hall-of-mirrors tour: Sullivan shows us who we are in ways we've never imagined to be true. Of course we don't know whether to laugh or cry when faced with this reflection—it's our inevitable sob-guffaws that attest to the power of Sullivan's work.

Inspired by the author's own experience, this is “a beautiful love story, and an extraordinary story of loss” (Colm Tóibín). In 2005, celebrated novelist Francisco Goldman married Aura Estrada at a Mexican hacienda. More than twenty years his junior, Aura was a gifted young writer on the cusp of her own brilliant career, and the two were deeply in love. Then, a month before their second anniversary, Aura broke her neck

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bodysurfing while they were on vacation. Goldman was blamed by Aura's family—and crippled by his own grief and self-recrimination. In the aftermath of the accident, he wrote *Say Her Name*, pouring his feelings of love and unspeakable loss into a fictionalized account of their brief time together. Hungry to keep Aura alive in his memory, Goldman collects everything he can about his dead wife. From her childhood and university days in Mexico City with her fiercely devoted mother to her studies at Columbia University, through the couple's time in New York City and travels to Mexico and Europe, Goldman seeks her essence and grieves her loss, using the writings she left behind as his prism. Filled with "propulsive drama" (*The Boston Globe*), *Say Her Name* is a tribute to Aura, who she was and who she would've been, that "will transport you into the most primal joy in the human repertoire—the joy of loving" (*San Francisco Chronicle*).

In an hilarious novel set on an overland journey across Turkey, the narrator encounters sorcerers, cops, and southern evangelists as she and her companion travel from Istanbul to Trebizond on a tourist adventure that quickly runs afoul of an ancient and sometimes unbendable culture. Reprint.

Past compunction, expressly unbeholden, these twenty-four single-subject essays train focus on a startling miscellany of topics - Foot Washing, Dossiers, Br'er Rabbit, Housesitting, Man Roulette, the Locus Amoenus - that begin to unpack the essayist himself and his life's rotating concerns: sex and sexuality, poetry and poetics, subject positions in American labor (not excluding academia), and his upbringing in working-class, Primitive Baptist, central-piedmont North Carolina. In *Proxies* an original constraint, a "total suppression of recourse to authoritative sources," engineers Brian

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Blanchfield's disarming mode of independent intellection. The "repeatable experiment" to draw only from what he knows, estimates, remembers, and misremembers about the subject at hand often opens onto an unusually candid assessment of self and situation. The project's driving impulse, courting error, peculiar in an era of crowd-sourced Wiki-knowledge, is at least as old as the one Montaigne had when, putting all the books back on the shelf, he asked, "What do I know?"

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