

The Dream Life of Astronauts: Stories (Paperback)

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Reviews

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THE DREAM LIFE OF ASTRONAUTS: STORIES (PAPERBACK)



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Dial Press, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Reprint. Language: English . Brand New Book. For readers of Tom Perrotta and Lorrie Moore, these nine unforgettable stories, all set in and around Cape Canaveral, showcase Patrick Ryan s masterly understanding of regret and hope, relationships and family, and the universal longing for love. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY St. Louis Post Dispatch - Refinery 29 - Electric Literature The Dream Life of Astronauts balances heartbreak with wry humor as its characters try to make sense of the paths they find themselves on. A would-be Miss America auditions for a shady local talent scout over vodka and Sunny D; a NASA engineer begins to wonder if the woman he s having an affair with is slowly poisoning her husband; a Boy Scout troop leader, recovering from a stroke, tries to protect one of his scouts from being bullied by his own sons; an ex-mobster living in witness protection feuds with the busybody head of his condo board; a grandmother, sentenced to driver s ed after a traffic accident, surprises herself by falling for her instructor. Set against landmark moments--the first moon launch, Watergate, the Challenger explosion--these private dramas unfurl in startling ways. The Dream Life of Astronauts ratifies the emergence of an indelible new talent in fiction. Praise for The Dream Life of Astronauts [Ryan] displays a gift for excavating the dashed hopes and yearnings that lie beneath. He is especially adept at capturing the point of view of children, with a Salingeresque understanding of their alienation, their vulnerability, their keen powers of observation. --Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times Quietly commanding . . . A wry and smart collection--a beam of intelligent life from an author who clearly likes to probe the outer edges of the familiar....

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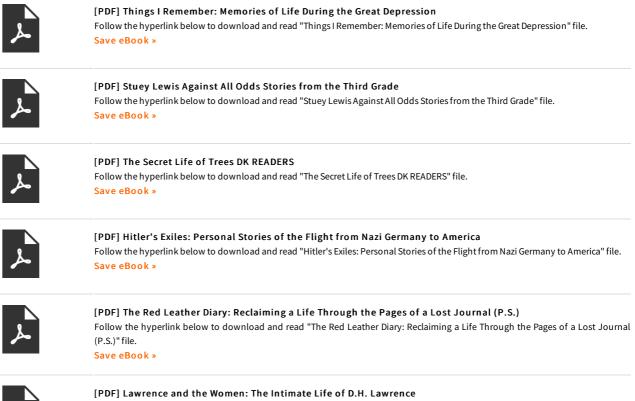
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