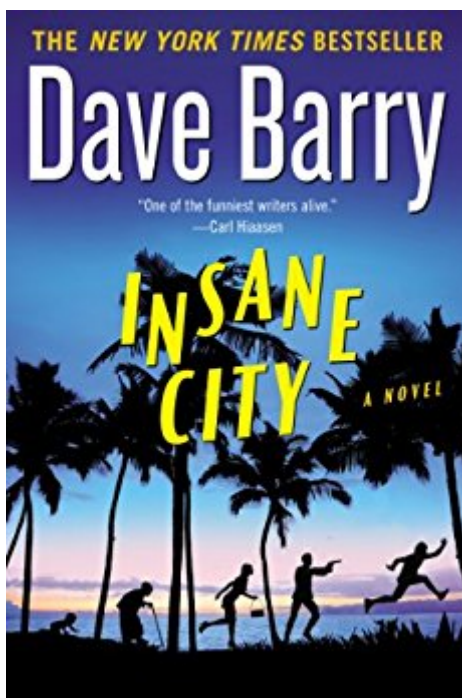


The book was found

Insane City



Synopsis

Seth Weinstein always knew Tina was way, way, way out of his league. Which is why he's still astonished that he's on a plane heading for their wedding in Florida. The Groom Posse has already pulled an airport prank on him "and he survived! It should be easy going from now on. But Seth has absolutely no idea what he's about to get into. A simple drink or two with the boys sparks a series of events that will pit Seth and his friends against everything and everyone imaginable, from his very powerful, very disapproving soon-to-be father-in-law to the federal government to a love-struck orangutan. Seth's hope for smooth sailing is turning into a trip on the Titanic. And the water is getting deeper by the minute |From the Trade Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Insane City is the first Dave Barry novel I've read, and I was delighted with his humor and style. The title is more than apt, and the twists and turns of the plot are, as the title foreshadows, insane. As the story unfolded, I found myself morphing from smiling wryly to laughing out loud as I tried to guess where this story was headed next. I never did get it right. Barry taps his private cellar of zany ideas to take the reader down pathways other writers can't begin to imagine. Even when he signals

where things might go next,; they don't, with hysterical results. This saga of a dream wedding gone wrong could be savored in one or two intensive reading sessions, but I read it over several days, and the structure of many short, funny chapters helped me to savor a couple at a time, like a degustation at a fine restaurant. Either way, *Insane City* is worth the effort.

I lived in the Keys for a long time and Miami is indeed an insane city, and Dave Barry is one of its treasures. I mean, he won a Pulitzer as a HUMOR writer - of COURSE this is a great read! I didn't get as many out-loud laughs as I have from some of his other work (including his years of weekly columns for the Miami Herald, which was the biggest reason I bought the Herald every Sunday), but the out-loud laughs are definitely there, and there was at least one time in this book when I found myself laughing so hard I couldn't read and had to put the book down for a couple of minutes and collect myself. As implausible as the plot may seem, remember - this is Miami and anything can and does happen there and once again, Dave Barry nails it.

This book has everything, humor (nobody is better than Dave Barry at making people laugh), drugs, booze, very bad decisions, terrible mistakes, problems that keep growing and getting worse, people who are desperate (life or death desperate), evil people, extremely evil people, good people, extremely kind people, extreme wealth, extreme poverty, and a man who is not sure what he wants but he is figuring it out. All this is in the first 81 pages of a 385 page book. I decided to write this review before I finished reading it because I don't want to give away the ending so it's better that I know nothing about it. I can only tell you the ending is impossible to predict. I can also tell you that you absolutely must buy this book. It's priceless, even better than *Lunatics* because it has a serious side to it. I have read virtually every book Mr. Barry has written. This is his best, his masterpiece. I don't make things up. You have to buy this book.

A hilarious Barry journey through a bizarre wedding and all the events that occur around that wedding. The audio version is really fun to listen to. It is bawdy in parts, but the bawdiness is not intended to be sexual per se, but more done to add to the humor of the situation. If you do the audio version, best not to have your kids around. If you need a little laughter for your health, this is fantastic medicine.

Loved, loved, loved reading Dave Barry in my newspaper back in his syndicated days. The story of his Colonoscopy was hysterical. I also read his last novel, can't recall the title and it was just ok.

They also made an ok movie from it. This book is just silly. I guess that alone would be appreciated by some. I gave up after 4 or 5 chapters as I got tired of the method of piling one ridiculous event on another. It seems that he is just attempting to replicate the style of one of my ATFs, Carl Hiassen. For me, it just doesn't work. The same goes for Lunatics, a book he co-wrote with Alan Zweibel. Just too silly to read the entire book. I wish he would return to writing columns for the newspaper. I have never read anything as funny in the paper since he quit that.

Dave Barry wrote a satirical piece about South FL that was published in the Wall St. Journal. After reading it, I had to experience more from his mind. It's obvious that Dave loves South Florida and his wit and sarcasm can only come from his love of the area. In his book *Insane City*, we are introduced to a couple who are getting married in Miami, FL. They are as mismatched as one could expect; she from wealth, he from nothing. She a lawyer, he something less (sorry I forgot). The wedding will involve his three best friends, his poor elderly parents, her wealthy parents, politicians, siblings, body guards, orangutan (yes, that is correct), immigration issues, and wealthy guests. Mix them all together and you have one hilarious read. If you like satire mixed with non-stop shenanigans, read this book.

Barry Dave has made a fortune making snide remarks about just about everything. I love his easy and friendly sense of humor. "*Insane City*" is one of handful of the million or so books that Barry Dave has written which is fiction. On one hand, it's good that Barry Dave is expanding into new modes of expression. On the other hand, he's not good at it. This is a pointless book. The protagonist Seth is about to marry the woman of his dreams, and the woman he shouldn't marry. It takes a stripper, a family of Haitian refugees, a snake charmer, and an ape to convince him to come to his senses. It's an interesting premise, but the characters are so lame and the writing is so hackneyed it's difficult to actually get interested.

Just when you think it can't get any more outrageous, that the characters can't be any more immature or offbeat or self-centered, of course they can. Add a lovable orangutang and a main character who can do no right except when the chips are down, and you get hi jinks at their warmest.

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