



Fraud: Essays

David Rakoff

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A frequent contributor to the *New York Times* magazine, *Outside*, *Salon*, and *GQ*, and a regular on Public Radio International's "This American Life," David Rakoff's debut collection of essays is simultaneously laugh-out-loud funny and take-your-breath-away poignant.

David Rakoff is a fish out of water. Whether he finds himself on assignment climbing Mount Monadnock in New Hampshire — donning a pair of Timberlands for his trek, only to realize with horror that "the shoes I wouldn't be caught dead in might actually turn out to be the shoes I am caught dead in." — sitting quietly impersonating Sigmund Freud in a department store window...for a month, or musing on the unique predicament of being undetectably Canadian in New York City ("...what's more spicy than being Canadian, I ask you?"), Rakoff has a gift for exposing life's humour and pathos. *Fraud* takes us places even we didn't know we wanted to go: expeditions as varied as a search for elves in Iceland, a foray into soap opera acting, or contemplating the gin-soaked olive at the bottom of a martini glass.

With the sharpest of eyes, David Rakoff explores the odd and ordinary events of life, spotting what is unique, funny and absurd in the world around him. But for all its razor-sharp wit and snarky humor, *Fraud* is also, ultimately, an object lesson in not taking life, or oneself, too seriously.

The edition includes an excerpt from David Rakoff's *Love, Dishonor, Marry, Die, Cherish, Perish*.

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