



Our Magnificent Bastard Tongue: The Untold History of English

By John McWhorter

Gotham Books. Paperback / softback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Our Magnificent Bastard Tongue: The Untold History of English, John McWhorter, A survey of the quirks and quandaries of the English language, focusing on our strange and wonderful grammar Why do we say al am reading a cataloga instead of al read a cataloga? Why do we say adoa at all? Is the way we speak a reflection of our cultural values? Delving into these provocative topics and more, "Our Magnificent Bastard Language" distills hundreds of years of fascinating lore into one lively history. Covering such turning points as the little-known Celtic and Welsh influences on English, the impact of the Viking raids and the Norman Conquest, and the Germanic invasions that started it all during the fifth century ad, John McWhorter narrates this colorful evolution with vigor. Drawing on revolutionary genetic and linguistic research as well as a cache of remarkable trivia about the origins of English words and syntax patterns, "Our Magnificent Bastard Tongue" ultimately demonstrates the arbitrary, maddening nature of Englisha and its ironic simplicity due to its role as a streamlined lingua franca during the early formation of Britain. This is the book that language aficionados...



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