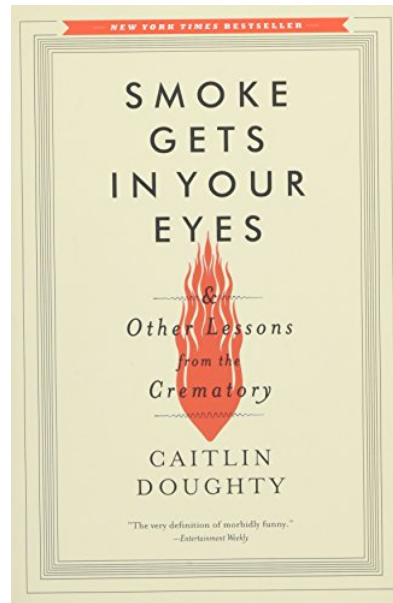


[GET] Smoke Gets in Your Eyes: And Other Lessons from the Crematory



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Armed with a degree in medieval history and a flair for the macabre Caitlin Doughty took a job at a crematory and turned a fascination with death into her life's work. She cared for bodies of every color, shape, and affliction and became an intrepid explorer in the world of the dead. In this best-selling memoir brimming with gallows humor and vivid characters, she marvels at the gruesome history of undertaking and relates her unique coming-of-age story with bold curiosity and mordant wit. By turns hilarious, dark, and uplifting, *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes* reveals how the fear of dying warps our society and will make you reconsider how our culture treats the dead. *San Francisco Chronicle* Book jacket: Most people want to avoid thinking about death, but Caitlin Doughty, a twenty-something with a degree in medieval history and a flair for the macabre, took a job at a crematory, turning morbid curiosity into her life's work. Thrown into a profession of gallows humor and vivid characters, both living and very dead, Caitlin learned to navigate the secretive culture of those who care for the deceased. *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes* tells an unusual coming-of-age story full of bizarre encounters and unforgettable scenes. Caring for dead bodies of every color, shape, and affliction, Caitlin soon becomes an intrepid explorer in the world of the dead. She describes how she swept ashes from the machines and sometimes onto her clothes and reveals the strange history of cremation and undertaking, marveling at bizarre and wonderful funeral practices from different cultures. Her eye-opening, candid, and often hilarious story is like going on a journey with your bravest friend to the cemetery at midnight. She demystifies death, leading us behind the black curtain of her unique profession. And she answers questions you didn't know you had: Can you catch a disease from a corpse? How many dead bodies can you fit in a Dodge van? What exactly does a flaming skull look like? Honest and heart-

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