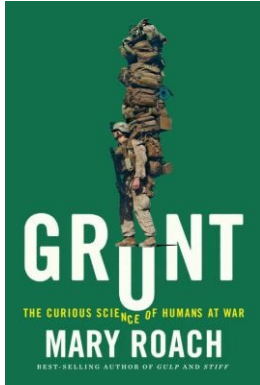


Lillie M. Evans Library District Book Club

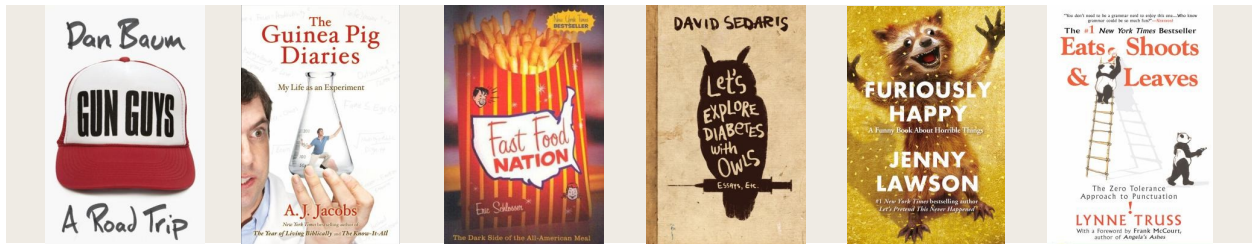
July 31, 2017

Biography:



Mary Roach is an American author, specializing in popular science. Roach was raised in Etna, New Hampshire. She received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Wesleyan University in 1981. After college, Roach moved to San Francisco and spent a few years working as a freelance copy editor. She worked as a columnist and also worked in public relations for a brief time. Her writing career began while working part-time at the San Francisco Zoological Society, producing press releases on topics such as elephant wart surgery. She is known for her humorous, first-person essays and feature articles for such publications as *Vogue*, *GQ*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Discover Magazine*, *National Geographic*, *Outside Magazine*, and *Wired*. In addition to *Grunt*, she has published five books: *Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers* (2003), *Spook: Science Tackles the Afterlife* (2005), *Bonk: The Curious Coupling of Science and Sex* (2008), *Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void* (2010), and *Gulp: Adventures on the Alimentary Canal* (2013). (Adapted from <http://www.litlovers.com>)

Similar Resources:



Discussion Questions:

1. What is the central idea discussed in the book? Does this differ from what you expected?
2. What evidence does the author use to support the book? Is the evidence convincing...definitive or...speculative?
3. Was the author's writing style appropriate? Does the style help or undercut the author's premise?
4. Talk about specific passages that struck you as significant—or interesting, profound, amusing, illuminating, disturbing, sad...? What was memorable?
5. What have you learned after reading this book?
6. What did you like about the book? What did you not like? (Adapted from <http://www.litlovers.com/run-a-book-club/questions-for-nonfiction>)