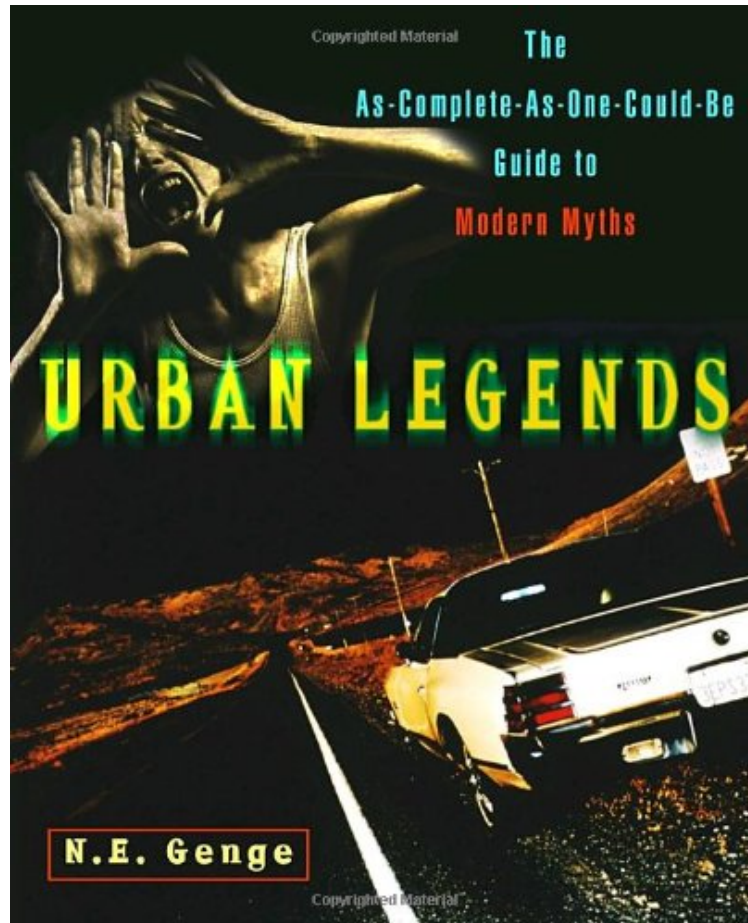


(Download ebook) Urban Legends: The As-Complete-As-One-Could-Be Guide to Modern Myths

## Urban Legends: The As-Complete-As-One-Could-Be Guide to Modern Myths

*Ngairé E. Genge*

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**Ngairé E. Genge : Urban Legends: The As-Complete-As-One-Could-Be Guide to Modern Myths** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Urban Legends: The As-Complete-As-One-Could-Be Guide to Modern Myths:

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Packed with info but abysmally written. By Pat McDougall If ever a book cried out for a competent editor, this is the one. It's rife with misspellings, typos and incredibly obtuse prose. While it does fulfill its stated purpose of being a compendium of both classic and contemporary urban legends, it's an exhausting read because of its startling lack of polish. And if you find you're interested in learning whether or not a particular legend is true or even based in truth, I hope you're the patient type: the author often waits several pages before deciding to comment on the veracity of a story, sometimes saving up multiple stories and commenting on them collectively. That's when she chooses to weigh in on a tale's truthfulness at all, mind you. There are definitely better

titles in this genre, not to mention the great Web sites covering the same territory. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Its pretty good  
By A Customer  
Yes there are a few Urban Legends books out there now many taking advantage of the movie. Brunvand has been writing books on Urban Legends way before the movie and new interest in the topic ever came up, this book is can't compare to his but its not too bad its updated has new stories and legends. The other reviewer said this info is taken off the Urban Legends Reference Pages which may be true but it doesnt necessarily make it a bad book. Not everyone has access to a computer and/or the internet and not everyone knows about the best urban legends webpage either so this book is handy to take with you and share these fun and interesting urban legends with your friends.  
5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Great topic, horrible execution.  
By Daniel V. Reilly  
The worst sin a book about Urban Legends could commit is to confuse the reader about what is fact, and what is fiction. This book does that time after time. The author hops around between Urban Legend and the truth that may have inspired it, and the writing is so poor that you can't keep track of what's what. The book is also filled with nonsensical run-on sentences; I often had to go back and reread certain sentences 3 or 4 times before just giving up. This book looks and reads like someone published it from their basement. N.E. Genge goes on my list of "Must-NOT-Read" Authors. People interested in a well-done book on the same topic should start with Paradox Press' excellent "Big Book of Urban Legends".

Urban Legends is a remarkably complete collection of the modern myths that make the rounds in offices, college dorms, and every other place where people tell the stories that spring from our deepest fears and fascinations. Every culture has its folktales including ours. Except, instead of involving gods and goddesses or princes and princesses, ours involve "some guy my sister's best friend knows" or "someone who woke up in a motel room." They happened, supposedly, to real people, usually recently, in a particular place. And they touch the most sensitive nerves of our psyches with ironic twists, gross-out shocks, and moral lessons learned the hard way. From the classic tale "The Mexican Pet" in which the "dog" turns out to be no Chihuahua to the more unappetizing story of condoms as fast-food burger garnish, from surgically skilled kidney thieves to sexual experiments that end in the emergency room, Urban Legends relates more 300 of the most enticing, macabre, and unforgettable tales. Expertly told, they are arranged in such chapters as "Crazy Little Thang Called Sex," "Oh, Scare Me," "Campus Capers," "Corporate Convolutions," and "So Much For Comfort Food." Fascinating, chilling, and occasionally repulsive, Urban Legends has all your favorites and hundreds more.

From Library Journal  
Verbally transmitted stories that have influenced history, beliefs, morals, and humor, folktales usually derive from a retelling by a "friend-of-a-friend" through which the tale has become accepted as fact. In the past half-century, the study of these brief vignettes--which range in theme from animal horror stories to accidents, business and professional events, and pranks--has achieved academic status. These two anthologies recount legends from the oral American tradition, using classic and contemporary sources. Brunvand, the unchallenged master of narratives that incorporate the absurdities and fears of modern urban life, adds another tome to his impressive collections of urban tales and humor. Along with more esoteric entries, familiar nuggets of oral fiction are included, such as title pieces from "The Mexican Pet" and "The Vanishing Hitchhiker." Equally valuable is Canadian raconteur Genge's anthology. His work is a remarkable collection of myths that make the rounds in offices, college dorms, and wherever people swap stories that spring from our deepest fears and fascinations. Including tales like "Scare Me!" and "Corporate Convulsions," these legends have appeared in the popular press and circulated via photocopies, faxes, and computer links. Well crafted and riveting, these anthologies are essential to Americana collections. Recommended for all libraries.  
-Richard K. Burns, MSLS, Hatboro, PA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.  
From Booklist  
Here's a thorough, enlightening, entertaining look at urban legends: those sounds-too-good-to-be-true stories that always seem to happen to a friend of a friend. Genge, who's also written books about the television series The X-Files and Buffy the Vampire Slayer, has put together a collection of the familiar (the "Mexican pet" that is not quite a dog) and the little known (footage of a wedding reveals the father of the groom picking the father of the bride's pocket). She also debunks some myths that aren't quite urban legends, e.g., the common belief that the suicide rate is higher during the Christmas season (in fact, Genge says, it's lower). Best of all, she reveals that some so-called urban legends are in fact true stories. The book could use an index--it's tough to find a specific story if you happen to be looking for it--but it's otherwise a fine addition to the urban-legend literature.  
David Pitt  
From the Inside Flap  
Urban Legends is a remarkably complete collection of the modern myths that make the rounds in offices, college dorms, and every other place where people tell the stories that spring from our deepest fears and fascinations. Every culture has its folktales including ours. Except, instead of involving gods and goddesses or princes and princesses, ours involve "some guy my sister's best friend knows" or "someone who woke up in a motel room." They happened, supposedly, to real people, usually recently, in a particular place. And they touch the most sensitive nerves of our psyches with ironic twists, gross-out shocks, and moral lessons learned the hard way. From the classic tale "The Mexican Pet" in which the "dog" turns out to be no Chihuahua to the more unappetizing story of condoms as fast-food burger garnish, from surgically skilled kidney thieves to sexual experiments that end in the emergency room, Urban Legends relates more 300 of the

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