



Book of Secrets

Thomas Eaton , Patrick Humphries , Lloyd Bradley , Charlotte Williamson , Emma Hooley

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"Three may keep a secret, if two of them are dead."

Did you know Pope John VIII was actually a woman? Or that the U.S. Government smashed a bacteria-laden lightbulb in a New York subway station in 1966 to see how long it would take to travel throughout the entire system? You will after reading the *Book of Secrets*. Everybody loves secrets and the world is full of them. And now the most interesting secrets are unleashed in *Book of Secrets*. Full of fascinating facts, this is one read you won't be able to put down!

The clandestine, the covert, the surreptitious, furtive, and hush-hush are all revealed. Government secrets, religious secrets, food secrets, economic secrets, sexual secrets, secret societies, secret recipes-they're all in here.

Within the pages of this book, one can find practical secrets revealed, such as how to guarantee a better seat on an airplane and how to win friends and influence people. *Book of Secrets* also contains some not-so-practical tidbits (all the more intriguing) such as famous American members of the Freemasons.

Each book is bound with an irresistible black leatherette flexicover with ribbon marker.

Book of Secrets Details

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From Reader Review Book of Secrets for online ebook

Richard Brownell says

This cute little book isn't as much a hoard of secrets as a collection of trivia. A lot of it is fun and interesting. Some of it is dull and there is no method to the ordering. As another reviewer on goodreads mentioned, it's best for picking up, reading a "secret," and then putting down until later.

The worst thing I can say about it is that some of the secrets are factually incorrect. They weren't common, from what I could tell, but some of the food facts in particular were urban legends or simply incorrect.

My favorite secrets are things lost to time. Catacombs, abandoned subway stations. I would rather read about those than dating tips or finding the best husband. In fact, pictures would have really enhanced the sections of those hidden places.

Karen-Leigh says

Tidbits of unknown information...like who is legally allowed to spy, where unused subway tunnels are in New York, where Queen Boudica is buried, how to cook rice, the last person to die in the Tower of London, secrets of eggs etc. Interesting trivia.

Jared Anderson says

So this book was okay. I would've given it three stars but I feel like the book was misrepresented. What started as secret tunnels under New York and Paris turned into secrets for flirting. While some info was intriguing, it seemed a bit contrived. Every other entry belonged more in a gas station advice pamphlet. Does such a thing exist? Well, it does now.

Brad says

The Book of Secrets should really be called The Book of Little Known Facts and a Couple of Secrets. But that little bit of obfuscation shouldn't keep you away from the fun of its obscure and trivial information.

Sure the choice of information is arbitrary (from hidden or closed New York Subway stations to the Victorian meanings of flowers) and occasionally mundane (like the secrets of eggs), but it is always interesting and often sends an avid thinker or seeker down a new path to knowledge.

Don't expect anything more than a fun distraction from The Book of Secrets and you will enjoy your time thoroughly -- especially if you do what I did and only read it when you're brushing your teeth.

Sharakael says

Lots of random trivia in this book, some of which you would have heard, and others which would surprise you. Quite an enjoyable read just to pass time, since you can always pick it up and open a random page.

Christie says

This is one of those books that I keep on hand to read if I am stuck in traffic or waiting for anything. It is 4in X 4in so it fits in a purse. It is just filled with little tidbits that I hope one of these days a piece of this useless information will help me win a nerd quiz. ;)

I enjoyed it and it was a quick read. I also picked it up for myself from ThinkGeek.

Julian says

Good and distracting. Lots of trivia points. Great for a quick burst of fun in the middle of everything else!

Kristine Anderson says

It's a good book filled with things that nobody would have thought to or wanted to share with you. Trust when I say EVERYONE should read this book. You'll find out things that you never thought of even looking up or even how to look up. Enjoy.

Jenine Young says

A small book of "secrets" that is fun to peruse. The secrets range from how to tell the freshness of an egg to the world's oldest face cream and back to how to make a great first impression.

A fun conversation starter or stocking stuffer.

Stephanie says

Book of Secrets provides an interesting little diversion into little-known facts of history, from the mundane ("The many secrets of eggs" and the different abandoned New York subway stations) to the more secretive, like the locations of different MI6/MI5 buildings and headquarters.

It is a light read, not only because of its small pocket-size, but also because all the factoids are very succinct and self-contained. Good for having something random to read in the minute or two before going to bed, or even while in the bathroom. I enjoyed the little facts and found them rather interesting (some more than

others), and even the sporadic quotes from famous people as well.

I do rather wish it offered a list of sources, so I could look further into some of the revelations in the book, but alas, all those sources would likely take up more space than all the facts in this book.

G. Branden says

On the downside, this brief title cites no sources, and some of the secrets it cites are either unsurprising or would already be known to a sufficiently curious and geeky person (like the existence of ECHELON, or the "secret" [really "unpublished"] daily flight from Miami International to Havana).

On the upside, there is some interesting information, particularly about New York City's decommissioned subway stations (the one at City Hall is particularly fascinating, and it is something of a crime that this site is not open to the public).

There is also a surprising proportion of the volume given over to the preparation of eggs in cooking. I'm not sure how "secret" this material is.

And it's cheap.

And it's a fast read.

Book of Secrets II should be drawn from material released by Wikileaks, Cryptome, and similar sites.

Jesse says

An excellent pocket-sized tome. It's full of short blurbs of random information such as how to make chicken like the Colonel, decommissioned train stations, and some handy dating tips. Other articles were vaguely more disturbing like how our email is being monitored. All in all a very fun and easy read.

Richard says

Four stars for sheer portability...

I got this book on an impulse. It was reasonably priced when I was ordering other stuff from 'Think Geek', so I decided to treat myself (heck, you can never have too many books right!)

Its a tiny book, not much more than a couple of inches along each side, which means you can literally carry it in your back pocket and not even worry about it getting bent out of shape.

The premise of the book is to share some of the secrets about the world around you. However, if I was going to have a criticism then it would be that some of these secrets are anything but.

For instance, the big secret that there is a massive particle accelerator below the French/Swiss border called

the Large Hadron Collider. IT was never a secret, but for the last 6 months its been one of the biggest stories in the world (second only to Obama's victory to me).

But the pace is good, with each vignette only taking a few minutes to read. So, if you like portable reading then this book will hit the spot.

Kristen says

This book told me about four secret unused NY subway stations, how to make KFC's fried chicken, why the government smashed a light bulb full of bacteria in a subway in 1966, and all about the daily commercial flight from the US to Cuba. Fascinating and fun!

Stacy says

Cute small book with a plethora of "secrets". Some are more well-known than others. I am not sure of the veracity of any of the "facts" presented, but it's a fun read. This would be a great wee little stocking stuffer for a teen or young adult, or anyone who likes little factoids.
