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Taxi Driver Wisdom: 20th Anniversary Edition



Synopsis

Real taxi drivers know more than how to get you there without a GPS. Philosophers all, they know how to get you there in life. This 20th anniversary edition of the wise and hilarious classic, as true now as ever, is a celebration of the witty, philosophical perspective on human nature culled from real quotations from real cab drivers who've been around the block. On reading the signs: "If a man keeps telling you he loves you, over and over, then something is wrong." On vanity economics: "The worse a town's economy is, the better looking the guys who work at the local gas station are." Evocative black and white photos and a cab-dash padded cover with taxi-yellow page edges showcases the wisdom in style.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Risa Mickenberg writes for theater, television, and film. She lives in New York City.

Good book. Funny insights on life. And the seller was great.

Great conversation piece for the coffee table! It always sparks fun conversations.

Very simple advice. Nothing complicated.

I was expecting more, or at least, something more expansive than what is presented as "wisdom" in this book. The purported wisdoms are rather trite utterances, based on each driver's very real

experiences, I am sure. However, a reader should expect to gain some insight from these opinions. In that regard, one will be disappointed. Taxi drivers are not philosophers. Although some might think so. Certainly, a taxi driver with many years of experience, can and often does obtain certain insights into the human condition. That said, I got the impression this collection of "insights" was written for taxi drivers themselves. The hard cover edition is a nice little pocket-sized tome that can slip conveniently into a pocket, a purse, or into a glove compartment; to be easily accessed for easy comprehension. Taxi drivers might like this book, because it may provide some entertainment or distraction when out there hustling rides in the street; but to the average reader, particularly those who have read philosophy, this little volume will be a letdown. There are better, more insightful books written by taxi drivers that a reader can enjoy. I'm sorry. This book is not one of them.

Made an old cab driver smile.

Yep, good book. Just bought it for my mom after reading it myself. Most books in this genre are bunk, little more than trite and tired feelgood slogans pasted together with artsy black and white pictures. TAXI DRIVER WISDOM has its share of B&W photos; however, unlike most "coffeetable" books, the pictures aren't contrived props to accompany crappy prose. I must admit I am a biased reviewer, as I'm currently a full-time taxi driver. Just thought it odd that none of the reviews are written by any of my colleagues; figured at least half of the reviews would be from cabbies. Anyhoo, read the book and enjoy, and refer it to your friends. And if your in your mid-twenties and looking for a fun way to kill a year or two while making a decent living, consider driving a cab. It beats working on an Alaskan fishing boat, and it's just as dangerous! I got a degree from a fancy university, but have learned more in the past year on this job (paying off student loans) than I ever did in an ivory tower. Of course I'm still gonna go to grad school, but at least right now I get a car for 12 hours a day...Hats off to the authors, Risa and Joanne. Many safe fares to you both. - Ted, driver for "Friendly Cab" Sacramento, CA Favorite quote from book - "Old people... they like to get to the airport early." So true.

There are some basic questions everyone asks in life-- Who am I? Why are things the way they are? What is the meaning of life? What's the best way from Washington Square to West 73rd Street, and how much will it cost? In Taxi Driver Wisdom, Risa Mickenberg finds the answers to all of these questions at once, in the interaction between cabdriver and fare. Cleverly framed by hack licenses depicting Freud and Nietzsche and expertly illustrated with Joanne Dugan's tasteful

roadway photographs, this book encompasses the breadth and scope of human experience while streaking up Broadway in time for a lunch meeting. Economic theory-- "We are all born poor." Aging-- "Old people, they like to get to the airport early." And time and space-- "Vietnam War is finished but Sixth Avenue construction is never finished." All told, a fantastic work, both thought-provoking and amusing, and an excellent addition to any nightstand or corporate desk.

Taxi Driver Wisdom in itself may be an oxymoron, however as a taxi driver myself, I found it to be funny and thought provoking, and lacking in some of the more baser universal truths. I drive a taxi in Toledo Ohio. The Glass City is not New York, but we do have our share of people who do give you a unique outlook on life. Recently, I began asking myself exactly WHY I do this instead of going to Law School. The plain and simple answer is..."No two days are exactly alike". That is the lure of cab driving; Every day presents a new set of challenges and problems that must be dealt with. Taxi Driver Wisdom is a cute book. I highly recommend it to anyone who has ever rode in, or driven a cab. But, dont expect EVERY cab driver to impart wisdom on demand. There are some out there who would have trouble finding thier [behind] with both hands.

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