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Panati's Extraordinary Origins of Everyday Things (Audio Cassette)

by [Charles Panati](#) (Author)
(13 customer reviews)

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Audio Cassette

Publisher: HarperCollins Canada / Audio (Mar 1 1991)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1559943475

ISBN-13: 978-1559943475

Product Dimensions: 18 x 11.7 x 2.3 cm

Shipping Weight: 73 g

Average Customer Review: (13 customer reviews)

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Product Description

Product Description

For lovers of facts, students of popular culture, history buffs, and science enthusiasts, the fascinating stories behind 500 everyday items, expressions, and customs--from Kleenex to steak sauce, Barbie Dolls to honeymoons. --*This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.*

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I have bought this book 3 times in many years and lose it to friends. It is educational and fun to pop out the origins when at work and someone is wondering where something came from or how a phrase got started. You can read for days if you could keep yourself up that long and then go back and read again.

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I don't trust very much trivia books. There always seems to be another version for the same fact. Even one of the reviewers of this book take the time to explain HIS version about one of the facts of the book and I'm pretty sure some specialists could do the same for other facts. BUT the plain fact is THIS IS A VERY FUNNY READING, full of details and stories about the time of the fact under examination. So, even if the trivia itself may be wrong, still you learn a lot. And ignorance is blissful. I don't know anybody whose professional career depends upon knowing the difference between Asyrian empire and Accadian empire, as long as they are treated with some respect (not like some movies, which flips around the pages of some book and take the first name they come along, even if the choice made is absolutely impossible). History, at last, is not a question of accuracy, but one of good-faith and enjoyment. This book fills that purpose

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trivia at its finest, Sep 14 2001

By [puffinswan "puffinswan"](#) (Brigadoon) - [See all my reviews](#)

This review is from: [Panati Extrao Origin \(Paperback\)](#)

If you enjoy trivia and unusual facts, then Charles Panati's Extraordinary Origins of Everyday Things, is the perfect book. I have read other trivia books and I can say without hesitation that Mr. Panati produces the best of the genre. Many trivia books list a dry and uninspired fact sheet. Panati, however, avoids this common pitfall and instead entertains us with unusual and well researched trivia about the history or origin of many everyday items and customs. His books are formatted into logical chapter groupings that easily flow from one topic to another. The book is a pleasure to read and it teaches you in a pain free style, answering questions that until now you couldn't find answers for! Panati's words will both enlighten and enchant you.

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This book contains much that is fascinating and useful. Unfortunately some misinformation has slipped past the editors (of my edition, at least). [Read more](#)

Published on Mar 28 2001

It answered a few of my daughter's 'WHY' questions.

Step by step explanation how many of the things from the past came to be. It sits on the bookcase with it's dogged eared pages, ready to be used again and again for what ever... [Read more](#)

Published on Jan 23 2001 by CPUGuy1

Interesting.....Great Conversation Piece

Great for bedtime reading.....full of interesting facts. Panati does a great job. When relatives stay, they love to read it. Check it out! I recommend it.

Published on Nov 12 2000 by Dennis C Hildebrand

perfect reader

This is one of the best books for people who want to know more about everything out there. Potato chips, Bluebeard, Valentines Day. This book talks about it all, its worth it.

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Really should get six stars

A supurb traveling or gift book, with excellent informative pieces of information which will please almost anyone.

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When I use this book in school or university people always marvel ask where I got such unique information

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