

《At

Home 《趣味生活简史》 (ISBN=9780767919388)》

书籍信息

版次：1

页数：497

字数：

印刷时间：2011年12月01日

开本：16开

纸张：胶版纸

包装：精装

是否套装：否

国际标准书号ISBN：9780767919388

编辑推荐

Starred Review. Bryson (*A Short History of Everything*) takes readers on a tour of his house, a rural English parsonage, and finds it crammed with 10,000 years of fascinating historical bric-a-brac. Each room becomes a starting point for a free-ranging discussion of rarely noticed but foundational aspects of social life. A visit to the kitchen prompts disquisitions on food adulteration and gluttony; a peek into the bedroom reveals nutty sex nostrums and the horrors of premodern surgery; in the study we find rats and locusts; a stop in the scullery illuminates the put-upon lives of servants. Bryson follows his inquisitiveness wherever it goes, from Darwinian evolution to the invention of the lawnmower, while savoring eccentric characters and untoward events (like Queen Elizabeth I's pilfering of a subject's silverware). There are many guilty pleasures, from Bryson's droll prose--"What really turned the Victorians to bathing, however, was the realization that it could be gloriously punishing"--to the many tantalizing glimpses behind closed doors at aristocratic English country houses. In demonstrating how everything we take for granted, from comfortable furniture to smoke-free air, went from unimaginable luxury to humdrum routine, Bryson shows us how odd and improbable our own lives really are.

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内容简介

From one of the most beloved authors of our time—more than six million copies of his books have been sold in this country alone—a fascinating excursion into the history behind the place we call home.

“ Houses aren ’ t refuges from history. They are where history ends up. ”

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作者简介

BILL BRYSON ' s books include A Walk in the Woods, I ' m a Stranger Here Myself, In a Sunburned Country, Bryson ' s Book of Troublesome Words, A Short History of Nearly Everything (which earned him the 2004 Aventis Prize), The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid, and Bryson ' s Dictionary for Writers and Editors. Bryson lives in England with his wife and children.

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