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Alphabetical: How Every Letter Tells a Story (English Edition)

Von Michael Rosen

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Von Michael Rosen : Alphabetical: How Every Letter Tells a Story (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Alphabetical: How Every Letter Tells a Story (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Seriously researched, though not written only for the academic community Von Helpful Advice Alphabetical written by Michael Rosen is an interesting book for younger and adult readers that gives the history and background of each letter in the alphabet - a seriously researched title hidden behind a design that does not refer to scientific literature. Michael Rosen, PhD, a known and awarded writer for children who together with Helen Oxenbury co-authored very popular We're Going on a Bear Hunt is well respected in the academic world as evidenced by many honors including Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, an acknowledgment Rosen received by the French government for his work in education field. Therefore not surprising is his interest in letters and the alphabet, and given his imagination Alphabetical is not an usual academic work designed for a narrow circle of readers, but the book for broader audience read with interest all the way to the last page. Rosen divided his book in chapters that each bears the name of one of the letters, providing history overview and origins modern letters have in writing of old cultures, such as Phoenicians or ancient Semitic languages. Additionally he provides understanding of proper pronunciation discussing influence of Greeks and Romans which in the end lead to the way particular letter is these days pronounced in English. Also, he chooses one word start starts with particular letter related to letters and discuss it in details such as alphabet, ciphers, fonts, qwerty, rhyme, umlauts and similar. What is the final result of such tremendous effort is an excellent book that on its five hundred pages manages to equally please phoneticians, teachers, historians, and all enthusiasts in love with words and letters, including older school children who will find useful the lessons learned in the book for further education. Therefore, Michael Rosens Alphabetical is and intelligent and interesting book that can certainly be recommended to a wider audience, and although is the work of PhD this faction release is not written only for the academic community, but for audiences of all ages and orientations that will enjoy all the useful information that can be found between the covers.

Kurzbeschreibung From minding your Ps and Qs to wondering why X should mark the spot, Alphabetical is a book for everyone who loves words and language. Whether it's how letters are arranged on keyboards or Viking runes, textspeak or zip codes, this book will change the way you think about letters for ever. How on Earth did we fix upon our twenty-six letters, what do they really mean, and how did we come to write them down in the first place? Michael Rosen takes you on an unforgettable adventure through the history of the alphabet in twenty-six vivid chapters, fizzing with personal anecdotes and fascinating facts. Starting with the mysterious Phoenicians and how sounds first came to be written down, he races on to show how nonsense poems work, pins down the strange story of OK, traces our seven lost letters and tackles the tyranny of spelling, among many, many other things. His heroes of the alphabet range from Edward Lear to Phyllis Pearsall (the inventor of the A-Z), and from the two scribes of Beowulf to rappers. Each chapter takes on a different subject - codes, umlauts or the writing of dictionaries. Rosen's enthusiasm for letters positively leaps off the page, whether it's the story of his life told through the typewriters he's owned or a chapter on jokes written in a string of gags and word games. So if you ever wondered why Hawaiian only has a thirteen-letter alphabet or how exactly to write down the sound of a wild raspberry, read on . . . Pressestimmen [Michael Rosen's] beguiling journey through the alphabet will entrance anyone interested in the quirks of language and its history . . . Rosen has written a charming and thought-provoking book about what written language represents, how we use it, and the joys and mysteries therein. His humor and obvious love for his subject are winning elements (Publishers Weekly) Enjoyable history of the alphabet (The Times) Substantial and engaging (Guardian) Forget party crackers - when you settle down to the turkey and trimmings this year simply make sure you have this book to hand. There's even a chapter devoted to family friendly alphabet games: perfect for playing after the Queen's been on. That letters can and should be fun, not just functional, is one of the main messages of this book (Sunday Telegraph) The perfect book for anyone who relishes the intricacies of language and letters . . . [Rosen] reveals a gift for seamlessly meshing hard information, personal anecdote, jokes and puzzles with educational, cultural and linguistic questions and wry, pointed, observations . . . There are delights in this book for all ages (Australian) [Michael Rosen] gives each letter a neat CV . . . enjoyable (The Times) Werbetext From Alphabets to Zipcodes, the surprising story of our 26 letters from million-selling author and Radio 4 language expert, Michael Rosen.