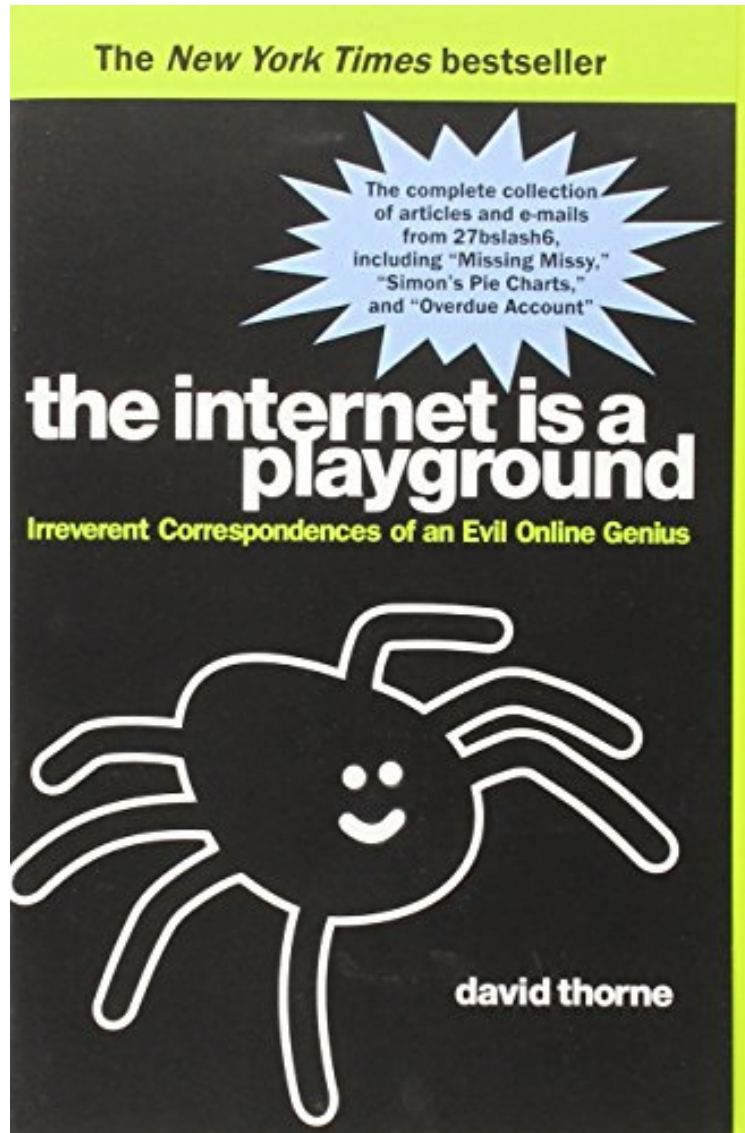


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The Internet is a Playground: Irreverent Correspondences of an Evil Online Genius

David Thorne

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David Thorne : The Internet is a Playground: Irreverent Correspondences of an Evil Online Genius before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Internet is a Playground: Irreverent Correspondences of an Evil Online Genius:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Jerk From A Distance By Mark Eremite David Thorne is a jerk. Granted, there are a lot of jerks out there making money off of their jerkiness. There are the boys from Jackass.

The main characters from *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia* and *Arrested Development* and *The League* and *Archer* and *Seinfeld* and *Curb Your Enthusiasm*. Tosh.0. The abysmally popular Tucker Max novels. There's even Steve Martin's *The Jerk*, although he's less a jerk than an idiot. Not that the two aren't often synonymous. That's the real trademark of a jerk worth paying attention to: intelligence. And if Thorne is a jerk, he's at least a smart jerk. This book (mostly) contains email exchanges he's had with co-workers, online roustabouts, and folks who are otherwise just trying to do their jobs (mostly bill collectors). He approaches these communiques with the subtle and absurdist wit of Monty Python channeling John Swartzwelder. Or vice versa. They're a lot funnier if you believe that they're real, and after having read both of his books, I'm inclined to believe. If they're entirely fictional, then I'd be more impressed, although not nearly as amused. Much of the book relies on knowing things about David, such as his coworkers' names and various inside jokes he has with regards to most of them. Certain people -- Simon, Holly, Shannon, Lucius, Thomas -- figure prominently in Thorne's life, but it takes a few reads to figure out how or why, at which point the jokes start to make a lot more sense. Of course, some of his more famous exchanges don't need a whole lot of backstory to work ("Missing Missy" is perhaps his most famous, and for good reason). The book is also peppered with essays that aren't quite as funny as the emails. Written with a random, absurd, kitchen-sink approach, they're pretty much Thorne being as wacky as he can possibly be. At their best, they sound like some of Woody Allen's older stuff from *The New Yorker*. At their worst, they're repetitive jokes about how dumb he can make the narrator sound. Overall, Thorne's funnier when he's just being mean to what (I hope) are real people. His second book is, I think, much better. For one thing, the ridiculous essays are gone, replaced with true-life tales of both his home life and his experiences with nearly cheating death. They show how well he can find the humor in almost anything without having to resort to bizarre non-sequiturs or wacky nonsense. If you like the wacky nonsense, he's included several picture stories (most about his group of cat friends) that are punchy and hilarious (the best is when the cops pull them over). There are a few pictures of formal notices, letters, and forms that are difficult to read on the Kindle, but they aren't completely illegible. Overall, it's a much better read than the first book, even if it does make David look even more like a jerk than the first book. I mean, I'd hate to be in his life, but I enjoy reading about others who aren't as fortunate.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Buy it for your favorite real life troll. By Bianca Rose
Aspire your most resident real life troll friend or lover to be the best that they can be at their craft. What's in this book seems to be what's found on David's website, but having it in print offers easier access to those of us that are computer illiterate or otherwise lazy. Thank you, David, for making the world a better place, albeit much more confusing that it needs to be.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Funniest thing I've ever read. By MissBI
got to Mr. Thorne's work after stumbling into the neighbor floodlight email series by chance. I laughed so hard I cried. And it was in the morning. And we all know in the morning there's only sex, bacon or sleep that get our interest. I was actually upset that I got it in the morning, because my mind was dizzy and laughing like this hurt a bit. I thought this kind of laughter was reserved for special moments in life, when you find some fantastic movie scenes or find yourself tickled by some crazy situation. His writing is absolute madness. Not only is this the funniest thing I've ever read, but it's soooo well written... Impeccable. I adore it ! I can't put it down although I will really try to, because I want to save some for other days as well, even if I have his other book too. I need this. Nobody's ever made me laugh like this. Especially not through writing. And I am joyful, I am. And always in search of good humor. David Thorne is brilliant, an absolute gem, and I am extremely grateful for getting to experience such brilliance. Caution: Don't read this while you eat or drink !

From the notorious Internet troublemaker who brought the world the explosively popular *Next Time I'll Spend the Money on Drugs Instead*, in which he attempted to pay his chiropractor with a picture he drew of a spider; "Please Design a Logo for Me. With Pie Charts. For Free," which has been described as one of the most passed-on viral e-mails of all time; and, most recently, the staggeringly popular "Missing Missy", which has appeared everywhere from *The Guardian* to *Jezebel* to Andrew Sullivan's *The Daily Dish*, comes this profoundly funny collection of irreverent Internet mischief and comedy. Featuring all of Thorne's viral success, including "Missing Missy", *The Internet Is a Playground* culls together every article and e-mail from Thorne's wildly popular website 27bslash6.com, as well as enough new material, available only in these pages, to keep you laughing-and, indeed, crying-until Thorne's next stroke-of-genius prank. Or hilarious hoax. Or well-publicized almost-stint in jail (really). "There is usually a fine line between genius and insanity, but in this case it has become very blurred. Some of the funniest and most clever writing I have read in years."--Terrance Fielding, *WIRED* magazine "I laughed so hard and uncontrollably I could hardly breathe. Reading this on public transport is not a good idea."--*Penthouse* magazine "Brilliantly funny."--*Jezebel.com*

In the dominion of social networking and electronic communication, David Thorne has become the king of biting sarcasm. --Thane Burnett, editor, *Sun Media* had to look away I was laughing so hard. Hands down the funniest emails I have ever read. --Catherine DiBenedetto, editor, *WIRED Magazine* Catherine DiBenedetto, *WIRED Magazine* Gut wrenching, laugh out loud, gasping for air funny. Absolutely brilliant. --Caroline Shaheed, editor, *Cheek Magazine* If the internet had a heart, David Thorne would be it's mitral valve. --Mil Millington, Author, "Things My

Girlfriend and I Have Argued About

The most ridiculous, brilliant, stupid and clever nonsense I have ever come across. The articles had me rolling with laughter, crying and incapable of speaking - my co-workers thought I had gone insane. -- Clare Butchard, Hat Trick Productions U.K. From the Publisher What Others Say: "I laughed so hard and uncontrollably I could hardly breathe. Reading this on public transport is not a good idea." Kate Hutchinson, editor, Penthouse magazine "I had to look away I was laughing so hard. Hands down the funniest emails I have ever read." Catherine DiBenedetto, editor, WIRED Magazine "In the dominion of social networking and electronic communication, David Thorne has become the king of biting sarcasm." Thane Burnett, editor, Sun Media The most ridiculous, brilliant, stupid and clever nonsense I have ever come across. The articles had me rolling with laughter, crying and incapable of speaking - my co-workers thought I had gone insane." Clare Butchard, associate producer, Hat Trick Productions UK "Gut wrenching, laugh out loud, gasping for air funny. Absolutely brilliant." Caroline Shaheed, editor, Cheek Magazine "The Dennis the Menace of the internet, Thorne's intricately woven web of internet tomfoolery is guaranteed to leave you red-faced from laughter." Matt Bachl, ninemsn TV news producer "The world's leading internet troublemaker. Whenever I see David Thorne's name, I know it's going to be a long day at the office." Andrew Ramadge, editor, news.com.au "Thorne's ability to manipulate the webspere with his touch of serious sarcasm has surely earned him the moniker 'Lord of the Viral Email'. I've seen grown men reduced to hysterical tears of laughter after reading through just one of his efforts." Matty Soccio, editor, Marketing magazine "I am getting your website banned as we speak" Lucius Thaller, Courier, Kings Transport Adelaide is full of selfish, petty, judgmental, cocooned, insular, naive people totally devoid of social consciousness or culture and David Thorne is their spokesperson." R. Knorr, woman golfer, Seocontents.net About the Author David Thorne is the author of The Internet Is a Playground: Irreverent Correspondences of an Evil Online Genius, I'll Go Home Then, It's Warm and Has Chairs: The Unpublished Emails, and more.