

## The Ordinary Acrobat A Journey Into The Wondrous World Of Circus Past And Present Vintage

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The Ordinary Acrobat is a magical, funny, sometimes scary story of what happens when one average American joins a host of gifted—and flexible—international students in a rigorous regimen of tumbling, trapeze, juggling, and clowning. Brimming with surprises, outsized personalities, and plenty of charm, this personal history of how the circus evolved into the thrilling experience it is today delivers all the excitement and pleasure of the circus ring itself.

The Ordinary Acrobat: A Journey Into The Wondrous World of ...  
"The Ordinary Acrobat" is Wall's memoir of circus life in France with his entry as a Fulbright Scholar into the National School, their state-subsidized circus school. The book is also about the worldwide history of circuses - traditional and modern - and the circ Traditional vs. modern circuses

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The Ordinary Acrobat: A Journey into The Wondrous World of The Circus, Past and Present. The Ordinary Acrobat. : Duncan Wall. Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, Feb 26, 2013 - Performing Arts - 336...

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The Ordinary Acrobat NPR coverage of The Ordinary Acrobat: A Journey into The Wondrous World of The Circus, Past and Present by Duncan Wall. News, author interviews, critics' picks and more. News...

The Ordinary Acrobat : NPR  
Judging by Duncan Wall's memoir/history, The Ordinary Acrobat: A Journey into The Wondrous World of The Circus, Past and Present, Boll's portrayal is far and away the more accurate one. For Wall,...

Book Review: 'The Ordinary Acrobat' By Duncan Wall : NPR  
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The Ordinary Acrobat (Book) | King County Library System | BiblioCommons. The Ordinary Acrobat A Journey Into The Wondrous World of The Circus, Past and Present (Book) : Wall, Duncan : When Wall visited his first nouveau cirque as a college student in Paris, everything about it was captivating. So great was his enthusiasm that a year later he applied on a whim to the training program at the École Nationale des Arts du Cirque-- and was, to his surprise, accepted.

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The ordinary acrobat : a journey into the wondrous world of the circus, past and present. [Duncan Wall] -- The extraordinary story of a young man's plunge into the unique and wonderful world of the circus-taking readers deep into circus history and its renaissance as a contemporary art form, and behind ...

The ordinary acrobat : a journey into the wondrous world ...  
The Ordinary Acrobat - A Journey Into The Wondrous World of The Circus, Past and Present. Duncan Wall. Hardcover. List Price: 26.95\* \* Individual store prices may vary. Other Editions of This Title: Paperback (11/5/2013) Description. The extraordinary story of a young man 's plunge into the unique and wonderful world of the circus—taking ...

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The Ordinary Acrobat by Duncan Wall: 9780307472267 ...  
The Ordinary Acrobat A Journey Into The Wondrous World of The Circus, Past and Present (eBook) : Wall, Duncan : The extraordinary story of a young man's plunge into the unique and wonderful world of the circus--taking readers deep into circus history and its renaissance as a contemporary art form, and behind the (tented) walls of France's most prestigious circus school.

A Fulbright fellowship recipient who attended France's National Circus school describes his novice plunge into the abstract and intensely competitive world of the contemporary circus while tracing the history of circus performance and the current Cirque du Soleil-fueled renewal of circus popularity. 40,000 first printing.

Describes the author's novice plunge into the abstract and intensely competitive world of the contemporary circus while tracing the history of circus performance and the current Cirque du Soleil-fueled renewal of circus popularity.

At age seven, Otgo first fell in love with the beautiful art form that is contortion; and since then, she has never changed her mind. Throughout her life, her goal of being one of the top contortionists has not been a smooth journey. From the grasp of a socialist country, she escaped a morose childhood and transformed herself into a world famous performer. This is the story of Otgo reaching for the rare treat of success that seemed almost impossible as any challenge could have overtaken her. Since she was armed with intense devotion to her success, contortion saved her life and gifted Otgo with many opportunities.

A stunning picture book biography about the tightrope walker who dazzled Paris as she danced across the sky with impeccable balance and unparalleled skill during the French Revolution. In revolutionary France, a girl named Marguerite Lalanne longed to perform above large crowds on a tightrope, just like her acrobatic parents. Sneaking off to the fairgrounds for secret tightrope walking lessons, Marguerite finessed her performance skills, ultimately performing for crowds as a young rope dancer. And eventually, Marguerite would perform as Madame Saqui, waltzing and pirouetting across-- and never falling off-- countless ropes above adoring crowds. A nouvelle ch é rie de Paris, Madame Saqui cemented her place in circus history, winning the adoration of the French people and royalty alike, including Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. This remarkable biography unveils the inspiring story of a trailblazing woman who revolutionized the circus world-- without ever missing a step.

National Book Award Finalist A clear-sighted revelation, a deep penetration into the world of Scientology by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of The Looming Tower, the now-classic study of al-Qaeda 's 9/11 attack. Based on more than two hundred personal interviews with current and former Scientologists—both famous and less well known—and years of archival research, Lawrence Wright uses his extraordinary investigative ability to uncover for us the inner workings of the Church of Scientology. At the book 's center, two men whom Wright brings vividly to life, showing how they have made Scientology what it is today: The darkly brilliant science-fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard, whose restless, expansive mind invented a new religion. And his successor, David Miscavige—tough and driven, with the unenviable task of preserving the church after the death of Hubbard. We learn about Scientology 's complicated cosmology and special language. We see the ways in which the church pursues celebrities, such as Tom Cruise and John Travolta, and how such stars are used to advance the church 's goals. And we meet the young idealists who have joined the Sea Org, the church 's clergy, signing up with a billion-year contract. In Going Clear, Wright examines what fundamentally makes a religion a religion, and whether Scientology is, in fact, deserving of this constitutional protection. Employing all his exceptional journalistic skills of observation, understanding, and shaping a story into a compelling narrative, Lawrence Wright has given us an evenhanded yet keenly incisive book that reveals the very essence of what makes Scientology the institution it is.

Otto of Schlepsig is risking his neck as an acrobat in a third-rate circus in the middle of nowhere when news arrives that the land of Shqiperi has invited Prince Halim Eddin to become its new king. Otto doesn 't know the prince from Adam, but he does happen to look just like him—a coincidence that inspires Otto with a mad plan to assume Halim 's identity and rule in his stead. True, Shqiperi is an uncivilized backwater, but even in uncivilized backwaters kings live better than acrobats. Plus, kingship in Shqiperi comes with a harem. Rank, as they say, has its privileges. With his friend Max, a sword-swallowing giant whose chronic cough makes every performance a potential tonsillectomy, Otto embarks on a rollicking journey filled with feats of derring-do, wondrous magic, and beautiful maidens—well, beautiful women. And that 's before he enters a royal world that is truly fantastical.

An exploration of the world of magic that teaches the reader many tricks--including how better to understand the real world. Alex Stone--journalist and part-time conjurer--is here to amaze you. But first he had to amaze his fellow magicians. Fooling Houdini is his fascinating, revealing, and nailbiting account of his attempt to win the 23rd World Championships of Magic, the "Magic Olympics," the largest and most prestigious competition of its kind. Alex Stone managed to qualify for entry and began preparing to astonish people who astonish others for a living. It didn't help his nerves that he was placed on the bill straight after Canadian magician Shawn Farquhar, winner of more magic competitions than anyone in history. Stone's preparations and participation provide his readers with in-depth exploration of the world of magic, and magic's meaning. He spills many professional secrets, arguing that what is important is to ask questions about what lies behind the tricks: how the mind perceives the world and parses everyday experience, about how the mind works--and why sometimes it doesn't, about why people need to believe. As we become more attuned to the limits of our own perception, we become better at distinguishing reality from illusion, at reading the angles and decoding the fine print, he says. We gain intuition and understanding into how people behave. We even learn ways to influence this behavior. This makes us less susceptible to all manner of deception. It is to gain and maintain this sixth sense that Alex Stone--a schoolboy prestidigitator--has continued performing magic well into adulthood. In Fooling Houdini he takes us into that other world, populated by truly astounding characters, and leaves us with a heightened sense of awareness about the supposedly real world.

A poetic and nuanced exploration of the human experience of flight that reminds us of the full imaginative weight of our most ordinary journeys—and reawakens our capacity to be amazed. The twenty-first century has relegated airplane flight—a once remarkable feat of human ingenuity—to the realm of the mundane. Mark Vanhoenacker, a 747 pilot who left academia and a career in the business world to pursue his childhood dream of flight, asks us to reimagine what we—both as pilots and as passengers—are actually doing when we enter the world between departure and discovery. In a seamless fusion of history, politics, geography, meteorology, ecology, family, and physics, Vanhoenacker vaults across geographical and cultural boundaries; above mountains, oceans, and deserts; through snow, wind, and rain, renewing a simultaneously humbling and almost superhuman activity that affords us unparalleled perspectives on the planet we inhabit and the communities we form.

A deeply humane new collection by a luminary of Bengali literature A radiant collection of poetry about womanhood, intimacy, and the body politic that together evokes the arc of an ordinary life. Nabaneta Dev Sen's rhythmic lines explore the joys and agonies of first love, childbirth, and decay with a restless, tactile imagination, both picking apart and celebrating the rituals that make us human. When she warns, "know that blood can be easily drawn by lips," her words tune to the fierce and biting depths of language, to the "treachery that lingers on tongue tips." At once compassionate and unsparing, conversational and symphonic, these poems tell of a rope shivering beneath an acrobat's nimble feet or of a twisted, blood-soaked umbilical cord -- they pluck the invisible threads that bind us together.

What's so tough about building a solar collector? Most people think it's time they tried to do their part at lowering their monthly utility bills or curbing climate change, but they suspect that their dream of building a hot water solar collector is more than they can handle. In some cases, this may be true. However, if you have already performed your own plumbing repairs, this project may not be as difficult as and more affordable than you imagine. This down-to-earth guide can show you just how possible such a project can be. With simple step-by-step instructions, fifty-six clear illustrations, and a complete parts list from a major hardware store, you may fulfill your dream of going solar sooner than you think. This is an excellent book with clear and well thought out plans. With a little investment of time and the parts listed, you will have a worthy product that will save money and provide satisfaction. A. J. Shea I am very impressed with the plans for this solar hot water system. I think it was easy to understand and complete with material lists and where to get them. I am looking forward to building one soon. Dean Cardin For anyone wanting to build their own solar collector, this is a great tool. Like others have said, follow the directions with respect to the materials specified. BigBear

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