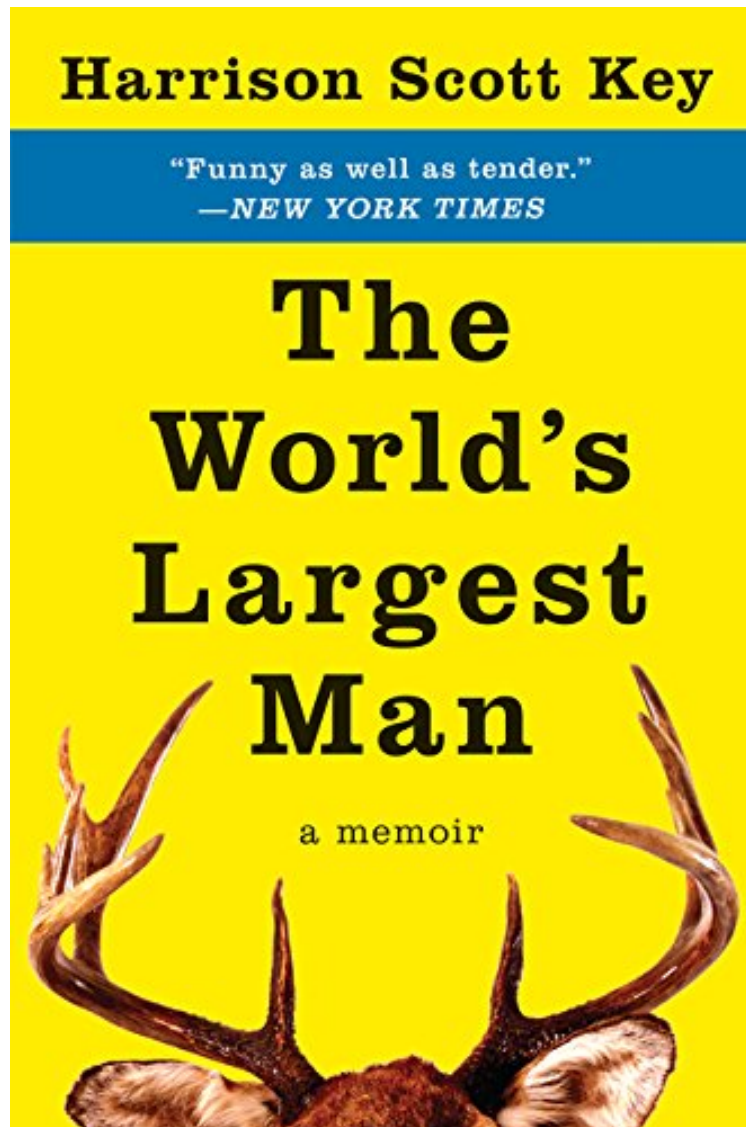


[Download ebook] The World's Largest Man: A Memoir

The World's Largest Man: A Memoir

Harrison Scott Key

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#292544 in Books Key Harrison Scott 2016-05-17 2016-05-17Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .83 x 5.311, .0 #File Name: 0062351508368 pagesThe World s Largest Man A Memoir | File size: 27.Mb

Harrison Scott Key : The World's Largest Man: A Memoir before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The World's Largest Man: A Memoir:

14 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Hilarious homily to humanityBy W. Dan MarksHarrison spins a story of legendary proportions that defies categorization. This is a hilarious, at times sad, ultimately heart warming story of a boy who becomes a man who becomes a father. He holds nothing back and in a uniquely funny style dives deep into the complex emotions of being part of a family that appears to have different values but ultimately shapes

him into who he becomes. Anyone who grew up anywhere in the south (or anywhere for that matter) will instantly identify with the quirks, struggles, and little victories of life. This books give you plenty of laughs while helping you learn something about what it means to be human. Well done Harrison S. Key. I'm honored to be your friend.16 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Hilarious and heartfeltBy Grey ClawsonI hardly ever catch myself laughing out loud, let alone laughing out loud at a book. Key's writing is endearing, edgy, and delightful. He's mastered a voice that you can't deny is unforgettable and ALWAYS finds a way to draw you in. These are stories about the South, yes, but stories that anyone can enjoy.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Funny, clever, just not very likeable charactersBy Tom TwainI really wanted to like this more, as I love HSK as a writer. But...the characters just weren't likeable, and I found myself not wanting to spend a lot of time with them. Now that may seem unfair, after all this is supposed to be a Memoir, and you can hardly make family more likeable. Isn't that what writers do though? Comparing this to another one of my favorites, Richard Russo, the Russo characters are shown with a degree of affection that makes them likeable despite their many shortcomings. I just never got the feeling the HSK had any real affection for those he was writing about, and as a result I didn't enjoy them either. Some really clever and hilarious writing though, but I'd rather see it in a different topic.

Winner of the 2016 Thurber PrizeThe riotous, tender story of a bookish Mississippi boy and his flawed, Bunyanesque father, told with the comic verve of David Sedaris and the deft satire of Mark Twain or Roy Blount, Jr.Harrison Scott Key was born in Memphis, but he grew up in Mississippi, among pious, Bible-reading women and men who either shot things or got women pregnant. At the center of his world was his larger-than-life father—a hunter, a fighter, a football coach, “a man better suited to living in a remote frontier wilderness of the nineteenth century than contemporary America, with all its progressive ideas, and paved roads, and lack of armed duels. He was a great man, and he taught me many things: How to fight, how to work, how to cheat, how to pray to Jesus about it, how to kill things with guns and knives and, if necessary, with hammers.”Harrison, with his love of books and excessive interest in hugging, couldn't have been less like Pop, and when it became clear that he was not able to kill anything very well or otherwise make his father happy, he resolved to become everything his father was not: an actor, a Presbyterian, and a doctor of philosophy. But when it was time to settle down and start a family of his own, Harrison started to view his father in a new light, and realized—for better and for worse—how much of his old man he'd absorbed.Sly, heartfelt, and tirelessly hilarious, *The World's Largest Man* is an unforgettable memoir—the story of a boy's struggle to reconcile himself with an impossibly outsized role model, a grown man's reckoning with the father it took him a lifetime to understand.

“A loose and rollicking compendium of stories that's billed as a memoir but comports itself more like a killer concept album.” (Garden Gun)“You don't need to be a hunter or even a man to enjoy this exceptional memoir.” (New York Journal of Books)“Consistently seasoned with laughs, this memoir is adroitly warm and deep when it is called for. An uncommonly entertaining story replete with consistent wit and lethal weaponry.” (Kirkus s (starred review))“The World's Largest Man [is] a collection of essays, a memoir that reads like fiction. It truly is a gem.” (The Bitter Southerner)“[Key has] a comic voice that puts him in the choir with other humorists you may have heard of—such as P.J. O'Rourke, Roy Blount Jr., Garrison Keillor, Lewis Grizzard, Dave Barry and others. Maybe even Mark Twain. ‘The World's Largest Man’ is a triumph of a comic memoir.” (Mississippi Business Journal)“Funny as well as tender.” (New York Times)“Ever the raconteur, Key fills this rollicking memoir with tales of growing up with a larger-than-life father and being raised in the country, where boys would learn to fish and hunt and farm.” (Publishers Weekly)“It reads like fiction that is too crazy to be anything but truth. Fans of memoir, personal essays, and humor writing will devour this in one sitting.” (Library Journal)“Indeed, like many of the great Southern humorists, Key relies on wit to bridge the deep emotional fissures that many people, at least of the thinking persuasion, have to cross when trying to reconcile the historic evils of the South with their own enduring love for it.” (Memphis Commercial Appeal)“Blessedly, Key writes with a parched sense of humor, because his stories might otherwise qualify as tragedy. The line here between gasping and guffawing is piano-wire thin, but mostly you enjoy, swept up how Key ekes some brow-furrowing wisdom from most experiences. He's a masterful writer and observer.” (Minneapolis Star Tribune)“Both laugh-out-loud funny and observant about the ways we become our parents while asserting ourselves, *The World's Largest Man* is a wise delight.” (BookPage)“The sardonic tone and spicy language may prompt comparisons to David Sedaris, another humorist who has perfected the narrative stance of put-upon outsider vs. risible eccentrics.” (Atlanta Journal-Constitution)“What I have read of Harrison Key's memoir makes me want to read more.” (Roy Blount Jr., Author of *Long Time Leaving: Dispatches from Up South*)“Harrison Key will make you laugh and cry in his compelling essays. And whatever emotion he evokes, you will admire the style, grace and clarity of his prose.” (Lee Gutkind, Founder and Editor of *Creative Nonfiction*)“I haven't laughed like this in years. I felt like I stumbled upon an undiscovered treasure when I read Harrison Scott Key's *The World's Largest Man*. I couldn't wait to tell my friends. Rare hilarity, indeed, in these asinine times.” (Neil White Author of *In the Sanctuary of Outcasts*)From the Back CoverWinner of the 2016 Thurber PrizeHarrison Scott Key was born in Memphis, but he

grew up in Mississippi, among pious Bible-reading women and men who either shot things or got women pregnant. At the center of his world was his larger-than-life father—a hunter, a fighter, a football coach, “a man better suited to living in a remote frontier wilderness of the nineteenth century than contemporary America, with all its progressive ideas and paved roads and lack of armed duels. He was a great man, and he taught me many things: how to fight and work and cheat, and how to pray to Jesus about it, how to kill things with guns and knives and, if necessary, with hammers.” Harrison, with his love of books and excessive interest in hugging, couldn’t have been less like Pop, and when it became clear that he was not able to kill anything very well or otherwise make his father happy, he resolved to become everything his father was not: an actor, a Presbyterian, and a doctor of philosophy. But when it was time to settle down and start a family of his own, Harrison started to view his father in a new light and realized—for better and for worse—just how much he was like the strange man who made him. About the Author Harrison Scott Key is a contributing editor for the Oxford American and a professor of writing at the Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia, where he lives with his wife and three children. His humor and nonfiction have been featured in The Best American Travel Writing and numerous magazines.