

what is the what by dave eggers

What Is The What by Dave Eggers: A Deep Dive into a Powerful Memoir

what is the what by dave eggers is a question that often comes up among readers interested in contemporary literature, memoirs, and stories about resilience. The answer lies in a compelling narrative that blends biography with historical events, offering an eye-opening look at one of the most harrowing refugee experiences of recent times. This book is not just a memoir; it's a window into the life of Valentino Achak Deng, a Sudanese Lost Boy, whose journey is chronicled by acclaimed author Dave Eggers. In this article, we'll explore what makes **The What** such a significant work, its themes, background, and why it continues to resonate with readers worldwide.

Understanding What Is The What by Dave Eggers

At its core, **The What** is a biographical novel that tells the story of Valentino Achak Deng, one of the thousands of Lost Boys of Sudan. These boys were displaced or orphaned during the Second Sudanese Civil War, a brutal conflict that lasted from 1983 to 2005. Dave Eggers, known for his narrative skill and ability to humanize complex issues, collaborated closely with Valentino to craft a story that is both deeply personal and broadly historical.

The Origin of the Book and Its Unique Approach

Unlike a traditional autobiography, **The What** is presented as a fictionalized memoir. Dave Eggers uses a narrative style that allows Valentino's voice to come through authentically while also shaping the story with literary techniques. This approach helps readers connect emotionally with Valentino's experiences, from fleeing war-torn villages to adapting to life in America.

Eggers first met Valentino during a humanitarian trip and was moved to document his story. The book's title, **The What**, refers to the way Valentino explains the nature of his story—it's about the "what" that happened to him, the facts and memories that shape his life.

The Story Behind The What: Valentino Achak Deng's Journey

Valentino's story is a vivid chronicle of survival, loss, and hope. Born in Sudan, he was forced to flee his village as a young boy to escape violence

and persecution. The Lost Boys, including Valentino, traveled thousands of miles under perilous conditions, facing hunger, disease, and attacks from enemy forces.

Life as One of the Lost Boys

The Lost Boys' journey is central to the narrative and offers insight into the broader Sudanese conflict. Valentino's trek took him through the deserts and refugee camps of Ethiopia and Kenya before resettlement in the United States. His story highlights:

- The hardships faced by child refugees
- The psychological trauma of displacement
- The resilience and community built among the Lost Boys

This part of the book is both heartbreaking and inspiring, shedding light on a lesser-known humanitarian crisis.

Adapting to a New Life in America

After years of struggle, Valentino eventually finds refuge in the U.S., but his challenges don't end there. *The What* also explores the difficulties of assimilation, identity, and maintaining cultural roots in a foreign land. Readers see Valentino's efforts to build a new life, pursue education, and advocate for Sudanese refugees.

The Themes Explored in What Is The What by Dave Eggers

The book is rich in themes that resonate on personal, social, and political levels.

Resilience in the Face of Adversity

Valentino's story is a testament to human endurance. Despite unimaginable loss, he continues to strive toward a better future. This theme inspires readers to reflect on their own challenges and the power of hope.

The Impact of War and Displacement

Eggers doesn't shy away from detailing the brutality of war and its impact on civilians, especially children. The narrative provides an educational glimpse into the consequences of prolonged conflict and the global refugee crisis.

Identity and Belonging

The book delves into the complexities of cultural identity for refugees. Valentino's struggle to reconcile his Sudanese heritage with his new American environment touches on universal questions about belonging and self-definition.

Why What Is The What by Dave Eggers Matters Today

In a world still grappling with refugee crises, *The What* remains a relevant and essential read. It humanizes statistics and headlines, allowing readers to connect with real human experiences behind global issues.

Educational Value and Awareness

Teachers and activists often use the book to raise awareness about the Sudanese civil war and refugee experiences. It serves as a powerful tool for empathy-building and global education.

Inspiration for Advocacy and Change

Valentino's story has inspired many to get involved in humanitarian efforts. The book encourages readers to consider the roles they can play in supporting displaced communities.

How to Approach Reading What Is The What

If you're new to *The What*, here are some tips to enhance your reading experience:

- **Research historical context:** Understanding the Sudanese civil war helps

provide background to Valentino's story.

- **Reflect on the personal narratives:** Focus on the human emotions and relationships that drive the book.
- **Engage with supplementary materials:** Look for interviews, documentaries, or discussions featuring Valentino Achak Deng and Dave Eggers.

This approach deepens appreciation and comprehension of the memoir's significance.

Other Works by Dave Eggers and Related Literature

If *The What* piques your interest, Dave Eggers has other notable works that explore themes of social justice and personal storytelling, such as *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*. Additionally, books like *Refugee* by Alan Gratz or *What Is the What*'s companion narratives about Lost Boys offer further insight into refugee experiences.

Exploring these can create a broader understanding of global displacement issues and the power of narrative nonfiction.

The story told in *The What* by Dave Eggers is not just Valentino Achak Deng's—it's a testament to millions of displaced individuals worldwide. Through vivid storytelling, it invites readers to witness history, feel empathy, and engage with issues that transcend borders. Whether you're a student, educator, or curious reader, understanding what *The What* is about opens the door to a profound and unforgettable journey.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'What Is the What' by Dave Eggers about?

'What Is the What' is a novel by Dave Eggers that tells the fictionalized autobiography of Valentino Achak Deng, a Sudanese Lost Boy who fled the civil war in Sudan and eventually resettled in the United States.

Who is the main character in 'What Is the What' and is he a real person?

The main character is Valentino Achak Deng, who is a real person. The book is based on his life story, blending fact with narrative fiction.

What themes does 'What Is the What' explore?

The novel explores themes such as survival, displacement, the refugee experience, war, identity, and the challenges of assimilation in a new country.

Why did Dave Eggers write 'What Is the What'?

Dave Eggers wrote the book to bring awareness to the struggles of Sudanese refugees and to tell Valentino Achak Deng's inspiring story in a compelling, accessible way.

Is 'What Is the What' considered a memoir or a novel?

'What Is the What' is a work of creative nonfiction often classified as a novel, since it fictionalizes real events to tell Valentino's story in a narrative form.

How accurate is the portrayal of events in 'What Is the What'?

While based on true events and Valentino Achak Deng's life, the book uses fictional techniques and some composite characters to enhance the storytelling, so it is not a strict factual account.

What impact did 'What Is the What' have on public awareness of Sudanese refugees?

The book significantly raised awareness about the plight of Sudanese refugees and the Lost Boys, highlighting their struggles and resilience to a wider audience.

Has 'What Is the What' been adapted into other media?

Yes, there have been discussions and attempts to adapt the book into film or stage productions, but as of now, no major adaptation has been widely released.

What is the significance of the title 'What Is the What'?

The title refers to a phrase from the Dinka language, reflecting the search for meaning and identity amid chaos, and the elusive nature of truth in Valentino's journey.

Additional Resources

What Is The What by Dave Eggers: An In-Depth Exploration of a Modern Literary Achievement

what is the what by dave eggers stands as a compelling question that directs readers into the heart of a unique literary work blending autobiography, historical narrative, and novelistic storytelling. Published in 2006, this book is a creative nonfiction piece that recounts the harrowing journey of Valentino Achak Deng, one of the Lost Boys of Sudan. Through Eggers' narrative craftsmanship, *What Is The What* transcends a mere refugee memoir, becoming a poignant exploration of identity, survival, and the long shadows of war.

Understanding What Is The What by Dave Eggers

At its core, *What Is The What* by Dave Eggers is a biographical novel rooted in the true story of Valentino Achak Deng. The book follows Valentino's odyssey from a peaceful childhood in Sudan to the brutal realities of civil war, displacement, and eventual asylum in the United States. Eggers meticulously reconstructs Valentino's voice, offering readers an intimate perspective on the Sudanese conflict and the experiences of refugees.

The narrative's title, "What Is The What," reflects a phrase from the Dinka language, which Valentino uses to describe the world's confusion and chaos. This linguistic nuance encapsulates the book's broader themes: the search for meaning amid upheaval and the struggle to define oneself against a backdrop of violence and exile.

The Narrative Style and Literary Approach

One of the defining features of *What Is The What* by Dave Eggers is its hybrid storytelling technique. The book straddles the line between memoir and novel, blending factual recounting with literary embellishments that enhance emotional resonance without sacrificing authenticity. Eggers' collaboration with Valentino Achak Deng ensured that the narrative remained faithful to real events while enabling a compelling literary form.

This approach allows the text to function on multiple levels: as a historical document illuminating Sudan's civil war, as an individual's testimony of resilience, and as a universal meditation on displacement and hope. Eggers employs vivid imagery, compelling dialogue, and a nonlinear timeline to immerse readers in Valentino's world, making the story accessible without diminishing its complexity.

Contextualizing the Lost Boys of Sudan

To appreciate what is the what by Dave Eggers fully, one must understand the historical and political context surrounding the Lost Boys of Sudan. During the Second Sudanese Civil War (1983-2005), thousands of children were separated from their families, forced to flee violence, starvation, and death. These displaced youths, predominantly from the Dinka ethnic group, trekked hundreds of miles across hostile terrain, enduring unimaginable hardships.

Valentino Achak Deng's story symbolizes the collective experience of these Lost Boys, who later became a focus of international humanitarian efforts. The book sheds light on the global refugee crisis and challenges readers to confront the human cost of conflict, displacement, and the complexities of assimilation into new cultures.

Key Themes and Analytical Insights

What Is The What by Dave Eggers delves deeply into several interwoven themes that resonate far beyond Valentino's personal saga. These thematic explorations contribute to the book's critical acclaim and its relevance in discussions about war literature and refugee narratives.

Survival and Identity

Valentino's journey is one of relentless survival against overwhelming odds. The book chronicles not just physical endurance but also the psychological struggle to maintain identity amid displacement. Valentino's efforts to preserve his cultural heritage while adapting to life in America highlight the tension between past and present, homeland and diaspora.

War and Its Aftermath

Eggers does not shy away from the brutal realities of the Sudanese civil war, portraying its impact on individuals and communities. The narrative exposes the reader to atrocities such as child soldier recruitment, famine, and ethnic cleansing, providing a stark reminder of war's human toll. Furthermore, the book explores the long-term consequences of conflict, including trauma and social fragmentation.

Hope and Resilience

Despite its often grim subject matter, *What Is The What* by Dave Eggers is ultimately a testament to human resilience. Valentino's story is imbued with moments of hope, acts of kindness, and the unwavering pursuit of a better life. This optimistic thread invites readers to consider the capacity for renewal and the importance of empathy in global humanitarian discourse.

Comparative Perspectives and Literary Significance

In the landscape of contemporary literature, *What Is The What* occupies a unique position. It can be compared to other refugee memoirs such as Ishmael Beah's "A Long Way Gone" and Elie Wiesel's "Night," but it distinguishes itself through its hybrid narrative form and the involvement of a well-established American author in telling an African refugee's story.

Critics have praised Eggers for his sensitive handling of Valentino's voice and for bringing international attention to a relatively underreported crisis. However, some debates have arisen around the ethics of collaborative storytelling and the potential for Western authors to overshadow the voices of marginalized subjects. Nonetheless, the book's contribution to raising awareness and fostering cross-cultural understanding remains significant.

The Role of Collaboration in the Narrative

What Is The What stands out because it is not a straightforward autobiography but rather a collaborative project between Valentino Achak Deng and Dave Eggers. This partnership allowed for a polished literary style while maintaining the authenticity of the refugee experience. The collaboration raises important questions about authorship, representation, and narrative authority, which are increasingly relevant in global literary circles.

Audience Reception and Educational Impact

Since its publication, *What Is The What* by Dave Eggers has garnered a wide readership, including academic audiences, human rights advocates, and general readers interested in global issues. The book is frequently incorporated into university curricula to explore themes of migration, conflict, and postcolonial studies.

Readers often commend the emotional depth and educational value of the book, noting that it humanizes abstract geopolitical conflicts. Its use in educational settings has also sparked discussions about the refugee crisis worldwide and the role of literature in promoting social justice.

Pros and Cons of the Book's Approach

- **Pros:** Engaging narrative style, raises awareness of Sudanese conflict, humanizes refugee experiences, combines literary artistry with factual storytelling.
- **Cons:** Some readers may question the blending of fact and fiction, potential issues of narrative ownership, and occasional pacing challenges due to nonlinear storytelling.

Exploring what is the what by Dave Eggers inevitably involves weighing these aspects to appreciate how the book contributes to contemporary literature and humanitarian discourse.

Why What Is The What by Dave Eggers Remains Relevant

In an era marked by ongoing global displacement and refugee crises, *What Is The What* by Dave Eggers continues to resonate powerfully. The book's detailed portrayal of Valentino Achak Deng's experiences provides a human face to the statistics and headlines that often dominate discussions of migration and conflict.

Moreover, the narrative encourages empathy and a deeper understanding of the complexities faced by refugees adapting to new environments. In doing so, it serves as both a literary achievement and a call to awareness, reminding readers of the enduring consequences of war and the resilience of the human spirit.

By engaging with *What Is The What* by Dave Eggers, readers encounter a profound story that enriches their perspective on history, culture, and the ongoing challenges faced by displaced populations around the world. The book's impact extends beyond its pages, influencing public discourse and inspiring a more informed and compassionate global outlook.

[What Is The What By Dave Eggers](#)

what is the what by dave eggers: *What Is the What* Dave Eggers, 2009-02-24 *What Is the What* is the story of Valentino Achak Deng, a refugee in war-ravaged southern Sudan who flees from his village in the mid-1980s and becomes one of the so-called Lost Boys. Valentino's travels bring him in contact with enemy soldiers, with liberation rebels, with hyenas and lions, with disease and starvation, and with deadly murahaleen (militias on horseback)-the same sort who currently

terrorize Darfur. Eventually Deng is resettled in the United States with almost 4000 other young Sudanese men, and a very different struggle begins. Based closely on true experiences, *What Is the What* is heartbreaking and arresting, filled with adventure, suspense, tragedy, and, finally, triumph.

what is the what by dave eggers: The Every Dave Eggers, 2021-11-16 From the award-winning, bestselling author of *The Circle* comes an exciting new follow-up. When the world's largest search engine/social media company, the Circle, merges with the planet's dominant ecommerce site, it creates the richest and most dangerous—and, oddly enough, most beloved—monopoly ever known: the Every. Delaney Wells is an unlikely new hire at the Every. A former forest ranger and unwavering tech skeptic, she charms her way into an entry-level job with one goal in mind: to take down the company from within. With her compatriot, the not-at-all-ambitious Wes Makazian, they look for the Every's weaknesses, hoping to free humanity from all-encompassing surveillance and the emoji-driven infantilization of the species. But does anyone want what Delaney is fighting to save? Does humanity truly want to be free? Studded with unforgettable characters, outrageous outfits, and lacerating set-pieces, this companion to *The Circle* blends absurdity and terror, satire and suspense, while keeping the reader in apprehensive excitement about the fate of the company—and the human animal.

what is the what by dave eggers: A Heartbreaking Work Of Staggering Genius Dave Eggers, 2013-02-12 Exhilarating...Profoundly moving, occasionally angry, and often hilarious...A *Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* is, finally, a finite book of jest, which is why it succeeds so brilliantly (*The New York Times Book Review*). A *Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* is the unique, moving memoir of a college senior who, in the space of five weeks, loses both of his parents to cancer and inherits his eight-year-old brother. In his distinctive style unlike any other memoir, Egger's story is an exhilarating debut that manages to be simultaneously hilarious and wildly inventive, as well as a deeply heartfelt story of the love that holds a family together.

what is the what by dave eggers: How We Are Hungry Dave Eggers, 2010-05-28 *How We Are Hungry* is a gripping, lyrical and soulful collection of stories from the acclaimed author of *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*. Ranging from a doomed Irish setter's tales of running and jumping ("After I Was Thrown in the River and Before I Drowned") to a bitterly comic meditation on suicide and friendship ("Climbing to the Window, Pretending to Dance"), and from the Egyptian desert to the asphalt of Interstate 5, these stories are Eggers at his finest. By turns devastating, clear-eyed and funn - incredibly funny - this collection is a marvel.

what is the what by dave eggers: The Parade Dave Eggers, 2019-03-19 From the bestselling author of *The Circle* comes a taut, suspenseful story of two foreigners' role in a nation's fragile peace. With echoes of J. M. Coetzee and Graham Greene, this darkly funny novel (*The Los Angeles Times*) questions whether we can ever understand another nation's war, and what role we have in forging anyone's peace. An unnamed country is leaving the darkness of a decade at war, and to commemorate the armistice the government commissions a new road connecting two halves of the state. Two men, foreign contractors from the same company, are sent to finish the highway. While one is flighty and adventurous, wanting to experience the nightlife and people, the other wants only to do the work and go home. But both men must eventually face the absurdities of their positions, and the dire consequences of their presence.

what is the what by dave eggers: The Wild Things Dave Eggers, 2010-03-02 Max is a rambunctious eight-year-old, living with his mother and his sister, terrorizing the neighborhood on his bicycle. But Max's world is changing around him: His father is absent and his mother is increasingly distracted. Max's teenage sister is outgrowing him, leaving him alone in favor of her friends. Sad and angry, Max dons his wolf suit and makes terrible, ruinous mischief. Setting off into the night, Max finds a boat and sails away to an island. Here he meets strange and giant creatures. Creatures that rage and break things. Creatures that trample and scream. These monsters do everything Max feels inside! And so, Max appoints himself their king. Here, on a magnificent adventure with the creatures, Max can be the wildest thing of all. In this visionary new novel, Eggers brings an imaginary world vividly to life, filling it with monsters, chaos, and one very real little boy.

By turns beautiful and joyful, sorrowful and strange, *The Wild Things* is an astonishing literary triumph.

what is the what by dave eggers: *You Shall Know Our Velocity* Dave Eggers, 2009-11-04 An “entertaining and profoundly original” (San Francisco Chronicle) moving and hilarious tale of two friends who fly around the world trying to give away a lot of money and free themselves from a profound loss. • From the bestselling author of *The Circle*. “Nobody writes better than Dave Eggers about young men who aspire to be, at the same time, authentic and sincere.” —The New York Times Book Review *You Shall Know Our Velocity!* is the work of a wildly talented writer.... Like Kerouac's book, Eggers's could inspire a generation as much as it documents it. —LA Weekly

what is the what by dave eggers: *Zeitoun* Dave Eggers, 2010-06-15 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • From the bestselling author of *The Circle* • The true story of one family, caught between America's two biggest policy disasters: the war on terror and the response to Hurricane Katrina. Eggers' tone is pitch-perfect—suspense blended with just enough information to stoke reader outrage and what is likely to be a typical response: How could this happen in America? ... It's the stuff of great narrative nonfiction.” —The New York Times Book Review Abdulrahman and Kathy Zeitoun run a house-painting business in New Orleans. In August of 2005, as Hurricane Katrina approaches, Kathy evacuates with their four young children, leaving Zeitoun to watch over the business. In the days following the storm he travels the city by canoe, feeding abandoned animals and helping elderly neighbors. Then, on September 6th, police officers armed with M-16s arrest Zeitoun in his home. Told with eloquence and compassion, *Zeitoun* is a riveting account of one family's unthinkable struggle with forces beyond wind and water.

what is the what by dave eggers: *The Director of Color* Dave Eggers, 2025-12-02 The eighth short novella or long short story in Dave Eggers's *The Forgetters* series.

what is the what by dave eggers: *Your Fathers, Where Are They? And the Prophets, Do They Live Forever?* Dave Eggers, 2014-06-17 From Dave Eggers, best-selling author of *The Circle*, a tightly controlled, emotionally searching novel. *Your Fathers, Where Are They? And the Prophets, Do They Live Forever?* is the formally daring, brilliantly executed story of one man struggling to make sense of his country, seeking answers the only way he knows how. In a barracks on an abandoned military base, miles from the nearest road, Thomas watches as the man he has brought wakes up. Kev, a NASA astronaut, doesn't recognize his captor, though Thomas remembers him. Kev cries for help. He pulls at his chain. But the ocean is close by, and nobody can hear him over the waves and wind. Thomas apologizes. He didn't want to have to resort to this. But they really needed to have a conversation, and Kev didn't answer his messages. And now, if Kev can just stop yelling, Thomas has a few questions.

what is the what by dave eggers: *Tomorrow Most Likely* Dave Eggers, 2019-04-02 Every night we say goodnight. But tonight we also ask, What will tomorrow bring? An odd-sounding song? A worried-looking bug? A mysterious rock? Most likely, all of the above. In a modern take on the classic goodnight book, rather than focusing on going to bed, this little boy contemplates the next day and all of the wonderful, dreamy, and silly things that are to come. Whimsical, poignant, and hopeful, this sweet book from bestselling author Dave Eggers and award-winning illustrator Lane Smith is a bedtime story for tomorrow ever after.

what is the what by dave eggers: *The Captain and the Glory* Dave Eggers, 2019-11-19 A savage satire of a United States in the throes of insanity, this hilarious novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *The Circle* tells the story of a noble ship, the *Glory*, and the loud, clownish, and foul Captain who steers it to the brink of disaster. A short parable for our times that is 30 percent *Veep*, 30 percent *Voltaire*, and the rest flavored by Margaret Atwood, Jonathan Swift, Percival Everett, and Salman Rushdie. —Los Angeles Review of Books When the decorated Captain of a great ship descends the gangplank for the final time, a new leader, a man with a yellow feather in his hair, vows to step forward. Though he has no experience, no knowledge of nautical navigation or maritime law, and though he has often remarked he doesn't much like boats, he solemnly swears to shake things up. Together with his band of petty thieves and confidence men known as the

Upskirt Boys, the Captain thrills his passengers, writing his dreams and notions on the cafeteria wipe-away board, boasting of his exemplary anatomy, devouring cheeseburgers, and tossing overboard anyone who displeases him. Until one day a famous pirate, long feared by passengers of the Glory but revered by the Captain for how phenomenally masculine he looked without a shirt while riding a horse, appears on the horizon. Absurd, hilarious, and all too recognizable, The Captain and the Glory is a wicked farce of contemporary America only Dave Eggers could dream up.

what is the what by dave eggers: The Eyes and the Impossible Dave Eggers, 2025-04-01 NEWBERY MEDAL WINNER • #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER An enthralling novel for all ages by award-winning author Dave Eggers, told from the perspective of one uniquely endearing dog—featuring beautiful artwork from Caldecott honoree Shawn Harris. “Johannes is a highly engaging narrator whose exuberance and good nature run like a bright thread through the novel’s pages.” —The New York Times Johannes, a free dog, lives in an urban park by the sea. His job is to be the Eyes—to see everything that happens within the park and report back to the park’s elders, three ancient Bison. His friends—a seagull, a raccoon, a squirrel, and a pelican—work with him as the Assistant Eyes, observing the humans and other animals who share the park and making sure the Equilibrium is in balance. But changes are afoot. More humans arrive in the park. A new building, containing mysterious and hypnotic rectangles, goes up. And then there are the goats—an actual boatload of goats—who appear, along with a shocking revelation that changes Johannes’s view of the world. Lushly illustrated with old world paintings and new artwork from Caldecott honoree Shawn Harris, this story about friendship, beauty, liberation (and running very, very fast), will make readers of all ages see the world around them in a wholly new way.

what is the what by dave eggers: Understanding Dave Eggers Timothy W. Galow, 2014-11-12 Understanding Dave Eggers surveys the work of one of the most celebrated American authors of the twenty-first century and is the first book-length study incorporating Eggers's novels, short-story collections, and film scripts. With a style aimed at students and general readers alike, Timothy W. Galow offers a textual analysis that uniquely combines Eggers's early autobiographical works and the subject of celebrity as well as his later texts that deal with humanitarian issues. Galow devotes a chapter to each of Eggers's major works, from his first book, the Pulitzer Prize-nominated memoir, A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius, though his recent novel, A Hologram for the King, a National Book Award finalist about an aging American businessman chasing success in Saudi Arabia. Other chapters cover You Shall Know Our Velocity, What Is the What, and Zeitoun. Each chapter studies the major themes and styles of the featured work while also placing it in the context of Eggers's oeuvre. In this way Galow examines each text in its own right, but he also offers us a larger guide to all of Egger's work. Providing important historical background for understanding Eggers's literary work, Galow examines how Eggers's texts are deeply invested in both his own public persona and the changing cultural conditions in the United States over the past twenty years. Galow's careful analysis is conveyed in clear language that engages issues important to contemporary critics without being pedantic or jargon laden. As a result Understanding Dave Eggers can serve as a useful introduction to the author's work or a valuable resource for the devoted reader.

what is the what by dave eggers: The Circle Dave Eggers, 2013-10-08 INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER • A bestselling dystopian novel that tackles surveillance, privacy and the frightening intrusions of technology in our lives—a “compulsively readable parable for the 21st century” (Vanity Fair). When Mae Holland is hired to work for the Circle, the world’s most powerful internet company, she feels she’s been given the opportunity of a lifetime. The Circle, run out of a sprawling California campus, links users’ personal emails, social media, banking, and purchasing with their universal operating system, resulting in one online identity and a new age of civility and transparency. As Mae tours the open-plan office spaces, the towering glass dining facilities, the cozy dorms for those who spend nights at work, she is thrilled with the company’s modernity and activity. There are parties that last through the night, there are famous musicians playing on the lawn, there are athletic activities and clubs and brunches, and even an aquarium of rare fish retrieved from the Marianas Trench by the CEO. Mae can’t believe her luck, her great fortune to work for the most

influential company in the world—even as life beyond the campus grows distant, even as a strange encounter with a colleague leaves her shaken, even as her role at the Circle becomes increasingly public. What begins as the captivating story of one woman's ambition and idealism soon becomes a heart-racing novel of suspense, raising questions about memory, history, privacy, democracy, and the limits of human knowledge.

what is the what by dave eggers: You Shall Know Our Velocity Dave Eggers, 2011-05-25 In his first novel, Dave Eggers has written a moving and hilarious tale of two friends who fly around the world trying to give away a lot of money and free themselves from a profound loss. It reminds us once again what an important, necessary talent Dave Eggers is.

what is the what by dave eggers: A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius Dave Eggers, 2001 The author chronicles his life after the deaths of his parents, when he was responsible for the care and upbringing of his eight-year-old brother, and offers a new appendix clarifying, amending, and expanding the original work.

what is the what by dave eggers: It Takes a Storyteller to Know a Storyteller Julia Nikiel, 2023-01-23 If it is indeed impossible to think beyond capitalism, then capital has become reality. If global capitalism organizes reality through the stories it weaves, capital is (as strong as) its fictions. If capital is reality and capital is fiction, then reality as such is fiction as well. It is by reading this fiction for both patterns and inconsistencies that contemporary individuals can challenge global capital and unveil its hypocrisies; and it is by fighting fiction with fiction, i.e. projecting new realities – such as those in the post-millennial novels by William Gibson, Douglas Coupland, and Dave Eggers – that people can imagine the world anew.

what is the what by dave eggers: Quotes Web 555 Voicu Mihnea Simandan, 2009-12-28 A collection of 555 quotes on 171 topics: Academia * Achievements * Age * Airlines * Alcohol * Amateurs * America & The Americans * Anger * Animals * Beauty * Books * Boredom * Bosses * Britain & The British * Buddhism * Burma & The Burmese * Business * Capital Punishment * Cats * Children * Chinese, The * Christianity * Churches * Clothes * Cities * Communication * Communism * Conscience * Conspiracies * Countries * Cowards * Crying * Culture & Civilization * Curiosity * Dancing * Danger * Death * Desert * Desires * Destiny * Dignity * Dirt * Dogs * Dreams * Drinking * Duty * Education * Emotions * Enemies * English Language, The * Envy * Europe * Evil * Family * Faith * Fate * Fear * Fighting * Fitness * Food * Football * Foreigners * Free Will * Freedom * Friends * Friendship * Future * Germans * Generosity * Geology * God * Good & Evil * Gossip and many more...

what is the what by dave eggers: Neoliberalism and Contemporary Literary Culture Mitchum Huehls, Rachel Greenwald Smith, 2017-09-19 How has the pervasive spread of free market thinking affected contemporary literature? Neoliberalism has been a buzzword in literary studies for well over a decade, but its meaning remains ambiguous and its salience contentious. In *Neoliberalism and Contemporary Literary Culture*, Mitchum Huehls and Rachel Greenwald Smith offer a wide-ranging exploration of contemporary literature through the lens of neoliberalism's economic, social, and cultural ascendancy. Bringing together accessible and provocative essays from top literary scholars, this innovative collection examines neoliberalism's influence on literary theory and methodology, literary form, literary representation, and literary institutions. A four-phase approach to the historical emergence of neoliberalism from the early 1970s to the present helps to clarify the complexity of the relationship between neoliberalism and literary culture. Layering that history over the diverse changes in a US-Anglo literary field that has moved away from postmodern forms and sensibilities, the book argues that many literary developments—including the return to realism, the rise of the memoir, the embrace of New Materialist theory, and the pursuit of aesthetic autonomy—make more coherent sense when viewed in light of neoliberalism's ever-increasing expansion into the cultural sphere. The essays gathered here engage a diverse range of theorists, including Michel Foucault, Wendy Brown, Giorgio Agamben, Bruno Latour, Maurice Merleau-Ponty, Gary Becker, and Eve Sedgwick to address the reciprocal relationship between neoliberalism and conceptual fields such as biopolitics, affect, phenomenology, ecology, and new materialist ontology.

These theoretical perspectives are complemented by innovative readings of contemporary works of literature by writers such as Jennifer Egan, Ben Lerner, Gillian Flynn, Teju Cole, Jonathan Franzen, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Salvador Plascencia, E. L. James, Lisa Robertson, Kenneth Goldsmith, and many others. Neoliberalism and Contemporary Literary Culture is essential reading for anyone invested in the ever-changing state of literary culture.

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