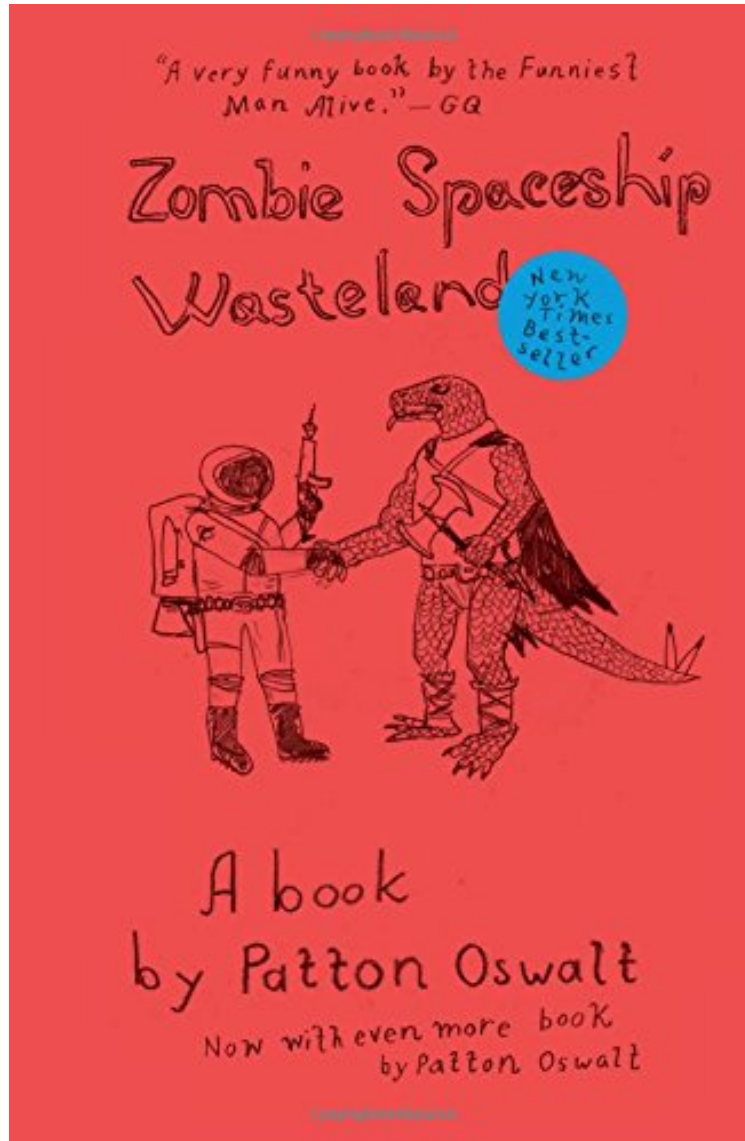


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## **Zombie Spaceship Wasteland: A Book by Patton Oswalt**

*Patton Oswalt*

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#422972 in Books Oswalt Patton 2011-11-08 2011-11-08Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.44 x .70 x 5.50l, .55 #File Name: 1439149097288 pagesZombie Spaceship Wasteland | File size: 55.Mb

**Patton Oswalt : *Zombie Spaceship Wasteland: A Book by Patton Oswalt*** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Zombie Spaceship Wasteland: A Book by Patton Oswalt*:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A mish-mashBy ShylaPatton is a very gifted writer. He can paint a wonderful picture for you, and take you directly into his memories. You can see, smell, hear, touch everything he is describing to you. What I dislike about this book his how he seems to write it from a perspective of, "I may never get to write another book again, so I'd better cram every random thing into this one."I like the personal anecdotes when I

read books from my favorite entertainers. "The Bedwetter" by Sarah Silverman delivers on that in spades, almost to the point of "overshare." (Sarah fans will get that joke.) "Zombie Spaceship Wasteland," on the other hand, is screaming for more of that. My favorite parts of the book were the chapters about his nightmare show on the outskirts of Vancouver B.C. in 1993, his job at a movie theater as a teen, and the one about his uncle. They gave you glimpses into his life and upbringing. That's what I like. One of the most endearing parts of the book, when he describes seeing "Nosferatu" at the library as a small child, he wrote as a footnote. I would've appreciated a full page or two on that. I hope one day he writes a more in-depth autobiography of some sort, or a fictional novel. I had a hard time getting through a lot of the random stuff in this book, such as the comic book pages, the greeting card illustrations and descriptions, etc. Most of that was just not interesting to me, although I can't help but appreciate Patton's passion for the things he loves. I DID enjoy the chapter on Hobo songs. (haha) Overall, if your literary cup of tea is personal, ordered, and less on the abstract side, I don't know if this book will be for you. I really struggled between giving three stars or four stars. Most accurately, I would say 3 1/2. But I had to be honest, it's not quite a 4. It was a challenge to get through some parts of it, and the "random" chapters break the flow of the good storytelling in the better chapters. My rating is based on the material itself. The writing is great, and his witty humor shines through. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Just finished, and... By Carla H. here I am, reading in bed. At the line "Worst Beckett play ever", I laughed so hard that my CPAP mask briefly levitated off of my face. Bravo, Patton, you got me. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Uneven, occasionally brilliant By M. Drudzinski I really wanted to enjoy this book, but it was tough. The book isn't a coherent story like comedian Mike Birbiglia's book, it's more a collection of random pieces -- everything from mock greeting cards (actually, hilarious) to stories about L.A. to concepts like "Zombie, Spaceship, Wasteland". I don't always object to such disjointed material -- it's part of what makes Patton's stand-up so entertaining -- but in book form it doesn't work as well. The book felt thrown together. As if Patton's agent felt it was time the comedian branched out into a new medium and Patton simply collected random musings from his journal. The material sometimes reminds you of his irreverent stand-up, but it's really uneven. Sometimes the pieces just fall flat. I would have liked more stories from the road (he does touch on this but not enough IMO), especially because Patton really struggled on his way to success. I'm sure he has so much more to say about that arduous journey. For Patton's hard-core fans, check the book out just to get another glimpse into his arcane madness. But for casual fans, I'd recommend going to YouTube and watching excerpts from his stand-up. That's where he really shines.

Now in paperback, from a "multi-faceted, medium-hopping, culture skewering performer" (SPIN), this is a journey through the world of Patton Oswalt, best known for his roles in film (Big Fan and Ratatouille) and television (The King of Queens and The United States of Tara), but also beloved for his ascerbic, highly eloquent, and wildly funny standup comedy. Prepare yourself for a journey through the world of Patton Oswalt, one of the most creative, insightful, and hysterical voices on the entertainment scene today. Widely known for his roles in the films Big Fan and Ratatouille, as well as the television hit The King of Queens, Patton Oswalt—a staple of Comedy Central—has been amusing audiences for decades. Now, with *Zombie Spaceship Wasteland*, he offers a fascinating look into his most unusual, and lovable, mindscape. Oswalt combines memoir with uproarious humor, from snow forts to Dungeons Dragons to gifts from Grandma that had to be explained. He remembers his teen summers spent working in a movie Cineplex and his early years doing stand-up. Readers are also treated to several graphic elements, including a vampire tale for the rest of us and some greeting cards with a special touch. Then there's the book's centerpiece, which posits that before all young creative minds have anything to write about, they will home in on one of three story lines: zombies, spaceships, or wastelands. Oswalt chose wastelands, and ever since he has been mining our society's wasteland for perversion and excess, pop culture and fatty foods, indie rock and single-malt scotch. *Zombie Spaceship Wasteland* is an inventive account of the evolution of Patton Oswalt's wildly insightful worldview, sure to indulge his legion of fans and lure many new admirers to his very entertaining "wasteland."

From Booklist Comedian Oswalt (*The King of Queens*, *Caprica*) offers up a collection of colorful essays ranging in topic from his experiences working at a movie theater to sends-ups of eccentric relatives, including a grandmother who gives exceedingly odd birthday gifts. To delve into the book is to take a tour of Oswalt's delightfully offbeat mind: he shares with readers what he was doing to procrastinate while writing certain chapters, suggests some truly morbid greeting cards, and parodies the vampire craze in comic-book form. The title is a reference to Oswalt's theory that creative teens gravitate toward three subjects for their early stories: zombies, spaceships, or wastelands. Oswalt found himself drawn toward wastelands, a natural choice for a comedian who likes to poke fun at society. Oswalt is a wonderfully descriptive writer, vividly evoking his zombielike coworker at the theater, a grim Canadian comedy club, and the wanderings of his teen imagination with sharp, sardonic prose. --Kristine Huntley "Patton Oswalt...is one of those rare performers whose material translates into any medium without losing its sharpness--including, for the first time, print. . . . It is well worth it to join him on his odyssey."--Washington Post "Sharp storytelling and sardonic wit.... Oswalt populates these stories with expertly drawn characters, and infuses them with a limitless supply of cultural references and deft turns of phrase." —Boston Globe "A thoughtful, hilarious, quasi-memoir that puts the standard-

issue comedy-routine-in-book-form to shame.” —SPIN“Patton Oswalt is one of those rare performers whose material translates into any medium without losing its sharpness—including, for the first time, print.... It is well worth it to join him on his odyssey.” —Washington Post"A very funny book by the Funniest Man Alive." --GQAbout the AuthorPatton Oswalt is the author of the New York Times bestseller *Zombie Spaceship Wasteland*. He has released four TV specials and four critically acclaimed comedy albums, including the Grammy-nominated *My Weakness Is Strong*. He put together the *Comedians of Comedy* tour and television series. Oswalt has also appeared on many television shows and in more than twenty films, including *Young Adult*, *Big Fan*, and *Ratatouille*. He lives in Los Angeles, California.