

1: Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War - Wikipedia

Grunt tackles the science behind some of a soldier's most challenging adversaries—panic, exhaustion, heat, flies, noise—and introduces us to the scientists who seek to conquer them. Roach visits a repurposed movie studio where amputee actors help prepare Marine Corps medics for the shock and gore of combat wounds.

The Curious Science of Humans at War gives its readers a glimpse into the fascinating and often bizarre world of military science. Beginning with an anecdote about the "chicken gun"—the massive, artillery grade gun that shoots frozen chickens at jets to test whether the windshields can withstand high-velocity collisions with birds—the book sheds light on the unexpected, innovative solutions scientists have come up with to tackle the unique problems faced by the military both on the battlefield and off. The "flame goddess" Margaret Auerbach leads her on a tour of the Ouellette Thermal Test Facility, where Roach witnesses a test on various swatches of fabric. The scientists at Natick Labs are also researching liquid-repellent fabrics. Roach watches ketchup, coffee, and milk roll off a patch of camouflage fabric. This brings up the broader question of safety, which leads Roach to examine the different kinds of protective gear available to the military. There are many different kinds of protective gear soldiers wear: In combat, any part of the body can be injured, including the heel, which poses one of the most complicated problems for scientists. Getting official approval for projects like WIAMan can take years—especially when that research could, theoretically, be done with human cadavers. Genital transplants come with their own host of problems, however. In addition to the medical difficulties of the host rejecting a transplant or a new transplant failing to function properly, there are legal quandaries, i. These are sticky questions currently being debated. In , a physician by the name of Dr. Baer realized that maggots, natural consumers of dead flesh, could be used to clean wounds of necrotic cells and debris that is difficult to remove surgically. Since then, the "maggot treatment" has been prescribed sparingly, but with impressive results. Soldiers, as it happens, are hesitant to receive the maggot treatment or to "mess with Nature"—the reason one Navy SEAL gives for refusing to take anti-diarrhea medicine, despite proof that Nature could kill him. Instead, she focuses on the human side of war: Fighting diarrhea is one of those ways. Combating hyperthermia, dehydration, and heat stroke is another as detailed in the chapter "Sweating Bullet". Medical and military science is, first and foremost, striving to keep people alive—not kill them. Roach points specifically to the Navy. In the ocean, sailors have three primary enemies: Sailors divide their days up into "sixes"—six hours of watch, six hours of other duties, and six hours of personal time only some of which is used for sleep. This leads to exhaustion, impaired mental capacity, and stress, but in spite of many studies showing that this is detrimental to sailors, nothing has been done to change the system. The reality is that these conditions keep the sub running and, thus, keep the sailors safe and alive. Roach even quips, "Better dead-tired than dead. When a soldier or a dog dies in combat, their body is autopsied, and their manner of death is examined in detail. Did the recently designed medical device help in any way? Answering such questions is essential to keeping future soldiers alive. In the end, Grunt questions whether or not war is ever justified. The entire section is 1, words. [Unlock This Study Guide Now](#) Start your hour free trial to unlock this page Grunt study guide and get instant access to the following:

2: Grunt (Roach) - Summary Guide - Book Club Discussion Questions

*Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War [UK Import] [Mary Roach] on www.enganchecubano.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.*

While a four pound chicken hurtling in excess of miles per hour is a lethal projectile—OK, stop right there. But Rocky would be better off sticking with the usual modes of transportation for the aeronautically challenged. The Chicken gun has a sixty foot barrel, putting it solidly in the class of an artillery piece. But Rocky would be better off sticking with the usual modes of transportation for the aeronautically challenged. These are no Iron Man chickens. The poultry the Army is using for its much-enlarged version of birdshot have already been relieved of their pluck, among other things. They are standing in for the many avian perils that endanger military pilots, and have been aimed at test planes. Roach does not report whether the cannon issued a squawk along with the boom when it let the feathers fly. This is what happens when you turn Mary Roach, author of such gleeful romps as *Bonk a long, hard look at sex*, *Stiff* yes, dealing with late residents, and nothing to do with that other book, *Spook* looking into where they might have gone, *Packing for Mars* the joys and bodily fluids of space travel, and *Gulp* a journey through the alimentary canal even Captain Willard may have taken a pass on, loose on the US military. Things like dealing with noise, heat, sharks, submarine rescue, keeping coyotes away from the field test cadavers, the joys of flies and maggots, and then it gets back to familiar MR turf, keeping up with the latest science on letting go. Roach spends a lot of time at a military test location, Camp Lemonnier. I picture it being devoured by swarms of tiny, chainsaw-toothed Liz Lemons. First, the more serious. Safety in vehicles, a favorite target for IEDs, is a major concern for the military. Roach looks at vehicles designed to minimize potential blast damage, not just to the vehicle but to its occupants. It amplifies quiet sound and dampens loud noise. She provides a look at progress in reconstructing, even transplanting, sex organs damaged or lost by gunfire or explosives. She works up a sweat explaining perspiration. Until this trip, I thought of sweat as a sort of self-generated dip in the lake. It essentially is blood. Sweat comes from plasma, the watery, colorless portion of blood. A dip in the lake cools by conduction: Highly effective but not always practical. Sweat cools by evaporation: From the capillaries of the skin, the hot plasma is offloaded through sweat glands². Evaporation carries heat away from the body, in the form of water vapor. I envision sweat vampires lurking in locker rooms. Roach explains how heat illness works. Blast Boxers are examined, although not while—you know, they are in use. Turns out you would need so many layers of protection to fend off IEDs that you would be too weighted down to walk. Flame resistance in fabric is considered as well as the temperature at which human flesh burns. Also considered are the relative benefits of going shirtless vs shirted on a hot day, the uses of kitty litter in theater, and why the military is so insistent on personnel being clean-shaven. You will learn about the uses and hazards of filth flies and, yes, maggots. Reece Lodder Aircraft design does not stop at maximizing lift, and getting the most speed and endurance per unit of fuel. There are more human concerns that need to be addressed, particularly when the shit hits the —everything. On the return flight, a faulty seal combined with the pressure differential between the toilets tiered chambers causing the contents to spew into the crew cabin. But one must respect it when latrine humor hooks up with an actual latrine. Despite the humorous aspect, the military has to cope with thousands of personnel in foreign places, and the response to the new locale can often be gastrointestinal. What if, say, Seal Team Six, were en route to take out Osama Bin Laden and was thwarted because one or more of the seals had sprung a leak. This is what Roach does, entertains us with the silliness aspect, the gross aspect, while also communicating important factual material. Mary Roach - from *electronpencil*. While stopping short of staring at goats, one of the perhaps less legendary escapades of international conflict Roach sniffed out occurred when WWII allies wanted to make life miserable for Japanese officers, and so developed a particularly pungent substance that Chinese resistance fighters could surreptitiously spray on the invaders, causing them, it was expected, extreme social shame. Little, was charged with developing the unlovely scent. Sewage Odor was no good at all. Fourteen percent of Hispanic subjects described it as an odor that would make them feel good. Around 20 percent of Caucasians, Asians, and black South Africans thought it smelled edible. Vomit Odor made a

similarly poor showing, with 27 percent of Xhosa subjects describing it as a feel-good smell and 3 percent of Caucasians being willing to wear it as a scent. Which explains a lot about the olfactory ambience inside the rush hour F train. This is presumably not intended for those involved in extreme water sports, but they would probably profit from the information as well.

3: Mary Roach - Wikipedia

Grunt tackles the science behind some of a soldier's most challenging adversaries—panic, exhaustion, heat, noise—and introduces us to the scientists who seek to conquer them. Mary Roach dodges hostile fire with the U.S. Marine Corps Paintball Team as part of a study on hearing loss and.

When we first met her, she was knee-deep in a stack of dead people. *The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers*, published in , took you on a tour of a body farm at the University of Tennessee, where corpses lay rotting in the grass. It showed you decapitated heads kept in roasting pans, where young plastic surgeons learned to do nose jobs on the flesh of the dead. Nary a page went by without some blood and gore. You went along willingly nonetheless, because Roach is such a winsome presence. Funny but not glib, nosy but not prurient, Roach is the consummate tour guide. She would go on to walk us through outer space Packing for Mars , digestion Gulp , ghosts Spook and sex Bonk. While never exactly performing as an investigative journalist, Roach has specialized in tackling the uncomfortable, and at the heart of her every book is her desire to explore the places from which we recoil. And in spite of herself, even Roach ends up coming back to it. There is a lot of excellent information here that only Roach seems able to find and deliver. She starts with an account of the chicken gun , a cannon with a 60ft barrel that fires literal chickens at fighter planes to test the potential that they will be damaged by errant birds during a flight. This sort of absurdity is the kind of thing Roach always finds pleasing, instructive about the strange ways in which humans solve problems. Other oddities Roach comes across include: She meets a diarrhea specialist: Maggots, like puppies, will stand on their heads to get at food — in their case dead tissue — if necessary. But the story in *Grunt* which Roach really executes perfectly is about something not at all absurd: Roach handles the subject with clear eyes and heart. She introduces us to one patient, a Captain White, whose first thought when he stepped on an IED was not for his groin but for those under his command. For his story, for just a moment, Roach slips in a reminder of what we are really talking about: It turns out, Roach will tell you later, that you can refashion a urethra from cheek skin. You can build a new penis from forearm skin. The nerves will grow back. You can install a penis pump to get an erection. All of this is related in a style that lightly shames some of those who doubt this is important, some of whom happen to be army generals themselves, Roach tells you. The doctors, and Roach, take the matter much more seriously. In fact, the two chapters on this subject do a better job of articulating the injustices wrought on soldiers than many an anti-war tract has done. Still, before you know it, Roach is up and on to the next subject. At the end of the book she pauses to sum up the whole matter in the autopsy room, where dead soldiers are sent to be examined. But by then all the jokes in Roach have gone out.

4: Mary Roach (Author of Stiff)

Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War - Kindle edition by Mary Roach. Download it once and read it on your Kindle device, PC, phones or tablets. Use features like bookmarks, note taking and highlighting while reading Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War.

Career[edit] Picture used on the cover of Bonk, a book written by Mary Roach After college, Roach moved to San Francisco , California , and spent a few years working as a freelance copy editor. She worked as a columnist, and also worked in public relations for a brief time. Her writing career began while working part-time at the San Francisco Zoological Society, producing press releases on topics such as wart surgery on elephants. From to , Roach was part of "the Grotto," a San Francisco-based project and community of working writers and filmmakers. It was in this community that Roach got the push she needed to break into book writing. Telander of BookBanter, Roach answered the question of how she got started on her first book: This is what literally lit the fire under my butt. Roach stated in an interview with TheVerge. Roach volunteered herself and her husband in an ultrasound coital imaging experiment to study the effects of cuddling. Deng was experimenting with 4-D ultrasound imaging and was in need of test subjects to engage in sexual intercourse while wearing the ultrasound equipment so that real-time images could be captured. It was much harder for him. It was nothing for me. I was just a receptacle. I was just taking notes. Andries Van der Bilt, to analyze the complex ability of the human jaw to break down food and protect the mouth while chewing. Palmer , in order to collect core samples from the depths of the ocean off Antarctica in order to learn more about global warming. She takes the reader with her through the steps of her research, from learning about the material to getting to know the people who study it, as she described in a public dialog with Adam Savage. Dead man driving" was published in the Journal of Clinical Anatomy , and asks why cadavers are considered to be dishonored if they are being used to test explosives or crash testing. It is a cure for ignorance and fallacy. Good science writing peels away the blindness, generates wonder, and brings the open palm to the forehead: Now I get it! Because I know what religion says, and it perplexes me. Science seemed the better bet. She does this by addressing and answering the more practical and technical questions that an audience member may have, such as, how the astronauts go to the bathroom, eat, and sleep, as well as, question the effects of zero gravity on the bodies of the space travelers. Grothe , Roach described an aspect of how she arrives at her book subjects: Roach has visited all seven continents at least twice. In her article, civil engineer Jules Janssen remarked that bamboo is "stronger than wood, brick, and concrete A short, straight column of bamboo with a top surface area of 10 square centimeters could support an 11,pound elephant. San Francisco Reads" literary event program. The same year, she received a Special Citation in scientific inquiry from Maximum Fun.

5: Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War by Mary Roach

Mary Roach's latest bit of www.enganchecubano.com meticulously researched, beautifully written, and disturbingly funny as her previous books Grunt examines the science behind war, as well as the researchers who are leading the charge in these state-of-the-art developments.

The book, a kind of investigative journalism, has humorously and compassionately described the world of military scientists and their struggle to make every combat more survivable for fighters and soldiers. The book is not a compilation of tactics, strategies, honors, and armaments associated with war, but it is related to exhaustion, microbes, heat, shock and panic attacks. It tells about the details scientists can go to decrease the horror of wars. The author has described about the historical conditions spawning specific areas of research. Before the completion of the book, the author visited the fashion design studio of U. Army Natick Labs and found the reason why zipper could be a problematic thing for a sniper. She also visited repurposed movie studio, where actors help in learning to deal with different situations. Her account at Camp Lemmonier, Djibouti, in east Africa, shows how diarrhea can become a threat for national security. The author also tested caffeinated meat and sniffed a sample of a World War II stink bomb. CDC She has told about apparently absurd experiments and tests in the book that could help in bringing back soldiers alive. For example, experiments related to the study of body odors during stressful conditions, and the use of maggots to heal wounds. She has also discussed the chicken gun, a cannon having 60ft barrel with an ability to fire chickens at fighter planes to check the damage caused to the planes while being interacted by birds during a flight. Button on military uniforms Image source: She finds that bears like the taste of used tampons, and sharks are not specifically attracted towards human blood. The author has also described various other interesting experiments and some of them are in pretty much detail as, for example, the rules about buttons on military uniforms are covering about 22 pages of the book. She also describes the work on hearing. In this way, Roach has also tried to describe the strange ways in which human beings keep on experimenting and solving problems. Some of the chapters of the book are more effective as compared to others. For example, chapter 10 on smell is found to be less effective. On the other hand, some chapters are more hilarious as, for example, chapter 11 describing the story of a failed attempt to develop shark repellent is more amusing as well as disturbing as compared to other chapters. In the same way, the chapter on combat medic training is presented in a very entertaining and humorous way. As told earlier, some chapters are not effective and that is probably due to poor editing and hastily developed story. The author has covered fourteen subjects but those subjects often look like a collection of magazine articles. Moreover, some of the chapters are not easily relatable to anyone, and some chapters such as chapters on odors and flies have military terms making them somewhat difficult to understand. Overall, the curiosity of Roach is developing curiosity in many readers, on one hand, and on the other hand, it is quenching their thirst curiosity of the science associated with war.

6: NPR Choice page

The funny, affable Roach focuses on military science in her fifth book and amid the chicken guns and silk underpants, she wrestles with the injustices of war.

7: GRUNT by Mary Roach | Kirkus Reviews

Mary Roach dodges hostile fire with the U.S. Marine Corps Paintball Team as part of a study on hearing loss and survivability in combat. She visits the fashion design studio of U.S. Army Natick Labs and learns why a zipper is a problem for a sniper.

8: Grunt Summary - www.enganchecubano.com

GRUNT MARY ROACH pdf

Mary Roach and her book "Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War" are the topic of discussion on this episode of the Art of Manliness podcast.

9: Grunt by Mary Roach - OverDrive (Rakuten OverDrive): eBooks, audiobooks and videos for libraries

In Grunt, Mary Roach discusses the WIAMan or Warrior Injury Assessment Manikin. This is a project that was developed in the Army Research Laboratory. The person leading the development team is.

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