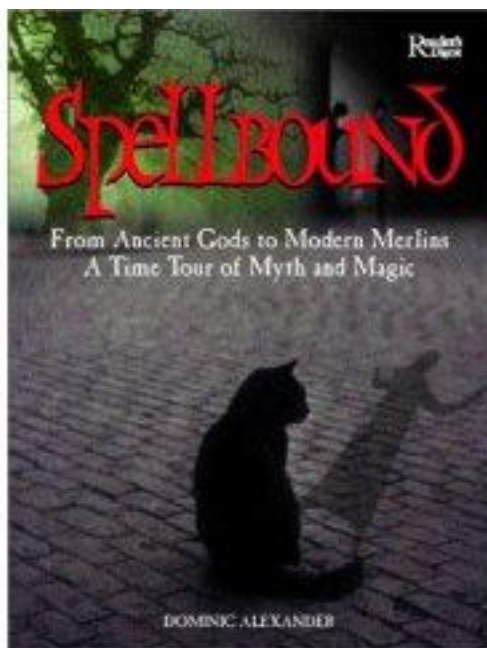


Spellbound



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著者:Essinger, James

出版者:Bantam Dell Pub Group

出版时间:2007-5

装帧:Pap

isbn:9780385340847

Welcome to the illogical, idiosyncratic, outrageous linguistic phenomenon known as the English language. The story of how this ragtag collection of words evolved is a winding tale replete with intriguing accidents and bizarre twists of fate. In this eye-opening, fabulously entertaining book, James Essinger unlocks the mysteries that have confounded linguists and scholars for millennia.

From the sophisticated writing systems of the ancient Sumerians through the tongue twisters of Middle English, the popular National Spelling Bee, and the mobile phone text-messaging of today, *Spellbound* chronicles the fascinating history of English spelling, including insights about the vast number of words English has borrowed from other languages (“orange,” “vanilla,” and “ketchup,” to name a few), and how

their meanings differ from country to country. Featuring a lively cast of characters ranging from the fictional to the historically noteworthy (Chaucer, Samuel Johnson, Noah Webster, Shakespeare, Bill Gates), this affectionate tribute to English spelling shows why our whimsical, capricious common language continues to hold us spellbound.

作者介绍:

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标签

李刚

评论

作者不是语言学学者，书籍内容深度较浅，算不上学术，口水话太多。另外书籍味道有点大，我对灰尘、刺激性气味过敏，一边看一边咳嗽。

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书评

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