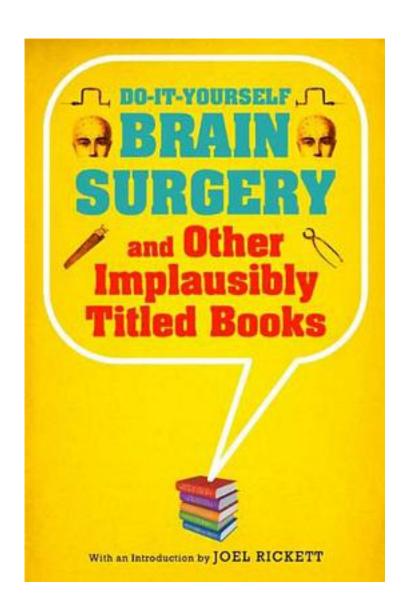
Do-It-Yourself Brain Surgery and Other Implausibly Titled Books



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A hilarious illustrated sampling of the most baffling, improbably titled books ever sent to press. The Diagram Prize is awarded by the "Bookseller "magazine each year to the book with the oddest title. Since its creation at the Frankfurt Book Fair in 1978, the Diagram has had some worthy winners, including "Bombproof Your Horse," "How to Avoid Huge Ships," and "People Who Don't Know They're Dead." And though these titles may seem like surefire winners, each year of this ingenious contest has seen stiff competition across all genres: fiction ("Fabulous Small Jews," 2003); instructional ("Knitting with Dog Hair," 1994); and even erotica ("The Big Book of Lesbian Horse Stories," 2002). Last year's competition featured "I Was Tortured by the Pygmy Love Queen"--which came in "second." Here, collected for the first time, are the fifty best entries the Diagram has ever seen. Presented complete with their (equally outlandish) jackets, these books are memorable, perplexing, and riotously funny. A perfect gift for a book lover or anyone in need of a laugh.

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目录:
Do-It-Yourself Brain Surgery and Other Implausibly Titled Books_下载链接1_
标签
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