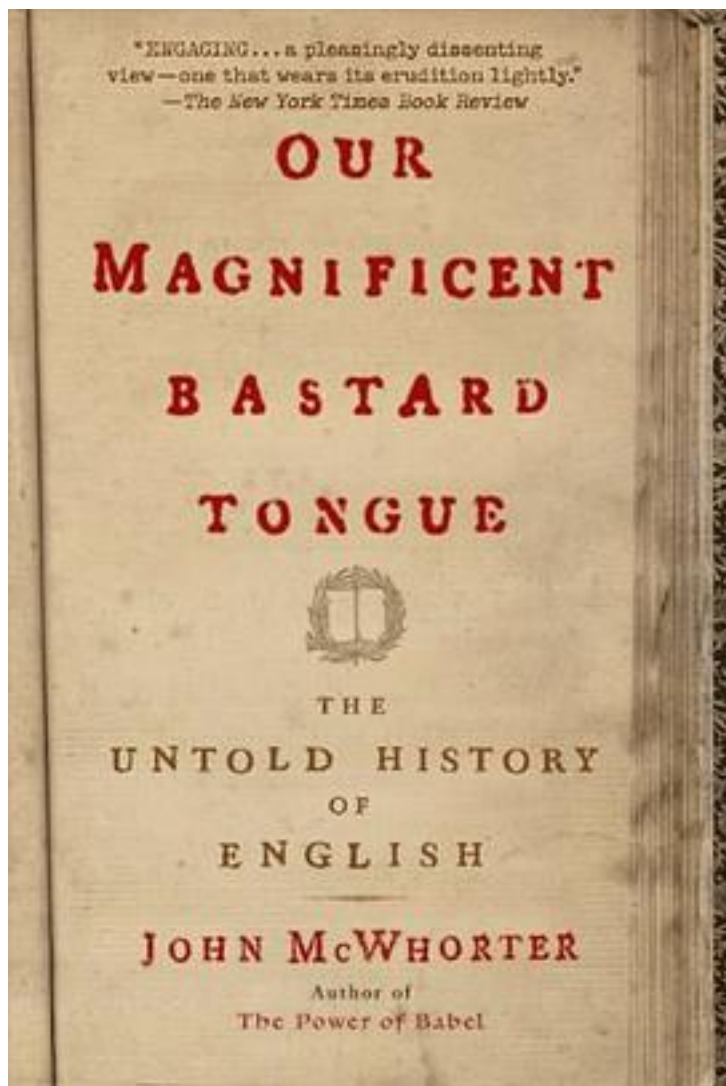


# Our Magnificent Bastard Tongue



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著者:John McWhorter

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A survey of the quirks and quandaries of the English language, focusing on our strange and wonderful grammar

Why do we say “I am reading a catalog” instead of “I read a catalog”? Why do we say “do” at all? Is the way we speak a reflection of our cultural values? Delving into these provocative topics and more, *Our Magnificent Bastard Language* distills hundreds of years of fascinating lore into one lively history.

Covering such turning points as the little-known Celtic and Welsh influences on English, the impact of the Viking raids and the Norman Conquest, and the Germanic invasions that started it all during the fifth century ad, John McWhorter narrates this colorful evolution with vigor. Drawing on revolutionary genetic and linguistic research as well as a cache of remarkable trivia about the origins of English words and syntax patterns, *Our Magnificent Bastard Tongue* ultimately demonstrates the arbitrary, maddening nature of English— and its ironic simplicity due to its role as a streamlined lingua franca during the early formation of Britain. This is the book that language aficionados worldwide have been waiting for (and no, it’s not a sin to end a sentence with a preposition).

作者介绍:

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标签

语言学

李刚

JohnMcWhorter

Babel

评论

fopcorn!

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很适合有声书，因为，他很罗嗦……

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Celtics/Vikings  
对英文进化史的注脚。讲真，语音语法没有好坏对错之分，全看情境(和出卷人)。只是，作者一直在风骚地卖弄自己的德文词汇量，有些浮夸。

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书评

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