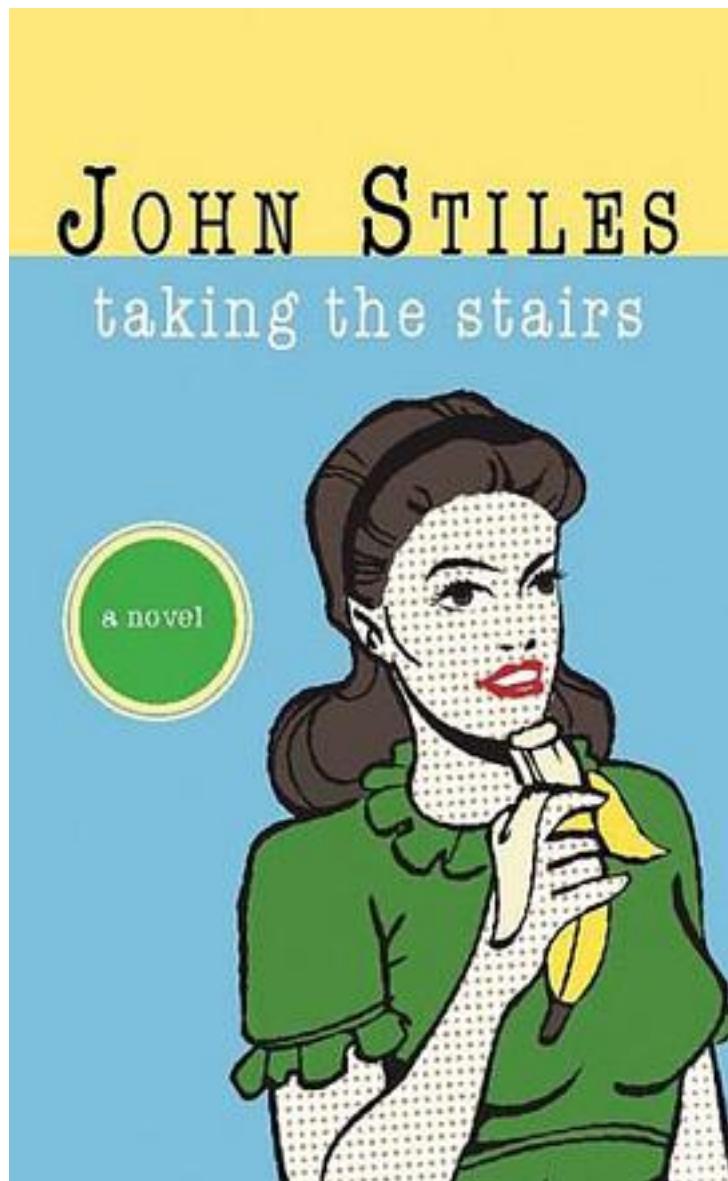


Taking the Stairs



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出版者:

出版时间:2008-5

装帧:

isbn:9780889712218

Jarod Palmer is a 32-year-old Toronto writer waiting for his big break -- though a small one will do. Haunted by his story of tragic teenage sweethearts in small-town Nova Scotia -- featuring the unforgettable Lana Banana - Jarod is infected by the ancient mariner's curse on all young unpublished novelists to "tell the tale". The problem is that he is trying to pursue his solitary and introspective task in a city that feels like a film set: "the lights are on all the time". Between answering constant phone calls from his doting, overprotective mother and a perpetually neurotic, alcoholic and soon-to-be-divorced film producer determined to convince Jared into plying his trade for the "dark side"; Jarod finds time to remain communicate just as ineffectively with his volatile Brazilian girlfriend. His pursuit of work gives new meaning to the term "odd jobs": dishwasher, copywriter, telemarketer, door-to-door salesman, film set gofer ...one day, despite a \$50-per-hour press-release-writing gig, Jarod finds himself at a restaurant table with his girlfriend, a bottle of ketchup, a bill, and not a dime in his pocket. Sorting through life in the city, writing, rejection letters from publishers, jobs, and a rocky relationship, "Taking the Stairs" is fast-moving, risky and infectiously fun. This is the story of Jarod Palmer's self-discovery -- a coming-of-age for the soon-to-be-evicted. It's the perfect book for anyone who's ever found themselves an elevator-ride away from their dreams.

作者介绍:

目录:

[Taking the Stairs 下载链接1](#)

标签

评论

[Taking the Stairs 下载链接1](#)

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