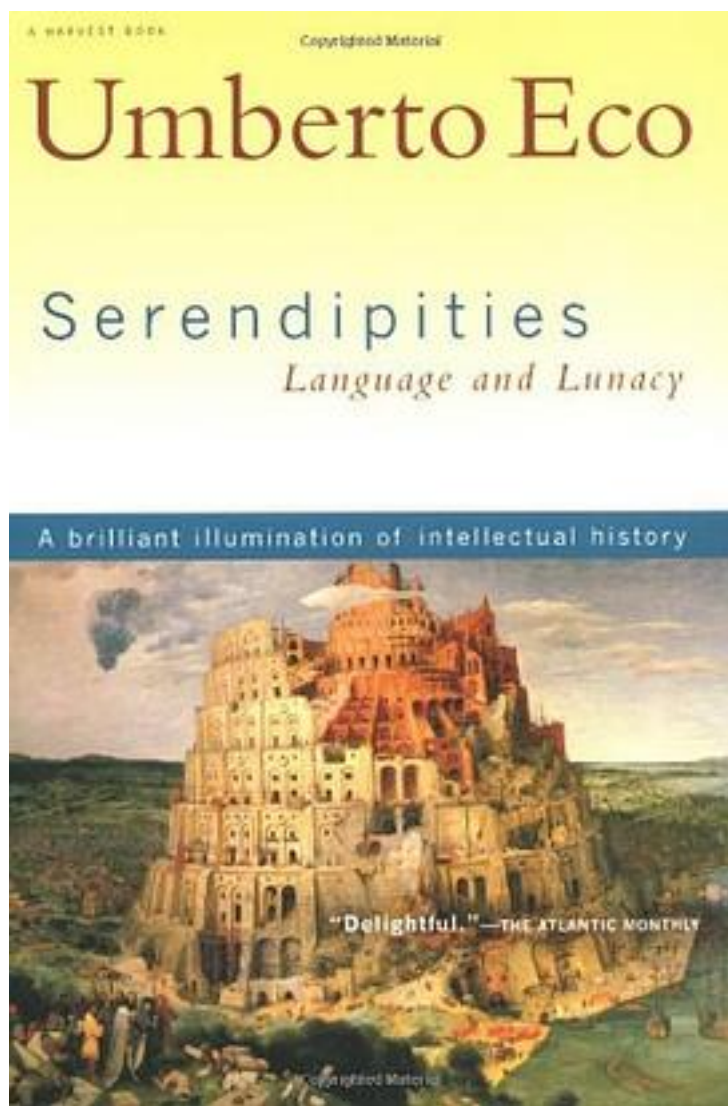


Serendipities



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SERENDIPITIES is an iconoclastic, dazzlingly erudite and witty demonstration, by one of the world's most brilliant thinkers, of how myths and lunacies can produce historical developments of no small significance. In Eco's words, 'even errors can produce interesting side effects'. Eco's book shows how: -- believers in a flat earth helped Columbus accidentally discover America -- the medieval myth of Prester John, the Christian king in Asia, assisted the European drive eastward -- the myth of the Rosicrucians affected the Masons, leading in turn to the widespread belief in a Jewish masonic plot to dominate the world and other forms of paranoid anti-Semitism in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries

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标签

语言学

语言

语源学

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完美的语言

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评论

关于寻找”完美的语言”的历史和相关语言学论点的小册子，第4篇看得十分痛苦，不过感觉还是大概看明白了一多半吧。确实如他在前言中所说，有一些过程省略掉了，但是论点还是比较明确的。……instead of constructing perfect linguistic systems, have demonstrated how our imperfect languages can produce texts endowed with some poetic virtue or some visionary force. I consider this no small achievement.

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书评

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