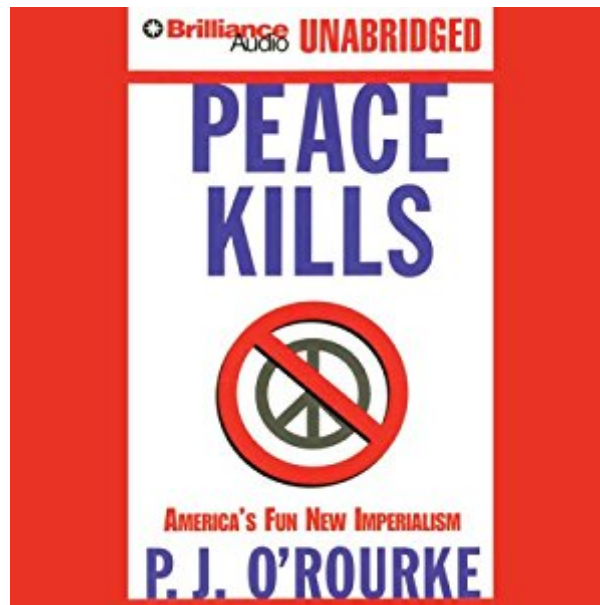


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Peace Kills: America's Fun New Imperialism



Synopsis

In this latest collection of adventures, P. J. O'Rourke casts his mordant eye on America's recent forays into warfare. Imperialism has never been more fun. O'Rourke first travels to Kosovo, where he meets KLA veterans, Albanian refugees and peacekeepers, and confronts the paradox of 'the war that war-haters love to love'. He visits Egypt, Israel and Kuwait, where he witnesses citizens enjoying their newfound freedoms - namely, to shop, to eat and to sit around a lot. Following 11 September, O'Rourke examines the far-reaching changes in the US, from the absurd hassles of airport security; to the dangers of anthrax. In Iraq, he witnesses both the beginning and the end of Operation Iraqi Freedom and takes a tour of a presidential palace, concluding that the war was justified for at least one reason: criminal interior decorating. Peace Kills is an eye-opening look at a world much changed since O'Rourke wrote his bestselling Give War a Chance in which he declared the most troubling aspect of war is sometimes peace itself. 'The first thing you learn about P. J. O'Rourke is this: he cannot turn off his mirth valve. Such is the severity of P. J.'s condition that the only person to have more entries in The Oxford Dictionary of Humorous Quotations is Oscar Wilde. This makes O'Rourke either the funniest man alive, or the wittiest heterosexual of all time' Mail on Sunday --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For the past twenty years or so, P.J. O'Rourke's beat has been the bizarre, the inexplicable, and the stupid. It is no surprise that this particular mix has taken him, more than once, to Washington, D.C.

and to the Middle East. It is to these familiar O'Rourke climes that he returns in PEACE KILLS, asking the major questions of our time. Why do nominally peaceful religions cause so much bloodshed? Can Serbians and Albanians --- or Israelis and Palestinians, or radical com-symp college students and neo-troglodyte book reviewers, for that matter --- live together peacefully? Can you get a Heineken in Kuwait City? How about Budweiser? Whiskey? O'Rourke is a self-described "trouble tourist," and in a world where trouble means something more serious now than, say, Presidential grand-jury testimony, the arrival of a new book on "America's Fun New Imperialism" is more than welcome. Even more welcome than that, because O'Rourke's previous book dealt with manners domestic --- really, really domestic; a work in which the author's three-year old daughter predominated. One got the opinion that P.J. really needed to get out of the house a bit, which he does here. Like most books in the O'Rourke canon, PEACE KILLS is largely a collection of magazine articles tied together with some common theme. The most logical common theme would, of course, seem to be the war on terror, but O'Rourke's journey starts well before that --- with prewar trips to Kosovo and Israel. In Kosovo, the author witnesses the post-invasion of the Balkans by international peace organizations, and ponders how American forces can achieve a stable, multicultural society when similar efforts have failed, and failed badly, in places like, well, Detroit.

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