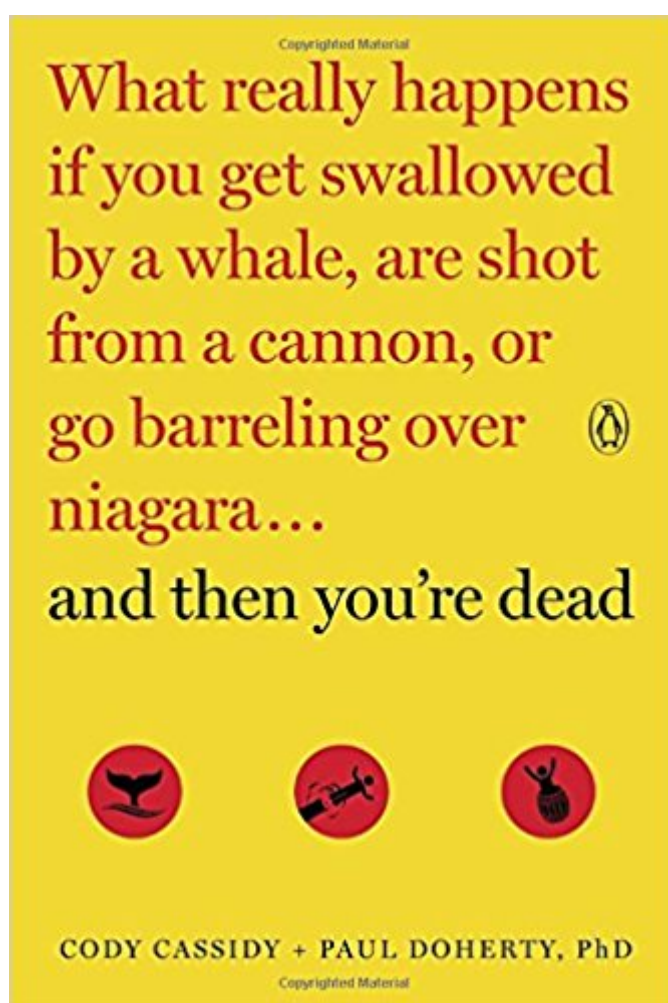


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# And Then You're Dead: What Really Happens If You Get Swallowed By A Whale, Are Shot From A Cannon, Or Go Barreling Over Niagara



## Synopsis

A gleefully gruesome look at the actual science behind the most outlandish, cartoonish, and impossible deaths you can imagine. What would happen if you took a swim outside a deep-sea submarine wearing only a swimsuit? How long could you last if you stood on the surface of the sun? How far could you actually get in digging a hole to China? Paul Doherty, senior staff scientist at San Francisco's famed Exploratorium Museum, and writer Cody Cassidy explore the real science behind these and other fantastical scenarios, offering insights into physics, astronomy, anatomy, and more along the way. Is slipping on a banana peel really as hazardous to your health as the cartoons imply? Answer: Yes. Banana peels ooze a gel that turns out to be extremely slippery. Your foot and body weight provide the pressure. The gel provides the humor (and resulting head trauma). Can you die by shaking someone's hand? Answer: Yes. That's because, due to atomic repulsion, you've never actually touched another person's hand. If you could, the results would be as disastrous as a medium-sized hydrogen bomb. If you were Cookie Monster, just how many cookies could you actually eat in one sitting? Answer: Most stomachs can hold up to sixty cookies, or around four liters. If you eat or drink more than that, you're approaching the point at which the cookies would break through the lesser curvature of your stomach, and then you'd better call an ambulance to Sesame Street.

## Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Penguin Books (April 4, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0143108441

ISBN-13: 978-0143108443

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.7 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 69 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #47,368 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in Books > Humor &

Entertainment > Trivia & Fun Facts #58 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles &

Games > Trivia #238 in Books > Medical Books > Basic Sciences > Physiology

## Customer Reviews

"As someone who is averse to flying, elevators, and a catalog of other things I'd

rather not admit to, I found this book strangely cathartic. A great read, full of interesting anecdotes and funny commentary. — Ali Almosawi, author of *Bad Choices* and *An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments* — “Arch, brainy . . . [with] vivid, engaging, and utterly fascinating scientific explanations. This merrily macabre compendium playfully offers lessons in basic human physiology, nuclear fusion, quantum physics, and fluid dynamics, among other things, and at every turn, the authors explain the concepts cogently and with gleeful enthusiasm. . . . With bite-size morsels of astonishing science and the perfect combination of smart-alecky writing and black humor, this page-turner will surely debunk any misapprehension that science is dull.” — Booklist — “Entertaining” — if harrowing. — The New York Times Book Review

Cody Cassidy — has worked as the sports editor for Zimbio.com, a sports reporter for Stanford Athletics, and a writer for — Coach — magazine. He has no firsthand experience with any of the scenarios described in this book. Paul Doherty — is senior staff scientist at San Francisco’s famed Exploratorium Museum. He has co-written numerous books, including *The Exploratorium Science Snackbook*, *Explorabook*, and the — Klutz Book of Magnetic Magic. He received his PhD in solid state physics from MIT.

I bought this book (I thought) for someone much younger than I am, but how not to be drawn in? I’ve never struggled with the impulse to jump into a black hole, but I have wondered what would happen if I NEVER get back to sleep, or if I have just stepped into the elevator destined to go super express to the ground floor. While I wouldn’t call *And Then You’re Dead* self-help, the science seems super solid that my chances are . . . Well. I have chances. I am still dancing around the chapters on being hit by a penny, or falling off the catwalk in a Pringles factory. Great book!

Lots of fun and unusual information (facts ?). Even though it’s for my nephew, I read some of the chapters and they were fascinating. 235 pages - did you ever wonder what would happen if you actually did slip on a banana peel or if you were hit by a penny dropped from the Empire State Building - wonder no more you will find the answers within the covers of this book.

Fun, fun read with solid science behind it that manages to inform and teach without being boring. The chapters are short, individual “what-ifs” that allow the reader to skip around to the chapters that interest them the most, though I found almost all of the chapters to be well worth the time. The

subject matter, of course, is a little morbid but the author is able to lighten the mood with his sarcastic and entertaining wit. I found myself wishing that the book was longer and I would definitely read a follow-up!

Fun and educational. My geeky 14 y/o daughter loved it. Dr. Doherty was my college physics professor many years ago - one of the best and most entertaining teachers I ever had. Bill Lockwood, MD

What a wonderful way to learn physics, physiology and engineering through funny somewhat macabre short stories. I very much enjoyed reading the book and learnt many new interesting facts and theories.

Interesting but rather pedestrian writing. The various little arguments could be fleshed out better and there are some obvious arguments which are missing.

Entertaining quick read, my tween and teen kids liked it and helped further cultivate interest in science.

Interesting, fun. Well researched answers to questions you always had, but was too embarrassed to ask.

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