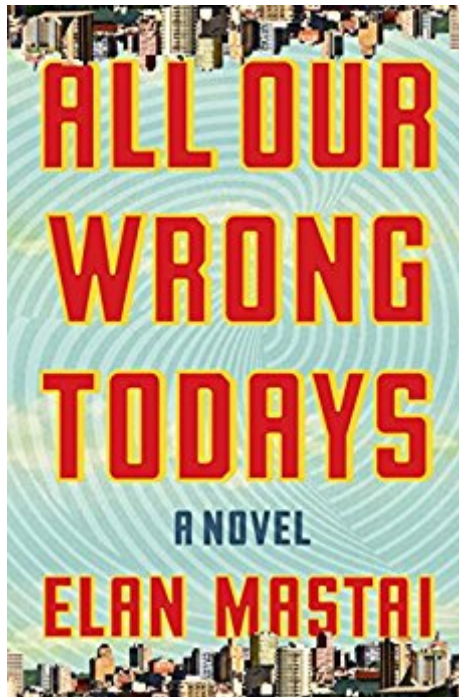




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All Our Wrong Todays: A Novel



Synopsis

“Entertainingly mixes thrills and humor.” —Entertainment Weekly “[An] amazing debut novel. . . . Dazzling and complex. . . . Fearlessly funny storytelling.” —The Washington Post “Instantly engaging. . . . A timeless, if mind-bending, story about the journeys we take, populated by friends, family, lovers, and others, that show us who we might be, could be—and maybe never should be—that eventually leads us to who we are.” —USA Today

Elan Mastai’s acclaimed debut novel is a story of friendship and family, of unexpected journeys and alternate paths, and of love in its multitude of forms. It’s 2016, and in Tom Barren’s world, technology has solved all of humanity’s problems—there’s no war, no poverty, no under-ripe avocados. Unfortunately, Tom isn’t happy. He’s lost the girl of his dreams. And what do you do when you’re heartbroken and have a time machine? Something stupid. Finding himself stranded in a terrible alternate reality—which we immediately recognize as our 2016—Tom is desperate to fix his mistake and go home. Right up until the moment he discovers wonderfully unexpected versions of his family, his career, and the woman who may just be the love of his life. Now Tom faces an impossible choice. Go back to his perfect but loveless life. Or stay in our messy reality with a soulmate by his side. His search for the answer takes him across continents and timelines in a quest to figure out, finally, who he really is and what his future—our future—is supposed to be. Filled with humor and heart and packed with insight, intelligence, and mind-bending invention, *All Our Wrong Todays* is a powerful and moving story of life, loss, and love.

Book Information

File Size: 1435 KB

Print Length: 380 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 1101985135

Publisher: Dutton (February 7, 2017)

Publication Date: February 7, 2017

Language: English

ASIN: B01FEY5EP2

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #23,191 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #77

in Kindle Store > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Time Travel #88 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Time Travel #154 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Literary Fiction > Action & Adventure

Customer Reviews

Although this book is far from my own worldview and purpose in writing, I found the author's style unique and entertaining. The weird leaps through a mind-boggling theme didn't stump me. The science is wonderfully explained, even if it's nothing but folly. The protagonist doesn't even know who he is at times, but his insight is far beyond that of most made-up people. I found myself almost believing Tom or John (or Mr. Mastai) that this was a memoir and not a novel. The profanity is too heavy for my taste, and one chapter in particular is simply unnecessary, but I got through it. Even though my mind became exhausted and I thought more than once, this has got to be the end, I'm glad for the way it ended. Just right. Or wrong. Or something. Anyway, it's a great story.

This is a fascinating look at the paradoxical nature of time-travel thinking. It begins in a reasonably predictable way and it's not difficult to predict the story line. Still interesting and well written. But in the second part, the twists begin to emerge and might blow your mind. Satisfying resolution!

This book was well worth reading. I am one of those geeks that love time travel, a particular favorite of mine is Time and Again by Jack Finney. This book was different and approached the idea of time travel much more scientifically. The beginning took awhile to take hold of me, but I am truly happy I stayed with it. Because I kept reading, the story took a hold of me and I really wanted to keep reading, stealing every spare moment to get back into "Tom's" memoir. I will help if you are a geek like me when it comes to books about time travel, and if either understand or don't mind scientific terminology in your reading...so, with that in mind, I think this is a book worth reading and I wholeheartedly recommend it.

Hard to put down. Some thought provoking ideas regarding the human condition subtly intertwined

with some entertaining science fiction. Anyone who enjoys contemplating even the concept of time travel will enjoy this new take on it.

I started this book with a great deal of trepidation because this topic has disappointed so often. Anyone with a science background, or just a keen interest in time travel, knows that it is not simply a matter of stepping into a machine and PRESTO you're in another time. Mastai has provided the best descriptions of the complexities of time travel that I have read to date. Michael Creighton did a decent job in "Timeline", but Mastai explores the intricacies in great depth and certainly a good background of knowledge it would appear. Very good book that I would recommend highly to the person who can comprehend the technicalities, not an easy task for way too many under-informed people. Bravo to Mastai for a great novel.

I enjoyed this time travel romp very much. I don't read these tales very much because I assume that most of them are all cliché and hackneyed. This one, however, breaks the mold. Very creative storytelling propels this story of a self-deprecating loser of a young man in a near utopian future who inadvertently alters history at a pivotal technological event, to change to the way you and I know it to be (screwed-up and dystopic) while enhancing his own stature. The parallels to Back to the Future are not unwarranted, although this is an infinitely darker tale. Of course the science fiction requires a substantial suspension of disbelief, but it's the protagonist's neurosis and how he interacts with his family members in the "new" future he created by his own making qualifies as delicious storytelling.

Could not put this book down - finished it in two days. Granted, I tend to enjoy anything time-travel related, but I did think the way it was handled in this book was really interesting. Based on all the reviews here I thought it was going to be super heavy on the science, but I found it to be interesting and exciting to have some descriptions of how the technology works in this world. There were many moments where I was gripped with fear for our protagonist, and I may have gotten teary eyed once. The "summary" chapters were kind of annoying but they ended up having a purpose - there was only one moment of summary in the book that I really thought dragged on way too long, where our female protagonist says "how would I explain to someone what's happened in the past few days?" and she proceeds, for pages, to recap exactly what's happened in the past few days. I tried to appreciate getting her perspective of events, but ultimately it did not add much.

I liked this story, it explored a lot of fascinating ideas. The narrator is an every day kind of guy but he

gets a little annoying. Some parts are like trying to walk through molasses. I had to stop and decide if I wanted to finish the book, and it was good enough that I did, but it was close. It's an interesting look at speculative fiction and a great thought experiment. But someone looking for an exciting jaunt through time and space is going to be disappointed.

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