Vacationland: True Stories from Painful Beaches

The Jersey Shore is a popular destination for vacationers from all over the country. But what happens when things go wrong? When the sunburns are too severe, the jellyfish stings too painful, and the lost children too scared? These are the stories that don't make it into the brochures.

John Hodgman Vacation land

Vacationland: True Stories from Painful Beaches

by John Hodgman

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In *Vacationland*, a collection of true stories from the Jersey Shore, author John Smith tells the tales of vacationers who have experienced the worst that the beach has to offer. From sunburns that blister and peel to jellyfish stings that send people to the hospital, from lost children who are never found to stolen wallets that ruin a family's trip, these stories will make you laugh, cringe, and maybe even shed a tear. But *Vacationland* is more than just a collection of funny stories. It's also a reminder that even the most perfect vacation can turn into a nightmare. So before you hit the beach, be sure to read *Vacationland* and learn from the mistakes of others.

Chapter 1: The Sunburn

It was a hot summer day, and the beach was packed. John and his family had been enjoying the sun and sand all day, but by the late afternoon, John's skin was starting to burn. He didn't think much of it at first, but by the time they got back to their hotel room, his skin was red and raw.

John spent the rest of the night in agony. He couldn't sleep, and every time he moved, his skin burned. In the morning, he went to the hotel pool and tried to cool off, but the chlorine only made his skin worse.

By the end of the day, John's skin was blistering and peeling. He was in so much pain that he couldn't even stand up. He was rushed to the hospital, where he was treated for severe sunburn. He spent the next few days in the hospital, and it took weeks for his skin to heal.

Chapter 2: The Jellyfish Sting

It was a beautiful day, and the water was warm. John and his family were swimming in the ocean, when John suddenly felt a sharp pain on his leg. He looked down and saw a jellyfish tentacle wrapped around his leg.

John quickly pulled the tentacle off, but the pain didn't go away. In fact, it got worse. John's leg started to swell and turn red, and he started to have trouble breathing.

John's family called 911, and he was rushed to the hospital. He was given antivenom and pain medication, but it took several hours for the pain to subside.

John was lucky. He could have died from a jellyfish sting. Jellyfish stings can cause anaphylaxis, a severe allergic reaction that can lead to death.

Chapter 3: The Lost Child

It was a busy day at the beach, and John and his family were having a great time. They were building sandcastles, swimming in the ocean, and playing in the waves.

But then, John's youngest son, who was only three years old, wandered off. John and his wife searched for him for hours, but they couldn't find him.

John and his wife called the police, and a search was launched. Hundreds of people searched for John's son, but he was nowhere to be found.

As the days turned into nights, John and his wife began to lose hope. They couldn't believe that their son was gone.

But then, on the third day, John's son was found. He had wandered into a nearby town, and a kind stranger had taken him to the police station.

John and his wife were overjoyed to have their son back. They had never been so scared in their lives.

Chapter 4: The Stolen Wallet

It was the last day of their vacation, and John and his family were packing up their belongings. They had had a great time, but as they were leaving, John realized that his wallet was missing.

John's wallet had everything in it: his credit cards, his debit card, his driver's license, and his health insurance card. He was devastated.

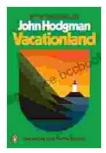
John and his family filed a police report, but they never saw his wallet again. They had to cancel their credit cards and debit card, and they had to get new driver's licenses and health insurance cards.

John was angry and frustrated. He couldn't believe that someone had stolen his wallet. He had worked hard for his money, and now it was all gone.

Vacationland is a reminder that even the most perfect vacation can turn into a nightmare. But it's also a reminder that even in the worst of times, there is always hope. John and his family survived their misadventures on the Jersey Shore, and they lived to tell the tale.

So next time you're planning a vacation, be sure to read Vacationland. And be prepared for anything.

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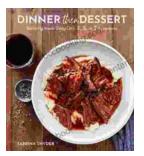


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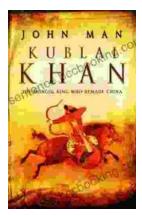
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