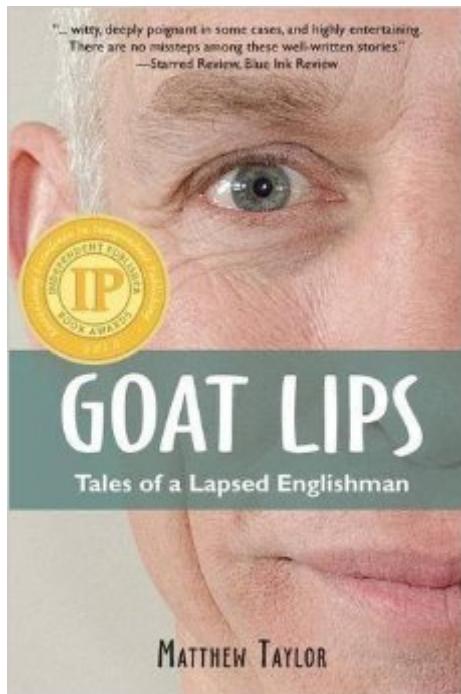


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# Goat Lips: Tales Of A Lapsed Englishman



## **Synopsis**

GOLD Â WINNERÂ in Humor at National IPPY Book Awards SILVER MEDALS in Memoir & Illustration at CIPA EVVY Book Awards Finalist in Humor at USA Book Awards Finalist in Humor at Indy Excellence AwardsÂ Â Goat Lips delivers a thought-provoking romp through a lapsed Englishman's life, who--after a quarter century of living in the United States--realized he'd neglected to renew his subscription to England. Â Â Matthew's relentless wit and insight is front and center as we bounce between England and the United States, experiencing one hilarious, and sometimes poignant, tale after another--from escaping the clutches of the law to the pain and joy of parenthood, discovering the dangers of real ale and the agony of not being heard, whilst savoring a fiery dessert, the glamour of show business, the awkwardness of nakedness, and the utter wrongness of a Jesus piÃ±ata! Â His ability to question the assumptions of everyday life with a wry grin, tender touch, and a twinkle in his kind eyes makes Matthew's tales endlessly entertaining. You'll want to read them more than once and even share them aloud with others in your best English accent.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 244 pages

Publisher: Merry Dissonance Press (October 1, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1939919029

ISBN-13: 978-1939919021

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.6 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (38 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #734,651 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #19 inÂ Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Urban Legends #66 inÂ Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Rural Life #1153 inÂ Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Love, Sex & Marriage

## **Customer Reviews**

This book is very cleverly structured. The stories are not in chronological order, although there is a "map" at the beginning of the book giving the order of the events. From the first story, explaining the origin of the book's title, the author sets the tongue-in-cheek tone. You just know you're going to be in for a fun ride. The book covers such varied topics as Matthew's first car, scattering his mother's ashes, how he proposes to his wife, fulfilling his mother's dying wish, his time as a disc jockey, and the time he was running late for a hockey match. At the end, we come full circle and discover what

happens after the first story. A very neat conclusion. Cute black-and-white illustrations at the beginning of each chapter add a whimsical touch. While many of the stories of Matthew's youth revolve around drinking, many of the later ones feature funny things his children say. Despite the humor, there are also a number of sobering and touching stories. There are also some beautiful descriptive passages. We see Matthew in all of his personas, as young larrikin Matthew, son Matthew, friend Matthew, boyfriend Matthew, husband Matthew, and father Matthew. By the end of the book you'll feel like you actually know him. Some of my favorite stories: "Carpool", "Popping the Question", "Surprise Party", and "Guess What's in Your Pocket". An absolute pleasure to read. With its dry wit, humor, and laugh-out-loud moments, you'll need to be careful where you are when you're reading this book. I received this book in return for an honest review. Full blog post: <http://booksdirectonline.blogspot.com/2015/12/goat-lips-by-matthew-taylor.html>

Goat Lips by Mathew Taylor is a witty and well-spun memoir of an Englishman transplanted to Colorado. It is packed full of hilarious hi-jinks and stories from the author's life in England as well as his transition to the United States. I was not sure what I would find when I started reading this memoir, but after the first few chapters I was hooked and wanted to know more of what happened to this Englishman in America. What followed was a few hours of laughter, some tears and above all an entertaining time well-spent. From the story of Taylor auditioning for a part as a pair of goat lips for a famous beer commercial to dealing with a critical injury of a very close friend, each tale is expertly written and takes the reader along for the emotional ride. If you like funny memoirs, then I would definitely recommend Goat Lips.

Warm, touching, hilarious, engaging and when finished, this book leaves you wanting another story. Matthew's book is a delightful read with it's compilation of a number of true life stories, the kind that have to be true because you just couldn't make this stuff up!! In a true confession, I count myself blessed to call Matthew a friend, so the best aspect of the book for me, is being able to literally "hear" him telling these stories with his, still present, British accent and his eyes brightly gleaming like those of a slightly mischievous, but fun-loving child! That aside, this is a very artfully crafted string of stories that will make you think about what things are precious in your own life. Enjoy!

Taylor is funny, like make you laugh out loud like a kid, funny. His generally cheerful view of the world is punctuated with a sly and satiric voice that makes these stories much more than simply tales from an interesting life. As a lapsed Englishman and admiring emigrant to the US his views of

both nations are smart and informed by his deep intelligence and unwavering curiosity. In the stories where he faces with clarity the less happy moments of "real life" he moves from humor to sadness seamlessly and takes the reader along on the emotional trek. Mathew clearly loves this world and the people in it and through his stories he makes you appreciate all there is to enjoy in the every day task of living a good life. Whether it is contemplating the complications of his son's requested Jesus themed birthday party (with pinata) or the inherent risks of late night skinny dipping Taylor sees life clearly and tells stories with joy. Read the book, you simply have not laughed enough until you do.

This book made me laugh and cry. I read it during a difficult time in my life and it was wildly entertaining and inspiring. Matthew Taylor is a unique story teller and has the ability to transpose the reader into his stories. He will have you in stitches with laughter in one minute and sobbing like a child in another. The map and illustrations in the book provide an extra something special for the reader to enjoy....not that anything more is needed than the actual stories! Can't wait for Part 2!

"Goat Lips" is like a bag of potato chips: You open the bag thinking you'll just have just a few and before you know it the bag is empty. I opened "Goat Lips: Tales of a Lapsed Englishman" with the intention of reading the first story and when I was done I thought "oh, I'll just read one more." And so it went. Matthew Taylor is a fantastic storyteller. His tales run the gamut from tender and sad remembrance to laugh-out-loud funny and like good snack food each one leaves you wanting another. But with "Goat Lips" your fingers will be less greasy!

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