



Short Cuts: A Guide to Oaths, Ring Tones, Ransom Notes, Famous Last Words, and Other Forms of Minimalist Communication

Alexander Humez, Nicholas Humez, Rob Flynn

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Our everyday lives are inevitably touched--and immeasurably enriched--by an extraordinary variety of miniature forms of verbal communication, from classified ads to street signs, and from yesterday's graffiti to tomorrow's headline. Celebrating our long history of compact speech, *Short Cuts* offers a well-researched and vibrantly written account of this unsung corner of the linguistic world, inspiring a new appreciation of the wondrously varied forms of our briefest exchanges.

Alexander Humez, Nicholas Humez, and Rob Flynn shed light here on an ever-growing field of minimalist genres, ranging from the bank robbery note to the billboard, from the curse hurled from a car window (or the Senate floor) to the suicide note, and from the ghost-word to the ring tone. The book is divided into ten thematic sections, as varied as "In the Dictionary" (discussing such topics as Sniglets, Mountweazels, and the Wiktionary), "In and Out of Trouble" (error messages, weasel words, the pre-nup), and "On the Lam" (ransom notes, wanted posters, *portraits parlés*). The authors look at the comic strip's maladicta balloon and the dinner-interrupter's robocalls, the advice column and the obit, and the many ways your personal appearance tells us who you are, from the message on your gimme cap to the tattoo with your S.O.'s name on your ankle. Uncovering the elegance, the humor, and the unspoken implications in these fleeting communications, this book provides a satisfying thoroughness and an abundance of connections that unravel how the oath became the swearword and the calling card salver turned into the Facebook wall.

For readers who love language and enjoy rummaging through the cultural baggage that comes with it, *Short Cuts* gathers an engaging sampler of the most delightful and cogent--and above all brief--forms of contemporary English.

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Whitney Mallard:

A lot of people always spent all their free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read a book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a book. The book Short Cuts: A Guide to Oaths, Ring Tones, Ransom Notes, Famous Last Words, and Other Forms of Minimalist Communication it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book has high quality.

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