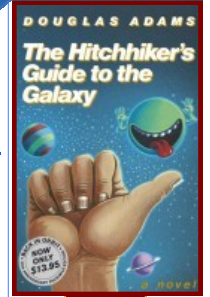


If you like  
**Terry Pratchett,**  
 you may like some of these  
 other absurd stories



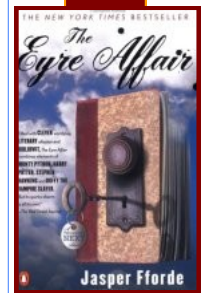
**The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams**

The Earth is going to be demolished to make way for a galactic freeway any moment. Just before that happens, Arthur Dent is plucked off the planet by a friend who is out of this world. The novel details their comic adventures as they hitch a ride to unknown destinations, encountering strange creatures along the way. This is the first in the increasingly inappropriately named 'Hitchhikers Trilogy.' Also try [Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency](#).



**Sir Apropos of Nothing by Peter David**

An antihero for the 21st century, Apropos springs from his mother's womb with a full set of teeth, ready to bite anyone who gets in the way of his survival in this heroic fantasy satire. Apropos is a rogue, a rascal, a scoundrel and a cheat. When he travels to the court of King Runcible to find his father, seek retribution and line his pockets, he meets up with murderous unicorns, homicidal warrior kings and a psychotic arsonist who is also a princess. Also try [The Woad to Wuin](#) and [Tong Lashing](#).

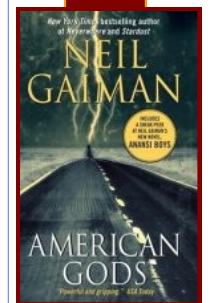


**The Eyre Affair by Jasper Fforde**

Thursday Next is a literary detective on the trail of the villainous Acheron Hades who has been kidnapping characters from works of fiction and holding them for ransom. Jane Eyre has herself been plucked from her novel and Thursday must find a way into the book to repair the damage. She also has to find time to halt the Crimean conflict, persuade a man to marry her, rescue her aunt from a Wordsworth poem and figure out who really wrote Shakespeare's plays. Also try the rest of the [Thursday Next series](#).

**American Gods by Neil Gaiman**

Shadow is a man with a past. But now he wants nothing more than to live a quiet life with his wife and stay out of trouble. Until he learns that she's been killed in a terrible accident. Flying home for the funeral, as a violent storm rocks the plane, a strange man in the seat next to him introduces himself. The man calls himself Mr. Wednesday, and he knows more about Shadow than is possible. He warns Shadow that a far bigger storm is coming. And from that moment on, nothing will ever be the same... Also try [Anansi Boys](#) and [Good Omens](#) (co-written with Pratchett).



**Gun, with Occasional Music by Jonathan Lethem**

Conrad Metcalf has problems. He has a monkey on his back, a rabbit in his waiting room, and a trigger-happy kangaroo on his tail. (Maybe evolution therapy is not such a good idea.). He's been shadowing Celeste, the wife of an affluent Oakland urologist. Maybe falling in love with her a little at the same time. When the doctor turns up dead, Metcalf finds himself caught in a crossfire between the boys from the Inquisitor's Office and gangsters who operate out of the back room of the Fickle Muse.

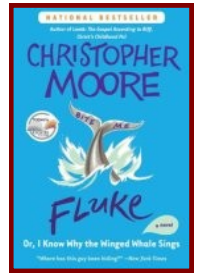
**Gil's All Fright Diner by A. Lee Martinez**

Duke and Earl are passing through Rockwood county in their pick-up truck when they stop at the Diner for a quick bite. They aren't planning to stick around, until the owner Loretta offers them \$100 to take care of her zombie problem. Given that Duke is a werewolf and Earl's a vampire, this looks right up their alley. But the shambling dead are just the tip of this iceberg. Before Duke and Earl get to the bottom of things, they'll run into such otherworldly complications as undead cattle, an amorous ghost, a jailbait sorceress, and the terrifying occult power of pig-latin. And maybe, just maybe, the End of the World, too.



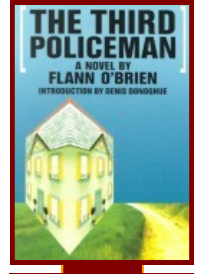
## **Fluke: or, I Know Why the Winged Whale Sings by Christopher Moore**

Just why do humpback whales sing? That's the question that has marine behavioral biologist Nate Quinn and his crew poking, charting, recording, and photographing very big, wet, gray marine mammals. Until the extraordinary day when a whale lifts its tail into the air to display a cryptic message spelled out in foot-high letters: Bite me. Trouble is, no one else on his team saw a thing. But later, when a roll of film returns from the lab missing the crucial tail shot - and his research facility is trashed - Nate realizes something very fishy indeed is going on. Also try almost any other of Moore's zany novels, especially [Fool](#).



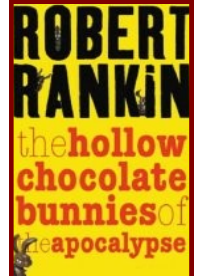
## **The Third Policeman by Flann O'Brien (Mystery)**

This is a comic novel about the nature of time, death, and existence. The novel follows the narrator, who has just committed a botched robbery and brutal murder, on his adventures in a two-dimensional police station where, through the theories of a scientist/philosopher, he is introduced to "Atomic Theory" and its relation to bicycles, the existence of eternity (which turns out to be just down the road), and de Selby's view that the earth is not round but "sausage-shaped." With the help of his newly found soul named "Joe," he grapples with the riddles and contradictions that three eccentric policeman present to him.



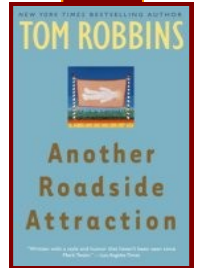
## **The Hollow Chocolate Bunnies of the Apocalypse by Robert Rankin**

Once upon a time, Jack set out to seek his fortune in the big city. But he gets a bit lost and wanders off the map. When he finally arrives, the big city turns out to be Toy City - formerly Toy Town. It's grown considerably and is not at all jolly. There's a killer on the loose and all the old nursery rhyme characters, grown rich and fat on their royalties, are being slaughtered one by one. The police are getting nowhere and private eye Billie Winkie has mysteriously vanished. Only his sidekick Eddie Bear - a battered teddy with an identity crisis - is left to take care of business.



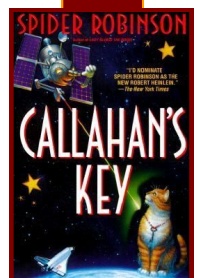
## **Another Roadside Attraction by Tom Robbins**

What if the Second Coming didn't quite come off as advertised? What if "the Corpse" on display in that funky roadside zoo is really who they say it is--what does that portent for the future of western civilization? And what if a young clairvoyant named Amanda reestablishes the flea circus as popular entertainment and fertility worship as the principal religious form of our high-tech age? *Another Roadside Attraction* answers those questions and a lot more. It tells us, for example, what the sixties were truly all about, not by reporting on the psychedelic decade but by recreating it, from the inside out. Also try [Tom Robbins' other novels](#).



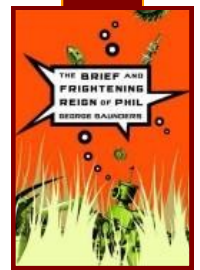
## **Callahan's Key by Spider Robinson**

Nobody blends good science with bad puns as brilliantly as Spider Robinson, as his legion of devoted fans will attest. Now, from the creator of the Callahan series comes an improbable tale of impending doom, a road trip, space, drugs and rock 'n' roll. This is the story of a group of humans - more or less - who band together in a cosmic adventure - more or less - to make the universe safe for...well, probably more of the same. Also try Robinson's other [Callahan novels](#).



## **The Brief and Frightening Reign of Phil by George Saunders**

Welcome to Inner Horner, a nation so small it can only accommodate one citizen at a time. The other six citizens must wait their turns in the Short-Term Residency Zone of the surrounding country of Outer Horner. It's a long-standing arrangement between the fantastical, not-exactly-human citizens of the two countries. But when Inner Horner suddenly shrinks, forcing three-quarters of the citizen then in residence over the border into Outer Horner territory, the Outer Hornerites declare an Invasion In Progress--having fallen under the spell of the power-hungry and demagogic Phil.



## **Carry on, Jeeves by P.G. Wodehouse**

One of literature's most celebrated fictional duos, lovable fop Bertie Wooster and his clever valet Jeeves, take center stage in these hilarious tales. In the first four, Jeeves saves Bertie from some serious scrapes involving stolen manuscripts, unfortunate engagements, marital scandals, and jailbird friends. The other four find Bertie exiled to 1920s New York, where Jeeves rescues him from American aunts, visiting Brits, poetic chumps, and femme fatales. Also try the other [Jeeves and Wooster novels](#).

