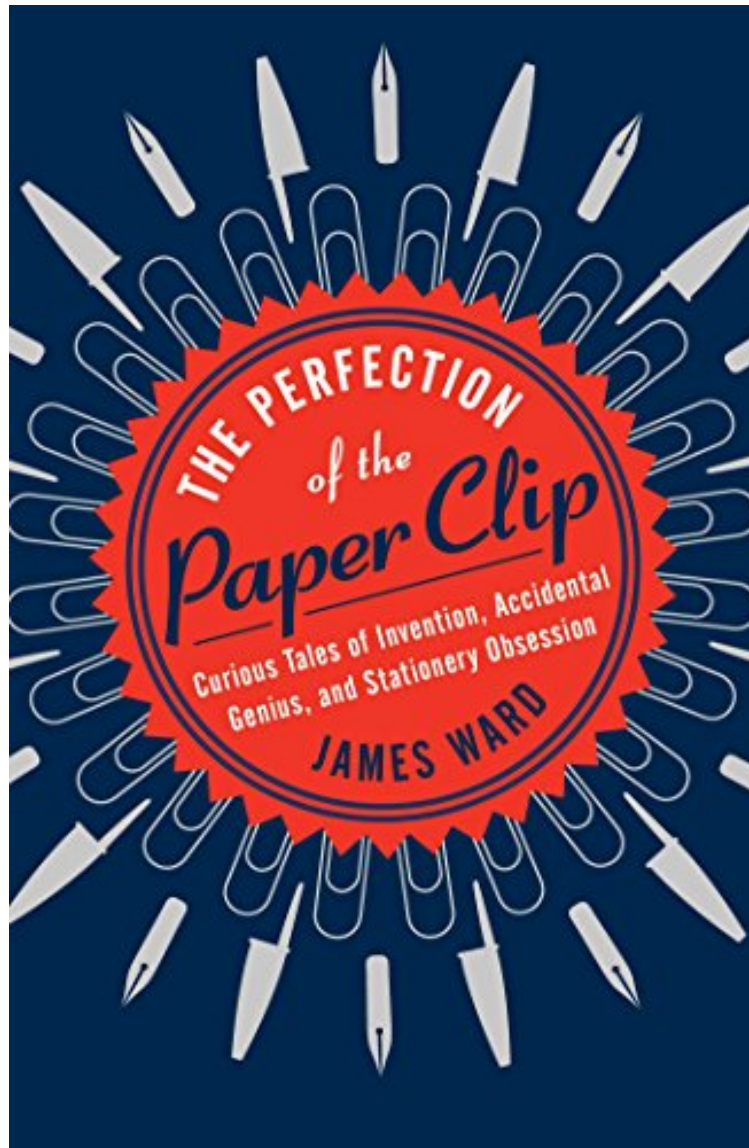


[PDF] The Perfection of the Paper Clip: Curious Tales of Invention, Accidental Genius, and Stationery Obsession

The Perfection of the Paper Clip: Curious Tales of Invention, Accidental Genius, and Stationery Obsession

James Ward

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James Ward : The Perfection of the Paper Clip: Curious Tales of Invention, Accidental Genius, and Stationery Obsession before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Perfection of the Paper Clip: Curious Tales of Invention, Accidental Genius, and Stationery Obsession:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A Must Read for the Office Supply Geek By S.D. James Ward takes you on a journey into the history of office supplies. If you have a little OCD when it comes to your office supplies, or if you window shop at a Staples or Office Depot than this book will keep you turning page after page. As someone who loves the experience of using office supplies, and loves history, this book was great. The only strike against this book is that it is written primarily for a British audience. Although US brands are mentioned and talked about in detail, often the default brand that is discussed is British/European in origin. So there were times, I struggled to relate at times to the details and history that were mentioned because I don't have the same shared experiences with James Ward as someone who grew up in America instead of someone who grew up in England. I also missed some of the humor because of the same reason. In spite of that, I stand by the 5 star rating because James Ward kept me entertained and equally fascinated by the common items I use every day in the office. I even picked up a pack of multicolored BIC Crystals for \$1.97, and the experience of putting these cheap pens to paper seems even richer thanks to "The Perfection of the Paper Clip."

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Pencil geeks wanted. By Kate If you are one of us who finds the evolution of the pencil sharpener fascinating, then this is the book for you. We're an odd bunch, but I found his historical stories fascinating. His punny humor wore thin occasionally, but his stories made it worth ignoring.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The interesting history of the mundane. By Daniel Youngs I'd heard about this book on NPR. It was a great read. The strange history behind everyday items has always interested me. This is a quick read, and quite witty. I recommend it wholeheartedly.

This wonderfully quirky book will change the way you look at your desk forever with stories of accidental genius, bitter rivalries, and an appreciation for everyday objects, like the humble but perfectly designed paper clip and the utilitarian, irreplaceable pencil. How many of humanity's brightest ideas started out on a scrap of paper, a Post-It, or in the margins of a notebook? In a delightfully witty and fresh voice, James Ward cofounder of the Boring Conference and collector of the arcane explores the secret histories of deskbound supplies, from pencils to fluorescent ink, and the gleaming reams of white paper we all take for granted, encouraging a deeper appreciation and fascination for the things that surround us each day. In the spirit of *The Evolution of Useful Things* and *A History of the World in 100 Objects*, Ward transforms the mundane into stories of invention, discovery, and even awe. *The Perfection of the Paper Clip* is a fascinating tour of the objects that touch our daily lives, filled with charming drawings, illuminating stories, and winning humor that will satisfy curious minds and armchair inventors.

"A hugely entertaining experience for the reader this engaging book is an absolute must." (Booklist) About the Author James Ward is the cofounder of the Stationery Club and the Boring Conference, featured in *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Observer* (London). His blog *I Like Boring Things*, has been featured in *The Independent* and on the BBC website. He lives in London, and *The Perfection of the Paper Clip* is his first book.