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Accustomed as I am: The Loneliness of the Long-distance Speaker (Hardback)

By Basil Boothroyd

Prion Books Ltd, United Kingdom, 2001. Hardback. Condition: New. New edition. Language: English . Brand New Book. Basil Boothroyd takes the reader on a comic journey through an era when the likes of the Women s Institute and the Rotary Club were still the social hubs of the nation and needed a steady stream of guest speakers to keep their members entertained. Accustomed As I Am is an intimate portrait and sometime surreal travelogue of his own grim and terrifying experiences on the public speakers circuit in the wilds of Little England. Addressing everyone from Park Lane black-tie shindigs for corporate clients to the inmates of Pentonville prison and the Edgware Young Women s Mizrachi Society, he is asked to entertain on every subject from the Life-Cycle of the Beaver (with slides) to Transport Through the Ages. While masquerading as a How-to-Book, Boothroyd wilfully loses us in a confusion of slapstick asides and self-effacing comic digressions as he unsuccessfully attempts to navigate the pitfalls of a thankless profession. It s a sordid tale of dingy hotels, bad transport, self-doubts, hecklers, drunks, technical difficulties, misjudged audiences and unsuitable material - instantly and painfully recognizable to anyone who has ever had to...

Reviews

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Absolutely essential go through book. It can be rally fascinating throgh studying period of time. You wont truly feel monotony at at any time of your respective time (that's what catalogues are for concerning in the event you question me).

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