

so long and thanks for the fish

So Long and Thanks for the Fish: Exploring the Phrase's Origins and Cultural Impact

so long and thanks for the fish is a phrase that has intrigued fans of science fiction and pop culture alike for decades. It originated from Douglas Adams' beloved series, "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy," and has since become a quirky farewell that resonates far beyond the pages of the original novels. But what exactly does it mean, where did it come from, and why does it continue to captivate audiences around the world? Let's dive into the fascinating story behind this memorable expression and discover its lasting influence.

The Origin of "So Long and Thanks for the Fish"

At its core, "so long and thanks for the fish" is a humorous and somewhat whimsical goodbye. The phrase first appeared in Douglas Adams' "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" series, specifically in the fourth book titled **So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish**, published in 1984. It's used by the dolphins as they make their mysterious exit from Earth just before the planet's destruction.

The Role of Dolphins in the Story

In Adams' universe, dolphins are portrayed as highly intelligent beings, even more so than humans. The phrase is their way of bidding farewell to humanity before they leave the planet. The dolphins' message implies that they have been aware of the impending catastrophe all along, and their parting words carry a mix of gratitude and irony. The phrase captures the quirky humor and underlying poignancy that characterize much of Adams' work.

Why Fish? The Symbolism Behind the Phrase

Fish, in this context, symbolize the simple pleasures of life and the natural world that the dolphins appreciated. The phrase can be interpreted as an acknowledgment of the gifts of the Earth – something the dolphins are thankful for as they depart. The fish represent sustenance and survival, making the farewell both literal and metaphorical. The phrase cleverly combines a casual goodbye with a deeper environmental and existential message.

“So Long and Thanks for the Fish” in Popular Culture

Since its inception, the phrase has transcended its original source material and found a place in various aspects of pop culture. Fans of the series often use it to say goodbye in a lighthearted manner. Its quirky charm has made it a favorite among geeks, writers, and anyone with an appreciation for witty, offbeat humor.

References in Literature and Media

Beyond the novels, "so long and thanks for the fish" has appeared in radio adaptations, TV shows, and even music. The phrase embodies a spirit of farewell tinged with irony and gratitude, making it versatile for many contexts. It's sometimes seen on merchandise like T-shirts, mugs, and posters, further cementing its status as a cultural touchstone.

Impact on Science Fiction and Humor

Douglas Adams' influence on science fiction comedy is profound, and this phrase exemplifies his unique style—combining absurdity with insight. It's a reminder that farewells don't have to be somber; they can be playful and meaningful at once. The phrase has inspired other authors and creators to blend humor with thoughtful reflections on life and departure.

Using “So Long and Thanks for the Fish” Today

You might wonder how this phrase fits into modern conversations or communication. Whether in emails, social media posts, or casual chats, it offers a whimsical way to say goodbye, especially among those who appreciate its literary roots.

In Everyday Conversation

If you're looking for a clever and friendly sign-off, “so long and thanks for the fish” works perfectly. It's lighthearted and can serve as a conversation starter. For example, ending a farewell email with this phrase could add personality and a touch of humor, especially if your recipient is familiar with Douglas Adams' work.

In Writing and Creativity

Writers and content creators sometimes use the phrase to evoke a sense of quirky departure or transition. It's a great way to inject some personality into narratives or to signal a change in tone. Using it thoughtfully can enrich storytelling by adding layers of literary reference and cultural nuance.

Exploring the Deeper Meaning Behind the Phrase

While on the surface "so long and thanks for the fish" is a playful goodbye, it also invites reflection on our relationship with the environment and the transient nature of existence.

Environmental Undertones

Given that the dolphins leave Earth grateful for the fish, the phrase subtly highlights the importance of appreciating natural resources. It can serve as a gentle reminder to value and protect the environment before it's too late. Many fans interpret it as a call to mindfulness about how humanity interacts with the planet.

Philosophical Reflections

On a more existential level, the phrase captures the bittersweet nature of farewells—acknowledging past joys while facing the unknown future. It's a way of saying goodbye without bitterness, embracing change with gratitude. This perspective resonates with readers who find solace and humor even in moments of departure.

Tips for Incorporating "So Long and Thanks for the Fish" Into Your Life

If you're inspired by this phrase and want to bring a bit of its charm into your daily interactions, here are some ideas:

- **Use it as a parting phrase:** In emails, texts, or social media, especially when talking to friends who appreciate literary references.
- **Create themed events:** Host a "Hitchhiker's Guide" movie night or book

club and use the phrase as your event's tagline or closing line.

- **Personalize gifts:** Add the phrase to cards, mugs, or artworks for fans of Douglas Adams or quirky humor.
- **Inspire creativity:** Write stories or poems that explore the themes of farewell, gratitude, and environmental awareness, using the phrase as a motif.

Incorporating "so long and thanks for the fish" into your life can add a touch of whimsy and thoughtful reflection, making everyday goodbyes a little more memorable.

The phrase remains a testament to Douglas Adams' genius—a simple yet profound way to say farewell that continues to echo in literature, pop culture, and the hearts of fans worldwide. Whether you're a longtime admirer of the "Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" or discovering it for the first time, "so long and thanks for the fish" offers a charming reminder to appreciate the little things before moving on.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish'?

'So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish' is the fourth book in Douglas Adams' 'The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy' series. It is a science fiction novel that continues the adventures of Arthur Dent.

What does the phrase 'So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish' mean?

The phrase is a humorous farewell message from the dolphins as they leave Earth before its destruction. It reflects the dolphins' gratitude for the fish they enjoyed while living on the planet.

How does 'So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish' fit into the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy series?

It is the fourth installment in the series, following 'Life, the Universe and Everything.' The book shifts focus back to Earth and Arthur Dent's life, exploring themes of love and normalcy amidst the sci-fi chaos.

Who is the main character in 'So Long, and Thanks

for All the Fish'?

The main character is Arthur Dent, an ordinary human who navigates the strange universe while trying to find meaning and reconnect with Earth after its supposed destruction.

What is the significance of dolphins in 'So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish'?

Dolphins are portrayed as highly intelligent creatures who knew about Earth's impending destruction. They leave the planet with the message 'So long, and thanks for all the fish,' highlighting their mysterious and witty nature.

Are there any adaptations of 'So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish'?

While the entire book has not been fully adapted, elements of 'So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish' have appeared in radio, television, and stage adaptations of the Hitchhiker's Guide series.

What themes are explored in 'So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish'?

The novel explores themes such as love, normalcy, the search for meaning, and the absurdity of life, all wrapped in Douglas Adams' signature wit and satirical style.

Additional Resources

So Long and Thanks for the Fish: An Investigative Review of Douglas Adams' Iconic Phrase and Its Cultural Resonance

so long and thanks for the fish is more than just a quirky farewell line; it has evolved into a phrase imbued with cultural significance, literary charm, and even technological nods. Originating from Douglas Adams' renowned science fiction series, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, this phrase encapsulates a blend of wit, irony, and reflective humor. This article delves deep into the origins, meanings, and broader impact of "so long and thanks for the fish," examining how it has permeated various facets of popular culture, literature, and beyond.

Origins and Literary Context

The phrase "so long and thanks for the fish" first appeared in Douglas Adams' 1984 novel, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, specifically in the fourth

book of the series titled *So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish*. In the narrative, the phrase is framed as a sardonic farewell from Earth's dolphins, who, being more intelligent than humans, leave the planet just before its destruction. Their parting words humorously acknowledge their gratitude for the fish humans inadvertently provided, while simultaneously signaling their departure.

This line captures Adams' characteristic blend of satirical humor and existential reflection. It serves as a metaphor for missed opportunities, unrecognized intelligence, and the bittersweet nature of goodbyes. The dolphins' exit, punctuated by this phrase, underscores a recurring theme in Adams' work: the absurdity of human arrogance and the unpredictability of the universe.

Symbolism and Themes

"so long and thanks for the fish" resonates beyond its literal meaning, symbolizing:

- **Farewell and Departure:** It encapsulates the notion of leaving behind a situation or environment, often with a mix of gratitude and irony.
- **Environmental Commentary:** The dolphins' departure can be interpreted as a subtle critique of humanity's disregard for nature and intelligence beyond humans.
- **Wit and Irony:** The phrase's humorous tone contrasts with the gravity of Earth's destruction, highlighting Adams' skillful use of irony.

The Phrase's Impact on Popular Culture

Since its inception, "so long and thanks for the fish" has transcended its literary roots, finding a foothold in various cultural domains. From music and film references to internet memes and technological jargon, the phrase's adaptability speaks to its enduring appeal.

Use in Media and Entertainment

Several adaptations of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, including radio dramas, television series, and the 2005 film, have featured the phrase prominently. Its memorable nature has made it a favorite among fans and creators alike.

Moreover, artists and musicians have incorporated the phrase or variations of it into their works, often as a nod to Douglas Adams or as a clever farewell motif. This cross-media presence has helped maintain the phrase's visibility across generations.

Internet and Technology

In the digital age, "so long and thanks for the fish" has found new life within internet communities and tech culture. It is sometimes used humorously as a sign-off in online forums, emails, or social media interactions, especially when marking the end of a project or online presence.

Additionally, the phrase has inspired software and coding projects named after it, reflecting the tech-savvy fan base of Adams' work. This ongoing engagement highlights the phrase's versatility and its connection to themes of departure and transition.

Comparative Analysis: Literary Farewells

When juxtaposed with other famous literary farewells, "so long and thanks for the fish" stands out due to its unique blend of levity and poignancy. Unlike traditional goodbyes laden with solemnity, Adams' phrase infuses humor into departure.

Examples of Other Literary Farewells

- *"Parting is such sweet sorrow"* from Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* conveys emotional pain and longing.
- *"Goodbye, my friend, goodbye"* in Ernest Hemingway's works often underscores finality and loss.
- *"So long, and thanks for all the fish"* contrasts with these by embracing an ironic and light-hearted tone even in the face of destruction.

This contrast exemplifies how Adams redefined the concept of farewell, merging science fiction elements with comedic sensibility to craft a memorable and multifaceted expression.

Exploring the Book: So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish

The phrase also titles the fourth book in Adams' series, published in 1984, which continues the saga with a somewhat more optimistic and romantic tone. The novel shifts focus from cosmic absurdities to a more Earth-centered narrative, exploring themes of love, rediscovery, and reconciliation.

Plot and Themes

In *So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish*, Arthur Dent returns to a mysteriously intact Earth, leading to questions about reality and perception. The story weaves humor with deeper inquiries into human nature and the possibility of second chances.

The title itself serves as a recurring motif, reminding readers of the dolphins' enigmatic farewell and the lingering mysteries of existence.

Reception and Legacy

The book received mixed but generally positive reviews, praised for its wit and character development while noted for its tonal shift from the earlier, more chaotic books. It remains a beloved installment for fans and scholars examining Adams' literary evolution.

Why "So Long and Thanks for the Fish" Remains Relevant

Several factors contribute to the phrase's lasting relevance:

- **Universality:** Its application as a humorous yet sincere farewell resonates across contexts.
- **Memorability:** The quirky wording and unexpected subject matter make it easy to recall and reference.
- **Cultural Integration:** Its adoption in various media and tech spheres keeps it in contemporary discourse.
- **Philosophical Depth:** Beneath its light-hearted surface lies a commentary on humanity, environment, and existentialism.

These elements combine to ensure that “so long and thanks for the fish” is not merely a catchphrase but a cultural artifact bridging literature, humor, and social reflection.

The phrase’s journey from a science fiction novel to a multifaceted cultural symbol exemplifies the power of language to transcend its origins. Whether uttered by fictional dolphins, cited in digital sign-offs, or embraced by fans around the world, “so long and thanks for the fish” continues to invite reflection, laughter, and a touch of whimsy in the face of farewells and new beginnings.

So Long And Thanks For The Fish

so long and thanks for the fish: *So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish* Douglas Adams, 2008-12-30 Now celebrating the 42nd anniversary of *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*, soon to be a Hulu original series! “A madcap adventure . . . Adams’s writing teeters on the fringe of inspired lunacy.”—United Press International Back on Earth with nothing more to show for his long, strange trip through time and space than a ratty towel and a plastic shopping bag, Arthur Dent is ready to believe that the past eight years were all just a figment of his stressed-out imagination. But a gift-wrapped fishbowl with a cryptic inscription, the mysterious disappearance of Earth’s dolphins, and the discovery of his battered copy of *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy* all conspire to give Arthur the sneaking suspicion that something otherworldly is indeed going on. God only knows what it all means. Fortunately, He left behind a Final Message of explanation. But since it’s light-years away from Earth, on a star surrounded by souvenir booths, finding out what it is will mean hitching a ride to the far reaches of space aboard a UFO with a giant robot. What else is new? “The most ridiculously exaggerated situation comedy known to created beings . . . Adams is irresistible.”—The Boston Globe

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so long and thanks for the fish: So Long and Thanks for the Fish Douglas Adams, 1985

so long and thanks for the fish: Don't Panic Neil Gaiman, 2018-10-30 The #1 New York Times–bestselling author’s “hilarious . . . idiosyncratic . . . delightful” and definitive companion to a global phenomenon (Publishers Weekly). Douglas Adams’s “six-part trilogy,” *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy* grew from a blip of a notion into an ever-expanding multimedia universe that amassed an unprecedented cult of followers and became an international sensation. As a young journalist, Neil Gaiman was given complete access to Adams’s life, times, gossip, unpublished outtakes, and files (and became privy to his writing process, insecurities, disillusionments, challenges, and triumphs). The resulting volume illuminates the unique, funny, dramatic, and improbable chronicle of an idea, an incredibly tall man, and a mind-boggling success story. In *Don’t Panic*, Gaiman celebrates everything *Hitchhiker*: the original radio play, the books, comics, video and computer games, films, television series, record albums, stage musicals, one-man shows, the Great One himself, and towels. And as Douglas Adams himself attested: “It’s all absolutely devastatingly true—except the bits that are lies.” Updated several times in the thirty years since its original publication, *Don’t Panic* is available for the first time in digital form. Part biography, part tell-all parody, part pop-culture history, part guide to a guide, *Don’t Panic* “deserves as much cult success as the *Hitchhiker’s* books themselves” (Time Out).

so long and thanks for the fish: Uncanny Magazine Issue 42 Aliette de Bodard, P. Djèlí Clark, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam, Betsy Aoki, Kristiana Willsey, Rachael K. Jones, Eugenia Triantafyllou, 2021-09-07 The September/October 2021 issue of Hugo Award-winning *Uncanny Magazine*. Featuring new fiction by Aliette de Bodard, Betsy Aoki, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam, P. Djèlí Clark, Kristiana Willsey, Rachael K. Jones, and Eugenia Triantafyllou. Essays by Sarah Kuhn, Tansy Rayner Roberts, Ada Palmer, and Shiv Ramdas, poetry by Chiara Situmorang, Avi Silver, Uche Ogbuji, and Kristian Macaron, interviews with Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam and Eugenia Triantafyllou by Caroline M. Yoachim, a cover by Julie Dillon, and editorials by Lynne M. Thomas and Michael Damian Thomas, and Elsa Sjunneson. *Uncanny Magazine* is a bimonthly science fiction and fantasy magazine first published in November 2014. Edited by 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 & 2020 Hugo award winners for best semiprozine, and 2018 Hugo award winners for Best Editor, Short Form, Lynne M. Thomas and Michael Damian Thomas, and Chimedum Ohaegbu and Elsa Sjunneson, each issue of *Uncanny* includes new stories, poetry, articles, and interviews.

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so long and thanks for the fish: Talk Like a Pro: Essential English Workplace Vocabulary for Success Ravikiran Reddy, 2023-08-09 In the fast-paced world of business, effective communication is the key to success. Are you ready to elevate your professional conversations and unlock doors of opportunity? Look no further than *Talk Like a Pro: Essential English Workplace Vocabulary for Success*. Curated through years of experience working with foreign English speakers and multinational corporations, this comprehensive guide is a treasure trove of essential business English phrases. I've dedicated countless hours to compiling this list, drawing from real-life situations and insights gained from working in diverse professional environments. Inside these

pages, you'll find 500 key phrases carefully selected to equip you with the verbal arsenal needed to thrive in the corporate environment. From project management, software engineering and decision-making to IT systems and HR processes, each phrase is accompanied by practical examples and relevant contexts, enabling you to understand their meanings and confidently apply them in your daily interactions. Whether you're a project manager seeking to rally your team, an IT professional navigating complex systems, or a business executive making crucial decisions, *Talk Like a Pro* provides the language tools you need to communicate your ideas and intentions with clarity and impact. With this book as your guide, you'll master the art of effective workplace communication, seamlessly conveying your thoughts, negotiating with finesse, and building strong professional relationships. Boost your confidence and command attention in meetings, presentations, and everyday interactions. Key Features: 500 essential business English phrases covering a wide range of workplace scenarios Clear explanations and relevant examples to understand each phrase in context Practical insights and tips for confident and impactful communication Designed for professionals in various fields, including project management, IT, HR, and business leadership Suitable for native English speakers and non-native English speakers looking to enhance their fluency Upgrade your language skills and unlock new opportunities with *Talk Like a Pro*. This book is not only a labor of love but a culmination of years of effort, experience, and dedication. It reflects my passion for empowering professionals like you to excel in your careers by sharpening your English language skills. Take the first step towards workplace communication mastery. Grab your copy of *Talk Like a Pro: Essential English Workplace Vocabulary for Success* today and step into a world of confident, effective, and influential business communication. Let's embark on this transformative journey together.

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an analysis built upon a quantitative and qualitative comparison between the nature of both the radical Islamist and the far-right-related threat in 2018 and 2020. It provides, for the first time, a true picture of novel trends since the pandemic outbreak.

so long and thanks for the fish: *The Rough Guide to The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* Rough Guides, 2009-10-01 Don't Panic. The Rough Guide to The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy explores the ever-expanding universe created by Douglas Adams- the must-have companion for both long-term enthusiasts and those discovering the Hitchhiker's stories for the first time. You'll find everything you need to know about the stories so far including the saga's numerous incarnations: books, TV show, movie, radio series and more. The guide covers key Hitchhiker's concepts and plot devices from tea, cricket and towels to small yellow fish and the stories behind all your favourite characters: Ford Prefect, Arthur Dent, Zaphod Beeblebox, Trisha McMillan and, of course, Marvin, the paranoid Android. The guide features useful background on the life and times of Douglas Adams unveiling his influences and passions and an overview of his other works. Newcomers will find the guide packed with accessible information whilst committed fans will love the online resources section which includes the lowdown on the official fanclub, ZZ9 Plural Z Alpha.

so long and thanks for the fish: Ecosystem Dynamics Richard H. W. Bradshaw, Martin T. Sykes, 2014-06-03 Ecosystem Dynamics focuses on long-term terrestrial ecosystems and their changing relationships with human societies. The unique aspect of this text is the long-time scale under consideration as data and insights from the last 10,000 years are used to place present-day ecosystem status into a temporal perspective and to test models that generate forecasts of future conditions. Descriptions and assessments of some of the current modelling tools that are used, along with their uncertainties and assumptions, are an important feature of this book. An overarching theme explores the dynamic interactions between human societies and ecosystem functioning and services. This book is authoritative but accessible and provides a useful background for all students, practitioners, and researchers interested in the subject.

so long and thanks for the fish: The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy Radio Scripts Volume 2 Douglas Adams, 2012-07-26 Twenty-five years after the original radio series of The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy exploded into the public consciousness, the further exploits of its bewildered hero Arthur Dent were finally adapted for radio by Dirk Maggs, in part using drafts written by Douglas Adams before his death. The resulting fourteen completely new episodes were produced by Above the Title Productions and broadcast on BBC Radio 4, with nearly all of the original cast reunited for recording. These scripts brilliantly bring to life the last three books in Adams' perennially popular Hitchhiker series: Life, the Universe and Everything; So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish; and Mostly Harmless. Dirk Maggs supplies notes which highlight original Adams material and explain how the cast, special effects and music were directed. The scripts are introduced by Simon Jones, who played Arthur Dent in both the original and the recent radio series, as well as in The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy television series. Douglas Adams first conceived The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy for radio and it is an honour to his memory that all five Hitchhiker novels have now been adapted for this medium. These scripts exemplify the freshness of perspective, humour and perspicacity that epitomize the work of Douglas Adams. They will be loved by fans and those new to Hitchhiker's alike.

so long and thanks for the fish: All Time Low - Don't Panic. Let's Party: The Biography Joe Shooman, 2016-08-04 With punk tunes to die for, raucous gigs to get the world jumping and lyrics that resonate with a generation, All Time Low are putting the power back into power-pop and owning stages across the globe. In 2003, four best friends, Alex Gaskarth, Jack Barakat, Rian Dawson and Zack Merrick, got together in high school, bonding over their love of Blink-182 and soon set off on a path that would emulate their heroes. The group was signed before graduating and soon found they were breaking out as Vans Warped Tour favourites. Songs like 'Dear Maria, Count Me In' brought the band firmly onto the world stage as the group established itself as one of the most exciting on the circuit, touring as headliners in their own right as well as supporting seminal genre acts Green Day and Blink-182. The group's status as serious pop-punk heroes was further

strengthened by the superbly-received 2012 album, *Don't Panic*, packed to the edges with blistering skate-punk riffs, infectious vocal harmonies and sparkling guitar play. With their 2015 album *Future Hearts* having debuted at No. 2 in the US Billboard 200 and topping the UK album charts, *All Time Low* have proved they're here to stay. Affectionate, in-depth and packed with more inside stories than you can shake a drumstick at, *Don't Party, Let's Panic* tells the unofficial story behind four boys who were destined to become the greatest thing to come out of Towson, Baltimore. The time for superstardom is nigh for a quartet whose party-loving ways and instant rapport with their fanbase are as strong as those irresistible riffs and melodies. The future is theirs.

so long and thanks for the fish: *Fly-Fishing for Sharks* Richard Louv, 2002-06-19 For three years, journalist Richard Louv listened to America by going fishing with Americans. Doing what many of us dream of, he traveled from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from trout waters east and west to bass waters north and south. *Fly-Fishing for Sharks* is the result of his journey, a portrait of America on the water, fishing rod in hand. To explore the cultures of fishing, Louv joined a bass tournament on Lake Erie and got a casting lesson from fly-fishing legend Joan Wulff. He angled with corporate executives in Montana and fly-fished for sharks in California. He spent time with fishing-boat captains in Florida, the regulars who fish New York City's Hudson River, and a river witch in Colorado. He teamed secrets of fishing and living from steelheaders in the Northwest, Bass'n Gals in Texas, and an ice-fisher in the North Woods. Along the way, he heard from one of Hemingway's sons what it was like to fish with Papa and from Robert Kennedy, Jr., how fishing changed his life. As he describes the eccentricities, obsessions, and tribulations of dedicated anglers, he also uncovers the values that unite them. He reveals the healing qualities of fishing, how it binds the generations, how the angling business has grown, and how the future of fishing is threatened. But most of all, *Fly-Fishing for Sharks* is about the unforgettable characters Louv meets on the water and the stories they tell. From them, Louv learns about our changing relationship with nature, about a hidden America -- and about himself.

so long and thanks for the fish: *The Anthology At The End Of The Universe* Glenn Yefferth, 2005-03-11 Every aspect of the science fiction classic *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* is analyzed in a variety of quirky ways in this collection of essays. Topics include the logistics of the restaurant at the end of the universe, how the Internet is creating the real Hitchhiker's Guide, an assessment of Vogon poetry, and an analysis of computing. The essays are written by both science fiction greats, such as Cory Doctorow, Lawrence Watt-Evans, Stephen Baxter, Jacqueline Carey, and Alastair Reynolds, and up-and-coming writers.

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