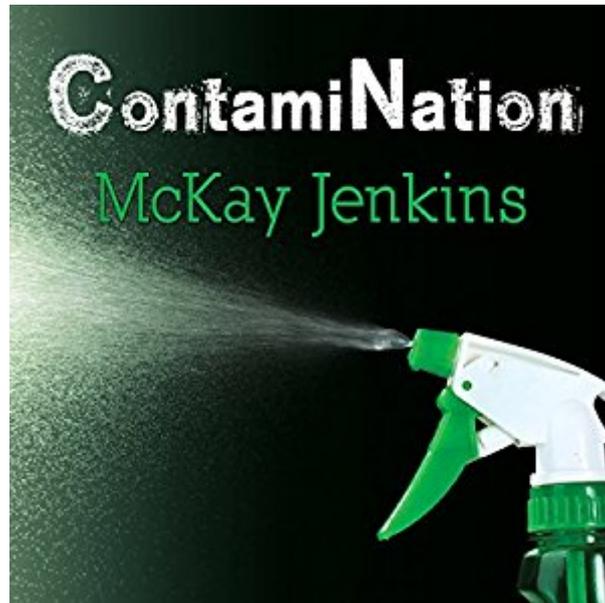


The book was found

ContamiNation: My Quest To Survive In A Toxic World



Synopsis

A few years ago, journalism professor McKay Jenkins went in for a routine medical exam. What doctors found was not routine at all: A tumor, the size of a navel orange, was lurking in his abdomen. When Jenkins returned to the hospital to have the tumor removed, he was visited by a couple of researchers with clipboards. They had some questions for him. Odd questions, like how much exposure had he had to toxic chemicals and other contaminants? Asbestos dust? Vinyl chloride? Pesticides? From the moment he left the hospital, Jenkins resolved to discover the truth about chemicals and the "healthy" levels of exposure we encounter each day as Americans. He spent the next two years digging, exploring five frontiers of toxic exposure - the body, the home, drinking water, the lawn, and the local box store - and asking how we allowed ourselves to get to this point. Most important, though, Jenkins wanted to know what we can do to turn things around. Though toxins may be present in products we all use every day, there are ways to lessen our exposure. ContamiNation is an eye-opening report from the front lines of consumer advocacy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It was just the routine two year checkup with his internist for college professor, family man and author McKay Jenkins, but who had a few questions about certain sensitivities in his lower left leg. A referral to an orthopedist's office revealed something quite unexpected: A mass was growing inside Jenkins' left hip. An MRI was evaluated by an oncologist and a subsequent surgery resulted in the removal of an orange-sized tumor. It was benign, but what was the cause? And thus begins the journey into the murky world of contamination by McKay Jenkins. The Prologue manuscript is so

filled with material and information that chapter discussions seem unnecessary and unproductive as to any review. The Prologue is twenty two pages of revelatory concerns and trends that surround and permeate the manufacturing and production procedures during the processing, transportation and distribution of commercial and consumer goods. Somewhere in all of this are an estimated 80,000 chemicals, not safety tested, countless tons of petrochemicals, plastics, pesticides, and herbicides, synthetic fertilizers, ammonias, asbestos, flame retardants, benzene, mercury, lead, endocrine disruptors, ethylene, fungicides.... Let us move on. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is "a toilet bowl that never flushes" and has 100 million tons of debris off the coasts of Asia and western U.S. estimated to contain 5.5 quadrillion plastic pellets. It is a behemoth the size of Africa. Fish consume these pellets and people consume the fish. Continuing... Construction materials found in every home contain synthetic chemicals; every stream in America contains pharmaceuticals and oral contraceptives; in 2007, a toxic synthetic (melamine) imported from China killed four thousand dogs and cats.

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