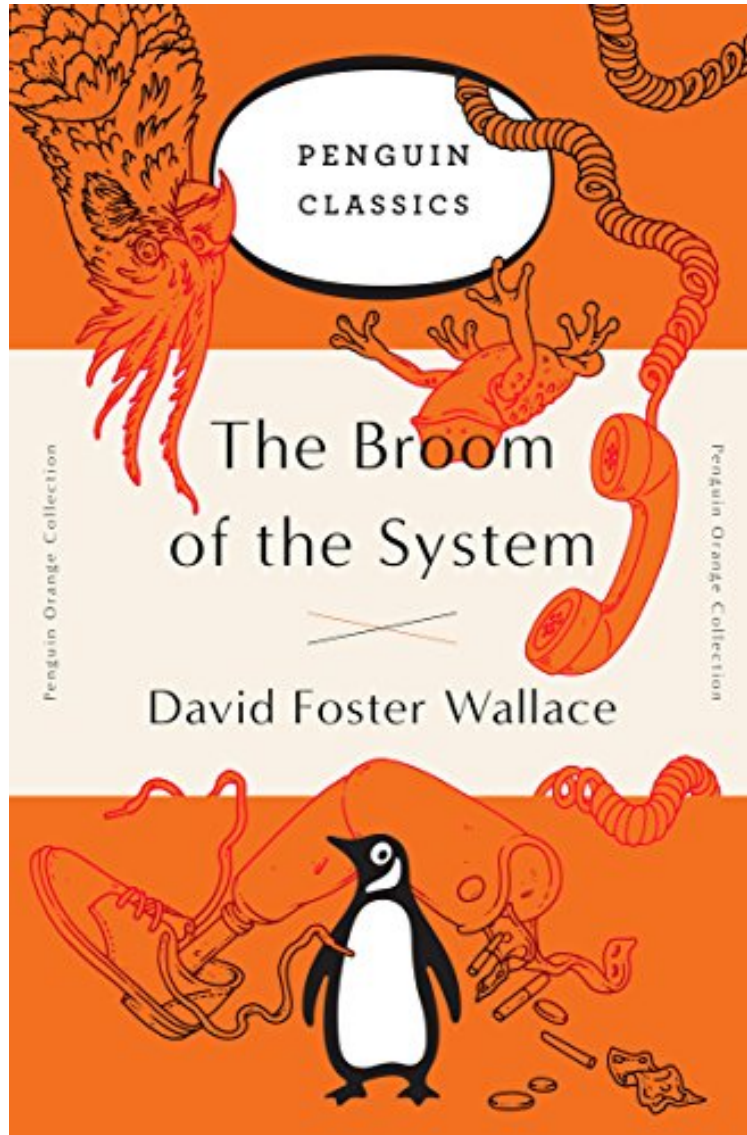


(Free download) The Broom of the System: A Novel

## The Broom of the System: A Novel

Von David Foster Wallace

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**Von David Foster Wallace : The Broom of the System: A Novel** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Broom of the System: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen5 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Deliriously inventive, more accessible than "Infinite Jest"Von Tung YinWhen I was in my early twenties, I read a lot of works by emerging young writers like Jay McInerney, Bret Ellis, and others. Looking back on it now, it seems unfair to put David Foster Wallace in the same category as those writers, as he is far more talented and

imaginative. "The Broom of the System" is Wallace's debut, and like most first-borns, it received the most love and attention. It's more accessible than "Infinite Jest" and can be read more easily in smaller chunks without having to figure out, for example, when the events being narrated actually took place. There isn't much of a plot in "Broom," which is remarkable when one considers that the novel runs over 500 pages. Loosely speaking, it's about the travails of Lenore Stonecipher Beadsman, a 24 year old woman who works as a telephone switch operator for a magazine edited by her lover, Rick Vigorous, who is anything but. Her grandmother (also named Lenore) has disappeared from her nursing home, and Lenore is the only one who seems worried. But that's only a fraction of what the book is about. It's full of stories within stories, some the sad submissions that Vigorous derides (but that are far better than his limp and self-indulgent attempts at writing), others little asides that seem irrelevant but aren't. Mostly, "Broom" is an exploration of language and ideas -- some chapters involve highly detailed descriptions of, for example, the Goldberg-like trail of a pebble; other chapters are entirely dialogue, with no description of who is speaking (but which is clear from context). In other words, this is not a novel about sex and drugs (although there are sex and drugs), and it's not a shallow, Gen-Ex picture of excess. The nearest comparison I can think of, in a loose way, is Neal Stephenson's "Cryptonomicon."

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Chaos as art  
Von Ein Kunde  
Though I liked this book, I was rather frustrated by the end of it...I felt almost like I had been cheated. All this excitement builds and builds and it just ends up feeling anti-climatic (and can someone please tell me why it ends mid-sentence?? i thought pages were missing). Honestly, I prefer David Foster Wallace's short stories and essays (10 out of 10 for "a supposedly fun thing..." and "girl with curious hair") because they give me some sense of cohesion. I felt like in this novel a lot of story lines were abandoned or not developed fully enough. This felt like a bunch of short stories pieced together to form a novel. The writing is good and very funny though...the book had me laughing out loud more than a couple times!

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. alternately mindblowing and mediocre  
Von Ein Kunde  
Ok so I'm not a genius to begin with and probably would not recognise genius if confronted with it BUT the sequence where the main character comes dangerously close to realizing she's a character in a novel during a therapy session is definitely one of the most fun, mindbending things I've read ever and worth the price of admission. The breathless stories within a story were great too and there were a number of wonderful little scenes besides. However. There were also a few too many moments in the book where everything slows down to a boring slog (the plot is appealing in theory but not in execution), and the characters are really only occasionally interesting.

**Kurzbeschreibung** Published when Wallace was just twenty-four years old, *The Broom of the System* stunned critics and marked the emergence of an extraordinary new talent. At the center of this outlandishly funny, fiercely intelligent novel is the bewitching heroine, Lenore Stonecipher Beadsman. The year is 1990 and the place is a slightly altered Cleveland, Ohio. Lenore's great-grandmother has disappeared with twenty-five other inmates of the Shaker Heights Nursing Home. Her beau, and boss, Rick Vigorous, is insanely jealous, and her cockatiel, Vlad the Impaler, has suddenly started spouting a mixture of psycho-babble, Auden, and the King James Bible. Ingenious and entertaining, this debut from one of the most innovative writers of his generation brilliantly explores the paradoxes of language, storytelling, and reality.

From *Library Journal* The year is 1990, and the place Cleveland. Lenore Beadsman works as a telephone operator for Frequent and Vigorous Publishers. Her roommate's name is Candy Mandible, their parrot is Vlad the Impaler, there is a Judith Prieth, and businesses have names like Hunt and Peck. Lenore's great-grandmother and several cronies disappear from their nursing home, and the search for them leads across the Great Ohio Desert (G.O.D.). The novel is largely dialogue, much of it quite funny and perceptive. Obviously not aimed at the Danielle Steel or Robert Ludlum crowds, Wallace's book will appeal to people his age (mid-20s) and to older readers who enjoy trying the unfamiliar. Libraries serving such patrons should consider it. Mary K. Prokop, CEL Regional Lib., Savannah, Ga.

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