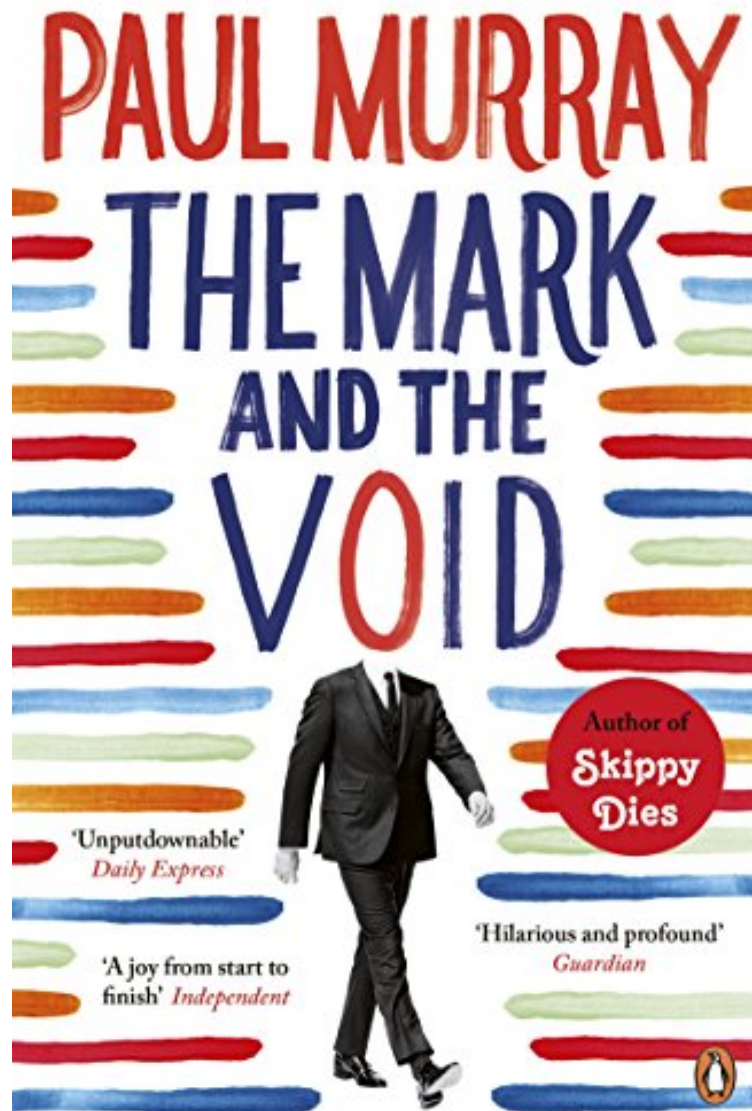


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## The Mark and the Void

Von Paul Murray

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**Von Paul Murray : The Mark and the Void** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Mark and the Void:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Extremely funny and cleverly constructed novel Von Kim Gredell loved the book and had to laugh out loud a lot while reading it. Behind the appreciated sense of humour I found a carefully constructed, thoughtful story with convincing characters. In fact, I think it's one of the author's great abilities to let even minor characters come to life with only a

few lines of dialogue that give you a whole and often very amusing idea about the persons talking. The mixture of sadness, thoughtfulness, humour and absurdity already stroke me as special when I first read "An Evening of Long Goodbyes". Ever since then, I've enjoyed the two following novels and can't wait for Paul Murray to write the next one.1 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The perfect book for bankers Von Barbara Tsipouras This is the perfect book for bankers. Unfortunately I am not a banker. I really liked the idea of writing a book within the book, the interaction between story and life, the description of the gap through society and most of all Claude's character development. Some parts are well-written with a witty sense of humour but there are too many parts about banking, hedge funds, derivatives, investments, take-overs and so on that are understandable for bankers only. But that's how it works in reality. This book should just be about 100 pages shorter. \*I got a free copy via netgalley\*

Kurzbeschreibung WINNER OF THE EVERYMAN WODEHOUSE PRIZE 2016 A comic masterpiece about love, art, greed and the banking crisis, from the author of Skippy Dies What links the Investment Bank of Torabundo, [www.myhotswaitress.com](http://www.myhotswaitress.com) (yes, hots with an s, don't ask), an art heist, a novel called For the Love of a Clown, a four-year-old boy named after TV detective Remington Steele, a lonely French banker, a tiny Pacific island, and a pest control business run by an ex-KGB man? You guessed it . . . The Mark and the Void is Paul Murray's madcap new novel of institutional folly, following the success of his wildly original breakout hit, Skippy Dies. While marooned at his banking job in the bewilderingly damp and insular realm known as Ireland, Claude Martingale is approached by a down-on-his-luck author, Paul, looking for his next great subject. Claude finds that his life gets steadily more exciting under Paul's fictionalizing influence; he even falls in love with a beautiful waitress. But Paul's plan is not what it seems--and neither is Claude's employer, the Bank of Torabundo, which inflates through dodgy takeovers and derivatives-trading until--well, you can probably guess how that shakes out. The Mark and the Void is a stirring examination of the deceptions carried out in the names of art, love and commerce - and is also probably the funniest novel ever written about a financial crisis. Pressestimmen Praise for "Skippy Dies" "Murray's humor and inventiveness never flag. And despite a serious theme--what happens to boys and men when they realize the world isn't the sparkly planetarium they had hoped for--"Skippy Dies" leaves you feeling hopeful and hungry for life. Just not for doughnuts." --"Entertainment Weekly" (Grade: A) Praise for "Skippy Dies" Paul Murray has produced a comic classic that cements his status as one of the most gifted novelists of his generation . . . "The Mark and the Void" is a funny, angry, and unputdownable novel. Huston Gilmore, "Daily Express" "The Mark and the Void" is Murray's best book yet--a wildly ambitious novel and a scabrously funny yet deeply humane satire on the continuing fallout of the biggest financial crisis in seventy-five years. "The Bookseller" With "The Mark and the Void," Paul Murray has done the impossible: he's written a novel about international finance that not only isn't dense, boring, or annoyingly didactic, but is, in fact, a hilarious page-turner with a beating human heart that nonetheless provides real insight into the ongoing economic crisis. To put all of these elements in a pot and alchemically produce something so brilliant and cohesively constructed, one might assume Paul Murray is a witch. I think he's simply a great writer. Adam Wilson, author of Flatscreen and What's Important Is Feeling People always tell me, 'If you love Paul Murray so much, why don't you marry him?' Now thanks to recent legislation in his native Ireland, I finally can. And so should you, reader. "The Mark and the Void" not only monetizes the death of the novel, but makes us believe in its resurrection. Praise the Lord for Paul Murray's big brain and tender heart. Gary Shteyngart, author of Little Failure ["The Mark and the Void"] is utterly original and very funny. Anna Carey, "The Irish Times" Darkly comic . . . thoughtful and entertaining. [Murray's] creative energy sends the book in many directions . . . but the same may be said of Dickens, with whom [he] also shares wit, sympathy, and a purposeful sense of mischief. "Kirkus" (starred review) ["The Mark and the Void"]'s successes are serious and impressive. Fans of "Skippy Dies" and Murray's first novel, "An Evening of Long Goodbyes," will not be surprised to hear that it is very funny . . . But there is profundity beyond the laughter, not least in the book's depiction of the bleak emptying-out of a country. Rainswept plazas, crumbling Celtic Tiger penthouses, tottering banks surrounded by protestors dressed up as zombies. Alex Clark, "The Guardian" Murray's 2010 novel "Skippy Dies" earned the Irishman worldwide acclaim as a writer enviably adept at both raucous humor and bittersweet truth. His new novel, perhaps the funniest thing to come out of the Irish economic collapse, follows Claude, a low-level bank employee who, while his employers drive the country steadily towards ruin, falls in with a struggling novelist intent on making Claude's life worthy of telling. 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