



The End of Mr. Y

By Scarlett Thomas

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The End of Mr. Y By Scarlett Thomas

A cursed book. A missing professor. Some nefarious men in gray suits. And a dreamworld called the Troposphere?

Ariel Manto has a fascination with nineteenth-century scientists—especially Thomas Lumas and *The End of Mr. Y*, a book no one alive has read. When she mysteriously uncovers a copy at a used bookstore, Ariel is launched into an adventure of science and faith, consciousness and death, space and time, and everything in between.

Seeking answers, Ariel follows in Mr. Y's footsteps: She swallows a tincture, stares into a black dot, and is transported into the Troposphere—a wonderland where she can travel through time and space using the thoughts of others. There she begins to understand all the mysteries surrounding the book, herself, and the universe. Or is it all just a hallucination?

With *The End of Mr. Y*, Scarlett Thomas brings us another fast-paced mix of popular culture, love, mystery, and irresistible philosophical adventure.

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The End of Mr. Y By Scarlett Thomas Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In Thomas's dense, freewheeling novel, Ariel Manto, an oversexed renegade academic, stumbles across a cursed text, which takes her into the Troposphere, a dimension where she can enter the consciousness, undetected, of other beings. Thomas first signals something is askew even in Ariel's everyday life when a university building collapses; soon after, Ariel discovers her intellectual holy grail at a used book shop: a rare book with the same title as the novel, written by an eccentric 19th-century writer interested in "experiments of the mind." The volume jump-starts her doctoral thesis, but her adviser disappears. And when Ariel follows a recipe in the book, she finds herself in deep trouble in the Troposphere. Her young ex-priest love interest may be too late to save her. Thomas blithely references popular physics, Aristotle, Derrida, Samuel Butler and video game shenanigans while yoking a *Back to the Future*-like conundrum to a gooey love story. The novel's academic banter runs the gamut from intellectually engaging to droning; this journey to the "edge of consciousness" is similarly playful but less accessible than its predecessor, *PopCo*. (Oct.)

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From Booklist

British author Thomas bites off a bit more than she can chew in this novel incorporating time travel, Derrida, and the dangers of sadistic trysts. Strange things keep happening to British university lecturer Ariel Manto. First her supervisor disappears; then she discovers the rarest of rare books, *The End of Mr. Y.*, at a secondhand bookshop. The tome was penned by Thomas Lumas, a nineteenth-century scientist who, as luck would have it, is the subject of Ariel's dissertation. (The book tells the tale of a man who swallows a tincture, stares into a black dot, and winds up in a place called the Troposphere, where he travels space and time through others' minds.) Bored and befuddled by real life, Ariel mimics the author's eerie experiment, with mixed results. (On her first trip, she melds minds with a randy rodent and a psychotic cat.) Like her previous novel, *PopCo* (2005), Thomas' mildly amusing second offering aspires to be both wonky and hip: her protagonist obsesses over philosophical matters one moment, her lamentable love life the next. Chick lit for nerds. *Allison Block*

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Review

PRAISE FOR *POPCO*

"You might say that Thomas has redefined activism for the Digital Age. Inspired by a venerable tradition, she achieves here a scope and a passion to match the intelligence and empathy her fiction has always had."--*Los Angeles Times Book Review*

"Enough code-breaking tips, puzzles and graphs, charts, postscripts and appendixes to satisfy that other mathematician storyteller, Lewis Carroll. "--*The New York Times Book Review*

"An exciting story with a fantastical twist, dive into the world of Ariel Manto and The End of Mr. Y." - armchairinterviews.com

"Not only will you have a great time reading this book, but you will finish it a cleverer person." - Jonathan Coe

"[A] journey of wonder and danger. Delicious cross-genre literary picnic, breezy and fiercely intelligent, reminiscent of Haruki Murakami." - Kirkus

"A combination of postmodern philosophy and physics, spine-tingling science fiction, clever, unexpected narrative twists, and engaging characters." - Library Journal

"[S]mart, stylish and dizzying... Consider 'The End of Mr. Y' an accomplished, impressive thought experiment for the 21st Century." - New York Times Book Review

"Literary manna for would-be philosophy nerds. There are little, 100-percent-literary sugar plums to be found in its pages." - Salon.com

"Exhilarating. A compulsively absorbing thriller. Mr. Y burrows into the reader's brain, stoking a desire for real-world exploration." - Time Out New York

"An exciting story with a fantastical twist, dive into the world of Ariel Manto and The End of Mr. Y."
(*armchairinterviews.com*)

"[A] journey of wonder and danger. Delicious cross-genre literary picnic, breezy and fiercely intelligent, reminiscent of Haruki Murakami."
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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Wayne Millican:

Reading a publication can be one of a lot of exercise that everyone in the world loves. Do you like reading book and so. There are a lot of reasons why people fantastic. First reading a book will give you a lot of new data. When you read a reserve you will get new information due to the fact book is one of many ways to share the information or their idea. Second, examining a book will make you actually more imaginative. When you examining a book especially fiction book the author will bring someone to imagine the story how the people do it anything. Third, it is possible to share your knowledge to others. When you read this The End of Mr. Y, you may tells your family, friends and also soon about yours publication. Your knowledge can inspire the mediocre, make them reading a book.

Avril Morris:

Reading a guide tends to be new life style within this era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information that may give you benefit in your life. Having book everyone in this world can easily share their idea. Ebooks can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their particular reader with their story as well as their experience. Not only situation that share in the books. But also they write about the information about something that you need instance. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your children, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors on this planet always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write to their book. One of them is this The End of Mr. Y.

Mary Bolinger:

Your reading 6th sense will not betray a person, why because this The End of Mr. Y reserve written by well-known writer we are excited for well how to make book that could be understand by anyone who read the book. Written with good manner for you, leaking every ideas and publishing skill only for eliminate your hunger then you still hesitation The End of Mr. Y as good book not just by the cover but also by content. This is one book that can break don't determine book by its cover, so do you still needing yet another sixth sense to pick this kind of!? Oh come on your reading sixth sense already alerted you so why you have to listening to another sixth sense.

Ethel Springer:

This The End of Mr. Y is great book for you because the content and that is full of information for you who all always deal with world and still have to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it information accurately using great arrange word or we can state no rambling sentences within it. So if you are read it hurriedly you can have whole data in it. Doesn't mean it only provides straight forward sentences but tough core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having The End of Mr. Y in your hand like finding the world in your arm, information in it is not ridiculous 1. We can say that no book that offer you world inside ten or fifteen minute right but this book already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. occupied do you still doubt in which?

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