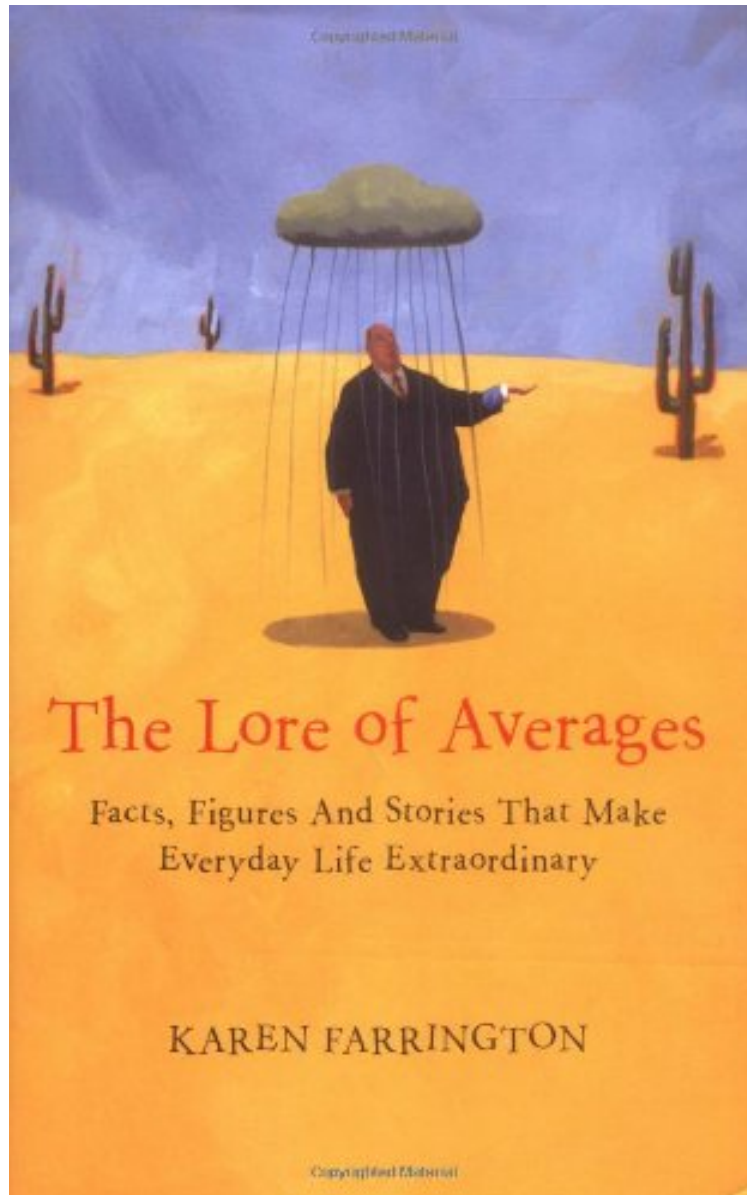


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## The Lore of Averages: Facts, Figures, and Stories That Make Everyday Life Extraordinary (Arcane)

*Karen Farrington*

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**Karen Farrington : The Lore of Averages: Facts, Figures, and Stories That Make Everyday Life Extraordinary (Arcane)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Lore of Averages: Facts, Figures, and Stories That Make Everyday Life Extraordinary (Arcane):

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. This Book is so much Fun!By G. MessersmithI feel sure my husband and daughter are sick of hearing me read from this book, but I can't help it. This book is full of great little witty facts that will keep you smiling for days. For example, did you know that 1 in every 3,400 Americans is an Elvis impersonator? How about that 1 in every 200 men alive today are descended from Genghis Khan? This book is full of delightful details, i.e., how many cars American buy; how many hours the British work per week; that 3 out of every 100 pets in Moscow is hooked on hard liquor. Well you get the idea! If you like knowing little tidbits of information no one else (except Jeopardy contestants) seem to know then buy this book. I highly recommend it and had a lot of fun reading it.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fun reading, poor editingBy Ivan RancatiThe book has an amusing collection of anecdotes and figures, and I recommend it for some light reading.But I am surprised by the poor editing. For example, the book insists on using both metric and imperial measurement, which is good, but sometimes the numbers are just plain wrong.For example, on page 96, it says average double beds are 1.8 metres (or 6'2") long. That would be about 5'11".Elsewhere, there are some possibly interesting facts, like the work statistics in Europe on page 78, but no source is mentioned, it just says "statistics show that..."And, in the same page, France is missing from the list of European states.All in all, makes for a relaxed afternoon, but I would not take anything too seriously.Oh, according to the author, the Euro is not "proper money" like the UK pound or the US dollar (page 120). British snobbery?0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. If you read this from cover to cover,I'd be surprised.By Jerry GuildI often pick up books of facts like this and generally find them pretty good.However,in this case I was disappointed.There was some stuff I found interesting and novel;but generally I found most of it rather mundane.Also,this book is heavily weighted with British and european facts and data that at the most only makes you wonder about North America.That is not to say that it is completely void of anything in North america,but it is quite sparse.As I read the book,I found that many,even most,subjects were of little interest to me,hence,in many cases once I readthe title ,I simply skipped it. The sub-title of the book,"Facts,Figures And Stories That Make Everyday Life Extraordinary";is much better at promising than delivering.

A new title in the Arcane series of trivia books, Lore of Averages offers facts and stories that explore both meanings of the word average. Statistical averages (the average weight in turkey eaten each Thanksgiving) preface stories that prove to be anything but average (the annual Turkey Drop in Arkansas Ozark Mountains). The uncommon origins of common phrases like "its raining cats and dogs" are revealed, and fascinating anecdotes of ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances abound. Over twenty illustrations complete this fascinating little compendium.