

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Now available in paperback! GONE WITH THE MIND by Mark Leyner

"I loved the thing. All of it. Weird and heartfelt both at the same time. Which there should be a word for, but there isn't, so I'm making up one of my own: **Weirdfelt.** Because that's what *Gone with the Mind* truly is."



-Jason Sheehan, NPR

Time Magazine "Best Book of 2016 So Far" *Paris Review* "Staff Pick"

"Personal and poignant...truly absurd and absurdly true."
—New York Times Book Review

> "Trippy and hilarious." —*New York Magazine*

"To this day, you can bring me 10 contemporary novels with HILARIOUS! stamped all over their covers and I will show you 10 pages of Leyner that are **funnier than all of them combined.**" —*New York Times Magazine*

"A triumph of the will....a high-spirited satiric romp....Leyner is very funny." —*Harper's*

"Formally fascinating and wide-ranging in the subjects it pulls in....Leyner delivers an exercise in deferred gratification that is itself immensely entertaining and surprisingly gratifying." —*Chicago Tribune*

Even More Fantastic Praise for GONE WITH THE MIND

"I loved the thing. All of it. It is looping and self-referential, alternately bonkers and manic and depressive. The same stories repeat again and again, looked at from different angles. And it ends with a promised Q&A section, but even that takes place in a women's bathroom stall, exclusively between Mark and his mom, that reads almost heartbreakingly sweet. Weird and heartfelt both at the same time. Which there should be a word for, but there isn't, so I'm making up one of my own: Weirdfelt. Because that's what *Gone with the Mind* truly is."

-Jason Sheehan, NPR

"No one could ever accuse Mark Leyner of being in a rut. With his restless imagination, his eye for the absurd and his occasionally ribald humor...Leyner is one of America's least predictable writers, perpetually in search of the new. He has found it yet again in his new book, *Gone with the Mind*. An experimental, uncategorizable hybrid of fiction and nonfiction."

-Chicago Tribune

"A wicked and weird trip through the absurdly funny author's life and psyche....unlike the guy at Sbarro's, you'll be

fascinated." —San Antonio Express-News

"Structurally daring...stylistically innovative." —The A.V. Club

"Wholly provocative, confrontational, unsettling and insightfully funny....And this voice is one of the most humane, charming, wise, surprising, spit-take funny and entertaining in fiction today. Listen up....I want to have, or at least coparent, Mark Leyner's baby—just as a sign of devotion. We could pick out stuff for it together, and have endless kicked-back chats on the futon in our Jersey City loft, sharing our hopes and dreams and fears. We could josh and kid, debate possible names—Josh might be a good one, or Kidd. I am besotted at the moment because Leyner's unruly 'novel,' Gone with the Mind, is fearless, hilarious, charming and brilliant, and that's just way sexy."

—Ed Taylor, *Buffalo News*

"[Leyner has] produced **one of the most compulsively readable literary novels....This is Mark Leyner commenting on fiction in a way that only he can**; he admirably dissects the problems with modern readers while simultaneously building a bridge to new readership."

-The Millions

"A **unique exploration** of the life of an artist and human being in the modern era." —*Harvard Crimson*

> "It's totally **wild, dark, zany, and fun."** —*Bon Appétit*

"Whether one chooses to focus on the recurring motifs that pop up intermittently in the book, or simply on the cleverness and, at times, beauty of Leyner's writing....[it's] truly a joy to read." —fields magazine

"Exhilarating....*Gone with the Mind* is one of the most **refreshing** pieces of psychoanalytic fiction we've come across." —ZYZZYVA

"Though it's whimsical and unconventional, this is probably Leyner's most mature work. There is plenty of sincere storytelling throughout, and Leyner's masterly ability to interlace humor with existential dilemmas makes for a compelling novel, autobiographical or not." —Publishers Weekly

"There's a sweet story to be had for those who appreciate the author's **singularly outlandish wit.** It's pointless trying to classify or summarize Leyner's work. By now readers who get it are prepared to buy the ticket and take the ride." —*Kirkus Reviews*

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"This is Mark Leyner's best book, and that's saying something. He's always been the benchmark when it comes to comic brilliance and anarcho-absurdist zeal, and this book is as charged and hilarious as anything he's written." —Sam Lipsyte, author of *The Ask* and *The Fun Parts*

"It's almost impossible to write something that's this out-and-out hilarious and this touching, this moving. But Leyner's done it. The guy has a mother of a mind. Don't know quite how it gets him to the grocery store and back, but it's given birth to this astonishing, completely openhearted, completely unprecedented book." —Amy Heckerling, writer, Fast Times at Ridgemont High and Clueless

"America should treasure its **rare, true original voices** and Mark Leyner is one of them. So treasure him already, you bastards!"

-Gary Shteyngart, author of Super Sad True Love Story

"Did you ever wonder who birthed the current crop of postmodern darlings? Look no further then Mark Leyner. Leyner is the original charged particle, formally inventive, hilariously funny, completely original. His newest work, *Gone with the Mind*, both satirizes the nonfiction novel and infuses it with his signature surreal pathos. Think Beckett on acid. Read this book."

—Darcey Steinke, author of *Sister Golden Hair*

"So utterly blown away by this book! If your average autobiography has a writer painting a self-portrait with oils or watercolors, *Gone with the Mind* sees Mark Leyner gleefully vivisecting himself. You will *know* Mark Leyner— biblically, medically, metaphysically, and otherwise—when you do yourself the mitzvah of reading it. I envision other authors' memoirs shuffling off shelves into trashcans when Leyner's book is placed alongside them. It's going to knock

your socks off." —Rob Delaney, co-writer and star of *Catastrophe*

"Dazzling, hilarious, heartfelt and entirely—mind-blowingly—original, Mark Leyner's fictional memoir...confirms the author's status **as one of the most singular, wild-ass and brilliantly fearless voices in American literature.** In prose that is equal parts Roth, Joyce, *Scientific American*, and the Marx Brothers, *Gone with the Mind* delineates the deep soul and life story of man staring down the barrel of mortality—in the food court of a New Jersey mall. There isn't a convention Mark Leyner does not shatter, nor an aspect of twenty-first-century culture—from robot rape to first-person shooter games—he does not reexamine and render fresh. **Quite possibly the first literary work of genius—comic and**

otherwise—of the new millennium."

—Jerry Stahl, author of Permanent Midnight



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mark Leyner is also the author of *The Sugar Frosted Nutsack, Et Tu, Babe,* and *The Tetherballs of Bougainville,* and he co-wrote the movie *War, Inc.* He lives in Hoboken, New Jersey.

GONE WITH THE MIND

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For more information or to schedule an interview with Mark Leyner, please contact Claire Gibbs at (212) 364-1350 or <u>claire.gibbs@hbgusa.com.</u>

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