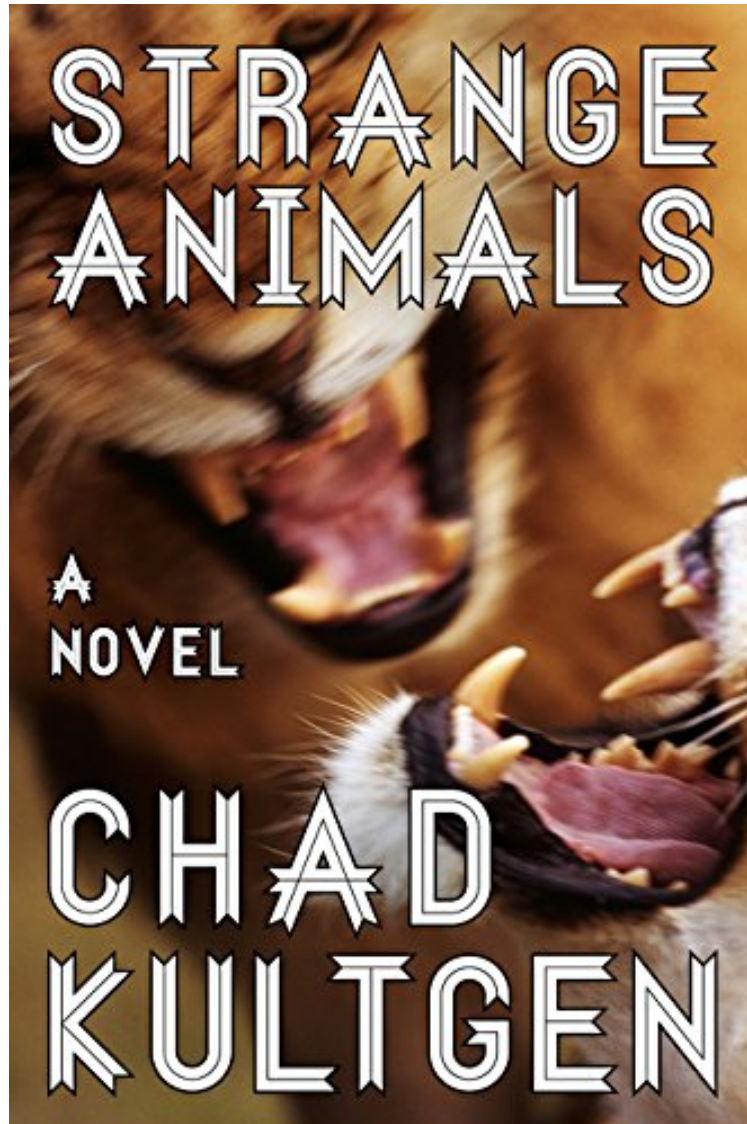


[E-BOOK] Strange Animals: A Novel

## Strange Animals: A Novel

Chad Kultgen

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#84114 in Books Kultgen Chad 2015-07-07 2015-07-07Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .61 x 5.311, .0 #File Name: 0062119575272 pagesStrange Animals | File size: 57.Mb

**Chad Kultgen : Strange Animals: A Novel** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Strange Animals: A Novel:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Highly disturbingBy Karin EderI don't know how to start describing this book.One thing is, it's not about the ending. You see the ending comming very early in the book, and I think it's the author's intention, so you are on the edge of the seat in anticipation of what you know is going to happen. It's very intense.The James character truly creeped me out, mostly because I know people like him really do exist. Oh my.

Creepy, creepy. Shudder. I almost didn't finish reading because I knew what would happen. Anyway, I loved the "that's what he/she understood to be true" bit. It reminded me of the German movie "Run Lola, run" where every time she bumps into someone flashes of the person's life appear briefly. I loved when a new character showed up just for this bit. So I could think "what a nice person" or "what a jerk", lol. I finished this book yesterday night and am still thinking about it. This doesn't happen very often for me. I loved it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. If you are religious or easily offended, read this book. I've read all of Chad Kultgen's books and this was by far the most plot-driven and philosophical. If you are new to Kultgen, this is not the book to start with. Building a solid foundation with the Average American series, the Lie, and Men, Women, and Children will help you understand the direction that Strange Animals is going in. In his previous books, the plot was secondary to character development, which was fun to read, but Strange Animals allows the plot to take center stage and concludes wonderfully. The characters are well developed, but Strange Animals is focused more on the character's thought process and how it leads to various actions. The "understood to be true" was always entertaining and I started to look forward to it. Ultimately, it was a fascinating, dark, topical, thought-provoking read. I have yet to read a Kultgen book that I do not like due to his eagerness to push buttons, challenge social norms, his unpretentious writing style, and his willingness to rejoice in the dark comedy that is human existence, especially in modern western society. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. **Lame Animals - Chad phones it in on this one...** By Michael Bouck I'm a huge fan of Chad's "Average American" works so I really wanted to like "Strange Animals". I persevered through bouts of boredom, willing myself to read all 262 pages because I was waiting for something interesting which never arrived. The "understood to be true" trope wore thin after the third use. As a born-and-bred American perhaps I'm just very familiar with our unique flavor of Christian religious wackery. This story might be more interesting to a non-American not familiar with our cultural dysfunctions. For me it was just boring. Turn off the auto-pilot Chad - you're better than this steaming pile.

A thought-provoking and darkly witty novel about freedom, motherhood, greed, and religion—a surprising new direction from the controversial author of *Men, Women Children* and *The Average American Male*. Chad Kultgen has established himself as one of the most honest and candid chroniclers of human relationships working today. Now, in an eye-opening departure, he turns his gaze on the collision between religious values and human freedoms in American society. She found herself thinking how strange it was that although we are all animals with roughly the same mental capacity—and roughly the same access to information, both general and specific—we can come to such radically different conclusions about the nature of reality. She wondered if it would always be like this, or if at some point in the future a general knowledge base would be accepted by the whole of humanity on which every individual would base their view of existence. She hoped this would be the case and wished she could live to see it. Karen Halloway is a philosophy PhD candidate, struggling to find a dissertation topic strong enough to make a mark on the world. When she discovers that she's pregnant, she finds herself at a crossroads: she has always known that she doesn't want to be a mother, and feels her only choice is to have an abortion, though she knows that both her boyfriend and her highly religious best friend will object. Yet on the way to the clinic, Karen has the epiphany she's been looking for—a way to turn her unexpected situation to her advantage. Fiendishly suspenseful, intellectually provocative, *Strange Animals* is a surprising novel about freedom, choice, and desperate measures.

**From the Back Cover** In the days that followed Karen's decision to postpone the abortion, she became increasingly aware of the unique position pregnancy afforded her. . . . For the first time in her life, she began to feel that she could do something that changed the way people thought. . . . It might be the best idea she would ever have. Karen Halloway is a philosophy graduate student, searching for a dissertation topic strong enough to change the world. When she accidentally gets pregnant, she has the epiphany she's been looking for—a way to transform the situation into an object lesson for mankind. A surprising story of freedom, choice, and desperate measures, *Strange Animals* is a fiendishly suspenseful and eye-opening novel from one of our most provocative writers. **About the Author** Chad Kultgen is a graduate of the USC School of Cinematic Arts. His novels include *The Average American Male*, *The Average American Marriage*, *The Lie*, and *Men, Women Children*, the basis of a feature film by Jason Reitman. He lives in California.