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Skyscrapers, Hemlines and the Eddie Murphy Rule: Life's Hidden Laws, Rules and Theories

Philip Gooden

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Philip Gooden : Skyscrapers, Hemlines and the Eddie Murphy Rule: Life's Hidden Laws, Rules and Theories before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Skyscrapers, Hemlines

and the Eddie Murphy Rule: Life's Hidden Laws, Rules and Theories:

What is the shade of difference between Sod's Law and Murphy's Law? What is the Helsinki Bus Station Theory? What part do the McNaghton Rules and the Miranda Law play in criminal justice? Plenty of books claim to tell you how to succeed in life, love or business with infallible sets of guidelines and self-help principles, but have nothing to say about the laws - often hidden ones - which really govern our lives. Skyscrapers, Hemlines and the Eddie Murphy Rule is an anthology of the many quirky, useful or entertaining rules and principles, which, if they are well known, crop up without explanation or, if confined to specialist circles, deserve to be more widely understood and appreciated. Here is a deliberately diverse scrapbook of the attempts to provide a system and an explanation, whether serious or humorous, eccentric or plain mischievous, for human activity across politics, science, sport, economics, the Internet, work, and life itself.

This is a wonderfully eclectic collection of life's informal rules and principles. There are fascinating background stories to the most famous examples such as Parkinson's Law. Meanwhile Stigler's Law is just one of many everyday truisms to which I can now attach a name. Mathematician and bestselling author Philip Gooden read English at Magdalen College, Oxford, and then taught at secondary school level for many years. In 2001 he became a full-time writer. He was chairman of the Crime Writers' Association in 2007-8 and is part of the writing collective, The Medieval Murderers. He has also written *Faux Pas?* and *Who's Whose? A No-Nonsense Guide to Easily Confused Words*, and recently a series of mystery novels featuring Geoffrey Chaucer.