



# The Happiest People in the World: A Novel

*Brock Clarke*

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**The Happiest People in the World: A Novel** Brock Clarke

**“[A] dark and funny satire . . . Infidelities, secret identities and double-crosses . . . Reflects the absurdity of any country obsessed with spying on its own people.”** —*The Wall Street Journal*

Take the format of a spy thriller, shape it around real-life incidents involving international terrorism, leaven it with dark, dry humor, toss in a love rectangle, give everybody a gun, and let everything play out in the outer reaches of upstate New York--there you have an idea of Brock Clarke's new novel. Filled with wonder and anger in almost equal parts, *The Happiest People in the World* is a ripped-from-the-headlines tale of paranoia and the all-American obsession with security and the conspiracies that threaten it.

“A literary first: a book that feels like the love child of Saul Bellow and *Hogan's Heroes*, full of authorial cartwheels of comedy and profundity.” —*GQ*

“*The Happiest People in the World* begins with a raucous bar scene featuring party streamers, smoke, prone bodies, spilled fluids and a stuffed moose with a surveillance camera in its left eye . . . [Clarke has] success in dreaming up oddball originals that have instant appeal.” —Janet Maslin, *The New York Times*

“[Clarke] creates books that taste like delicious cuts of absurdity marbled with erudition.” —*The Washington Post*

“A whiz-bang spy satire bundled in an edgy tale of redemption . . . His comedy of errors is impossible to put down.” —*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

“A darkly hilarious novel . . . The writing is clever, the dialogue snappy and understated, and the effect is as pleasantly unsettling as anything Kurt Vonnegut Jr. ever wrote.” —*The Portland Sun*

“A zany and fast-paced book that explores the myriad ways people of all nations make themselves and others unhappy.” —*Chicago Tribune*, Printer's Row

“Ranks among the funniest and most relevant social satires I've read . . . It might just make you the happiest reader in the world.” —*The Dallas Morning News*

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