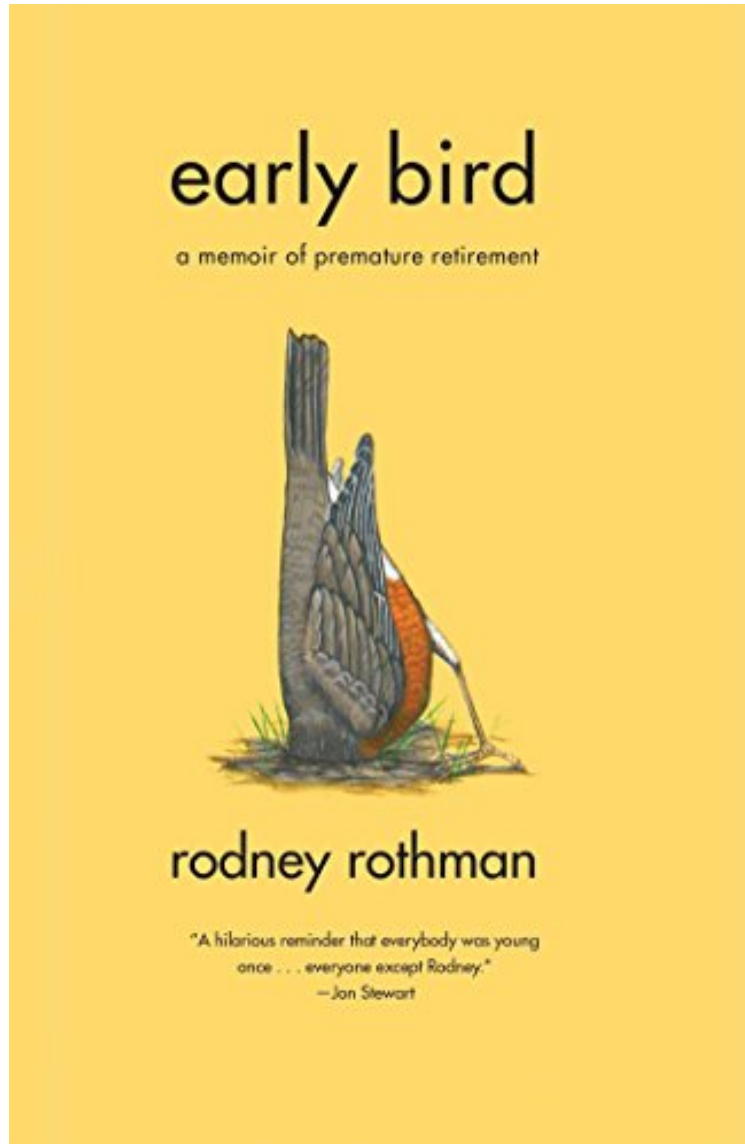


(Free pdf) Early Bird: A Memoir of Premature Retirement

Early Bird: A Memoir of Premature Retirement

Rodney Rothman

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Rodney Rothman : Early Bird: A Memoir of Premature Retirement before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Early Bird: A Memoir of Premature Retirement:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy S. G.Liked it.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Early Bird is great fish out of water story.By Pierre ConradI had to choose a memoir for class and make a pamphlet for it. I wasn't sure what I should get, but someone online recommended I give this a try. Rothman's decision to retire at 28 and move to a Florida retirement community makes for a great story. The book is insanely funny, but also tells a good story. I was worried it would be a bunch of one-off stories jumbled together, but almost every story

has significance (save for maybe one or two). The reading is quite light, so it could be finished easily in one sitting. My presentation went great and people couldn't believe how funny some of the quotes were. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A snoozer
By John A. Lefcorte
Nothing revealing here. If you've ever had contact with retired people and retired communities you'll already know what the Author learns. The book is really pretty boring. I don't understand the fuss and would NOT recommend it.

Everyone says they would like to retire early, but Rodney Rothman actually did it -- forty years early. Burnt out, he decides at the age of twenty-eight to get an early start on his golden years. He travels to Boca Raton, Florida, where he moves in with an elderly piano teacher at Century Village, a retirement village that is home to thousands of senior citizens. *Early Bird* is an irreverent, hilarious, and ultimately warmhearted account of Rodney's journey deep into the heart of retirement. Rodney struggles for acceptance from the senior citizens he shares a swimming pool with, and battles with cranky octogenarians who want him off their turf. The day-to-day dealings begin to wear on him. Before long he observes, "I don't think Tuesdays with Morrie would have been quite so uplifting if that guy had to spend more than one day a week with Morrie." Rodney throws himself into the spirit of retirement, fashioning a busy schedule of suntanning, shuffleboard, and gambling cruises. As the months pass, his neighbors seem to forget that he is fifty years younger than they are. He finds himself the potential romantic interest of an aging femme fatale. He joins a senior softball club and is disturbed to learn that he is the worst player on the team. For excitement he rides along with a volunteer police officer on his patrols, hunting for crime. But even the criminals in his community seem to have retired. *Early Bird* is a funny, insightful, and moving look at what happens to us when we retire, viewed from a remarkably premature perspective. Any reader who plans on becoming an old person will enjoy joining Rodney on his strange journey, as he reconsiders his notions of romance, family, friendship, and ultimately, whether he's ever going back to work.

From Publishers Weekly
What happens when an able-bodied 28-year-old decides to "retire" in a Florida senior community? It may seem like the setup for a Carl Hiaasen novel, but it's actually the project Rothman thinks up after losing his television job. Following through with his plan, Rothman comically probes Boca Raton's Century Village. He infiltrates the social hierarchy of the "pool group," eats dinner at the local early-bird specials and joins a shuffleboard club. He captures these experiences in short, humorous chapters, consistently detailing his own physical and mental failings compared to the seniors he meets. The book's laconic and self-deprecating tone brings to mind Rothman's former boss, David Letterman, but unfortunately, Rothman doesn't balance the two traits as well as Letterman. During a Thanksgiving dinner in the community, when Rothman competes with his neighbor Sylvie's son for Sylvie's attention and says, "I'm committing Grand Theft Mother, directly in front of him. I don't feel bad about it. Why should I?" his humor can feel uncomfortably callous. Much of Rothman's angst stems from his idleness, but it's hard to muster sympathy when that situation is self-imposed. This undermines what is otherwise a funny and engaging memoir of a quarter-life crisis.
Agent, David McCormick. (May) Copyright copy; Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "A hilarious reminder that everybody was young once . . . everyone except Rodney." -- Jon Stewart "A hilarious account of moving into a Florida retirement community at age twenty-eight. . . . Rodney Rothman's premise is so silly and fetching . . . sections had me hooting so hard that I thought the neighbors would be over to check on me." -- Karen Long, *The Plain Dealer* (Cleveland) "[Rothman] has produced a warm, wry bit of reportage. . . . His descriptions of the loneliness, the cliquishness, the slow-motion desperation of the place ring true and bittersweet." -- Neil Genzlinger, *The New York Times Book* "It's hilarious. It's one of the best books I've read. If you're looking for a book, get this one." -- Howard Stern "Rothman's observations are insightful and clever -- a humorous, Generation X perspective on what baby boomers are about to discover." -- Rocky Mountain News "This book, which has a pretty silly premise, quickly and thoroughly becomes something much more: it's actually emotionally involving, and even profound. It's very funny, because Rothman is always very funny, but it's also truly moving, and, at its core, unspeakably sad. That's not to say it isn't fun to read. It is. It is!" -- Dave Eggers "Old-fashioned retirement at age twenty-eight? Funny -- sure. But Rothman is also riveting, friendly, and the good kind of sad." -- Sarah Vowell, author of *Assassination Vacation* "A hilarious memoir . . . David Sedaris fans, this one's for you." -- Daryl Chen, *Glamour*
Rodney Rothman is now living in Los Angeles. He is a former head writer for the *Late Show with David Letterman*, and was a writer and supervising producer for the television show *Undeclared*. His writing has appeared in the *The New York Times*, the *New York Times Magazine*, the *Best American Nonrequired Reading*, *The New Yorker*, *McSweeney's Quarterly*, and *Men's Journal*.