

## The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium American Culture On The Brink By Mark Dery 1999 12 15

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### The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium American Culture

The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium is a theme-park ride through the extremes of American culture of which The Atlantic Monthly has written, "Mark Dery confirms once again what writers and thinkers as disparate as Nathanael West, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Sigmund Freud, and Oliver Sacks have already shown us: the best place to explore the human condition is at its outer margins, its pathological extremes."

### The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium: American Culture on the ...

His feverish, post-everything essays about American/global/technological/millennial culture (what he calls the "pyrotechnic insanitarium," recycling a gem of Coney Island barkery) reverberate with the right mix of the hip and the academic/murdergeonly, making this collection a joy for casual readers and sine qua non for futurologists, skeptics, and genealogists of the uncanny.

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### The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium : American Culture on the ...

In The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium, Mark Dery brilliantly elucidates the method to our madness. One of our most astute cultural critics, he takes his pointed wit to American culture, revealing its deeper meanings.

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THE PYROTECHNIC INSANITARIUM American Culture on the Brink. By Mark Dery, Grove, \$25. urn-of-the-century observers were enthralled and horrified by the Coney Island amusement parks, where a new technology (incandescent light) and atavistic fascinations (deformities, exposed flesh) combined to create a lurid, overlighted "pyrotechnic ...

### The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium

The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium: American Culture on the Brink. Grove Press, 1999. ISBN 0-8021-3670-2; I Must Not Think Bad Thoughts: Drive-By Essays on American Dread, American Dreams. University of Minnesota Press, 2012. ISBN 978-0-8166-7773-3; Born to Be Posthumous: The Eccentric Life and Mysterious Genius of Edward Gorey.

### Mark Dery - Wikipedia

The title of Mark Dery's disappointing new book about millennial America, "The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium," comes from a phrase once used to describe the turn-of-the-century amusement parks of...

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Mark Dery is a cultural critic, essayist, and the author of four books: Escape Velocity, a critique of the "libertarian bro" ideology that dominated the Digital Revolution of the '90s; two studies of American mythologies (and pathologies), The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium: American Culture on the Brink and the essay collection I Must Not ...

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### The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium eBook by Mark Dery ...

In The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium, Dery (author of Escape Velocity, a critique of cyberfuturism) compares the modern world to a blazing amusement park, part cardboard paradise, part lunatic asylum. His title comes from a literal conflagration.

### Metroactive Books | Mark Dery & Firesign Theater

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