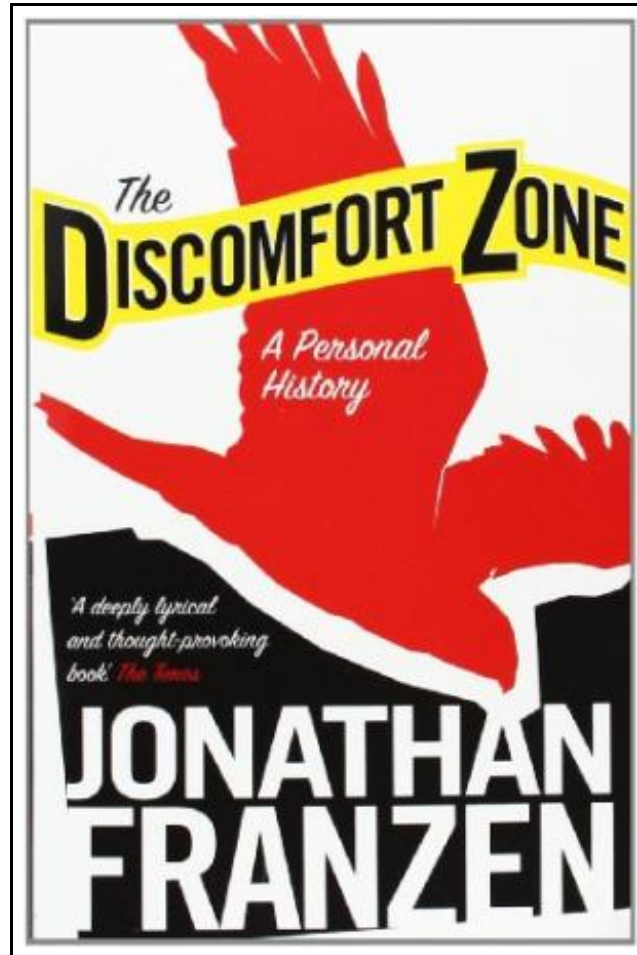


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(Donnie Rice)

THE DISCOMFORT ZONE: A PERSONAL HISTORY



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HarperCollins Publishers, United Kingdom, 2007. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 196 x 128 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. A brilliant personal history from the award-winning author of *The Corrections* . Jonathan Franzen, bestselling author of *Freedom* and the highly acclaimed *The Corrections* , arrived late, and last, in a family of boys in Webster Groves, Missouri. *The Discomfort Zone* is his intimate memoir of his growth from a small and fundamentally ridiculous person, through an adolescence both excruciating and strangely happy, into an adult with embarrassing and unexpected passions. It s also a portrait of a middle-class family weathering the turbulence of the 1970s, and a vivid personal insight into the decades in which America took an angry turn away from its mid-century ideals. He tells of the effects of Kafka s fiction on Franzen s protracted quest to lose his virginity, the elaborate pranks that he and his friends orchestrated from the roof of his high school, his self-inflicted travails in selling his mother s house after her death, the web of connections between his all-consuming marriage, the problem of global warming, and the life lessons to be learned in watching birds. Sparkling, daring and arrestingly honest, *The Discomfort Zone* is warmed by the same combination of comic scrutiny and unqualified affection that characterize Franzen s fiction. It narrates the formation of a unique mind and heart in the crucible of an everyday American family.



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