



Government Beers

Guy M. Beaver

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How do you hide a brewery in a government proposal?

"So let me get this straight. You're a rocket scientist, who runs a satellite program for NASA, who also works on race cars, starts charitable foundations, volunteers to keep score for the York River Tsunamis, and runs a brewery? Is there anything else you do?" asked Wendy, wanting to get her facts straight.

"I write Haikus," responded Gordon. "And the brewery part needs some caveats."

GORDON MILLER gets caught up in a vortex of circumstance as he becomes the accidental program manager of a 3,000 person program with unread specifications for a microbrewery. A personal journey through the US Constitution consumes him as he tries to understand big government and wasteful bureaucracies. The story takes place at NASA Langley Research Center and surrounding historical areas of Hampton Roads, Virginia. The quirky character crew has idiosyncrasies that include thinking in haiku poems, chiropractic dependencies, and time-travel obsession. Fighter jets from Langley Air Force Base and race cars at Langley Speedway frame the story as the plot dilemma becomes the rationalization and discovery of government funded beers used to help WESLEY LARKIN, an endearing 7-year-old with cancer who is fighting for his life.

Government Beers Details

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Author : Guy M. Beaver

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From Reader Review Government Beers for online ebook

Midge Bork says

I was looking for a flippant, fun read but this was somewhat preachy and repetitive. Think, The Celestine Prophecy. If that's what you were looking for it was actually quite good!

Jennifer says

A little closer to 4 stars. I liked this book for several reasons:

- *A wildly ridiculous plot, that could actually be true!
- *I'm a VA gal and this story was based in my backyard.
- *Nascar
- *Beer

What happens when a series of mishaps and oversight turns a NASA research facility into a microbrewery? You bottle the product and turn it into a money-maker for a charitable organization. That's the journey Beaver takes us in this wild and crazy ride.

I enjoyed the characters, particularly the quirkiness of each, but it was a little bit of a stretch to have one person doing so much. Gordon's a scientist, philanthropist, beer connoisseur, Nascar enthusiast, softball score-keeper, and a master of organization all with a relaxed attitude of zen?! Maybe, but it made him hardly relatable.

The science was a little much for my humble brain to wrap around at times but Beaver did a good job integrating it into the story. My major peeve was the occasional miss or addition of a word (simply an accident in editing and few and far between)

Overall, this was a fun read and a great look at our wasteful government bureaucracy.

I received this book for free in exchange for an honest review.

Henny says

It's a little slow to start but picks up in the middle. At the end it gets hard to put down

Linda Munro says

I found this book in the contest section at goodreads.com. Although I entered several different contest to win the book, it didn't happen. There was something in the synopsis that grabbed my attention and I really, really wanted to read this book! Due to physical & medical disabilities I am on a very strict budget, when my 15

year-old vehicle broke down on three separate occasions during three consecutive months, I was forced to finally look for a new vehicle. The new vehicle has decreased my spending abilities and I must rely on the library for reading material. When I could not find the book, I badgered the library into ordering it. Okay, enough of that....

What I expected: a non-sensical parody about the government. What I got: An awesome story of how a joke turned into a successful charity.

WHAT I THINK ABOUT THIS BOOK: As I was reading, I kept thinking to myself, this author knows far too much about these situations, this is a book written from experience over research. By the way, very clever, simply add the author's bio at the end of the book rather than on the cover so that I don't find out that I am correct in my assumption until the very end! So, this has made me wonder; how much of this book is taken from truth and how much has been fictionalized. Hmmmm, would the author really tell us? If this is not fact; it really should be!

Overall, I enjoyed this book; well, I enjoyed everything except the ending! I sincerely hope that this will lead to another in a series of Gordon Miller books!

Let's get to WHAT I WOULD CHANGE ABOUT THIS BOOK...first the title, I would call it 'Accidental' something (like: beer, charity, good deed) Second, I would give more in-depth physical description of the characters; while it was easy to get into each character's quirks, I was unable to visualize the character's physical attributes from their descriptions. Finally, while this is getting a bit picky, I would read the book from cover to cover and correct the minor grammatical problems that I found in a few places throughout the book.

Angela Cunningham says

I really liked this book!!!

Marina Fontaine says

This is one of those books where I really wish I could give 3.5 stars, but I can't and I've been getting stingy with my 4-star ratings lately, so 3 stars it is. If I had to describe it in one word, it would be "quirky." If the central premise of a brewery being accidentally funded by the Stimulus package is not enough to get your interest, the book also covers: chiropractic treatments, cross-time communication, NASCAR, childhood cancer, PERT charts, haiku poetry, surfing, time management, atmospheric research, softball, and, of course, BEER. Oh and did I mention The Constitution? Yep, it's in there too. The book is funny, heartwarming and exceptionally informative on a whole lot of topics. Honestly as a beer snob I was already inclined to like this book, and it did not disappoint. One thing that is clear throughout is that the author had a blast writing this, and the enthusiasm is contagious. So grab a cold one (preferably your favorite micro-brew) and enjoy!

Charlie Kaufman says

Being someone who has dealt with NASA grants in the past, I loved this book. Beer, fast cars, and science,

who couldn't ask for more?

Nikki says

“Government Beers’ is Guy M. Beaver’s new novel about government, philosophy, philanthropy, and life. Gordon Miller becomes the manager of a 3,000 person NASA program thanks to some wild luck and a crazy mistake made by a college. This is a novel that will make you think; about our government, our economy, and the way we decide to live.

Miller becomes incredibly active. He runs the program for his boss, dealing with the government officials and crazy bureaucracy, has a microbrewery, starts a racing club, helps out with softball, all the while starting a non-profit organization to help families dealing with childhood cancer. While I enjoyed the quirkiness of the characters, I felt that Miller was a little hard to relate to.

I enjoyed learning about how our government actually works, from someone who has experienced it firsthand. Talk about frustrating and completely ridiculous. However, I did feel at times that Beaver was almost force-feeding me his viewpoint on government and how he believes it should be run.

Overall the novel was heartwarming, educational, and believable. It would be very easy to see something like this happening in real life. The science was a bit much for anyone who isn’t in the field; there were pages that seemed to almost be written in a different language. Having said that I do believe the science added credibility to the novel. I wish it had been toned down just a little though.

For those interested in how our government works, or those who just want a heartwarming novel involving quirky scientists, beer, NASA, and Nascar this is the book for you.

I do have to say, the ending was pretty fantastic.

I received this book through Goodreads First Reads. This in no way influenced my review. I was not compensated for, nor required to, write a review.

Pedro says

I won this book through Goodreads.

With a very driving plot, this book is able to tie in the quirks of rocket scientists with the eccentricities of home brewers. Topics ranging from racing, beer, and atmospheric science give this book a unique characteristic. I was emboldened to finish this book with such a great story and cast of characters that allow you to understand and conceptualize their world.

Government Beers is a great read and would highly recommend it to any that endeavor to submit government proposals and have a side hobby of craft brewing.

Maureen says

Don't tell Don, but I want to marry Gordon. He has it all. Smart, hard worker, leader, volunteers his time, is able to better articulate what I know to be true about government, and can make his own beer. Hell, you should all want to marry him! I have redone my white board in my office to his task management system. This was a fantastic story, and it seemed like stranger things have happened - it could be true! It was even more fun that I have spent time in the area and could picture many of the locales, including eating at a number of times at the Pub in Yorktown. Great read, and the author's style was appealing as well, kind of cut and dried, to the point. A nice change from some of the other things that get lost in description at times. Lots of fun here.
