

The State brings their unique, fast-paced, anarchic sensibility to book form with:

## **ROADKILL**

**Travel tips, essays, arrest forms, short stories, points of interest, cartoons, recipes, overheard conversations, drinking games, photographs, one pop-up page, and totally made-up facts from across and about the United States of America.**

The concept for the book is simple: the State visits all fifty states and reports back what they see, hear, touch, taste, and smell. The book takes as it's spine the classic travel book, but whereas the editors of those books actually go out and traverse the entire length and breadth of the country in search of hidden treasures off the beaten path, the State is just going to write about the stuff that interests us and our generation. Namely cool bars, weird freaks, motorcycle gangs, the strange things old people say, bands nobody's ever heard of, odd foodstuffs, lame-ass things to do, bizarre happenings, and getting laid. And what we don't know, we'll just make up.

For example, you might read about some amazingly funny adventure that happened to us at this incredible bar in Austin, Texas. Don't expect to visit this bar the next time you're in the Pan Handle. Chances are, it won't be there and nobody will have ever heard of it, because we'll have made the whole thing up. On the other hand, a lot of the material in the book will be entirely true, culled from the six weeks we're going to be spending on the road during our upcoming Winter College Tour.

The book will be laid out according to state, each chapter beginning with introductory remarks about the area, and then quickly digressing into assorted, absurd adventures. There will be no attempt made to present sucky states in a favorable light, and certain areas of the country will

receive much more coverage than others. For example, there might be twenty pages about the Badlands of South Dakota versus a paragraph about the entire state of Connecticut. Peppered throughout each chapter might be road games, recipes, handwritten messages, and doodles. You might get to scratch and sniff Gary, Indiana. Maybe there's a centerfold. As indicated, the book will have a significant amount of graphics. Each page will have a distinct graphic identity, but the design will retain a cohesiveness throughout.

Another idea for the book is to create the impression that you're buying a used book. We would do this by creating handwritten notes in the margins, phone numbers, funny to do lists, etc. Part of the fun of reading *Roadkill* will be piecing together the personality of the person who owned the book before you through the silly messages that person left behind.

Part parody, part "Choose Your Own Adventure," part Gonzo journalism, *Roadkill* is a different kind of travel book, because it's more than a travel book. Nobody's ever seen the country quite like this, because there is no country quite like this.



A word about **The State**: Comprised of nine men and woman, the State is a sketch comedy troupe that came together in college in 1988. Their critically acclaimed MTV show was called one of the best comedy shows on television by Rolling Stone, Entertainment Weekly, the Wall Street Journal, and others, as well as becoming one of the highest-rated shows on that network. Recently, their first network special, *The State's 43rd Annual All-Star Halloween Special* aired on CBS.