countless rose ceremonies to the White House, reality TV has not just remade our entertainment and cultural landscape but also remade our society. Reality TV, Lindemann argues, uniquely reflects our everyday experiences and social topography back to us. Applying scholarly research—including studies of inequality, culture, and deviance—to specific shows, Lindemann lays bare the power of reality TV to inform and shape our understanding of society. By taking reality TV seriously, True Story argues, we can better understand institutions like families, schools, and prisons, and how they shape our lives. From The Bachelor to Big Brother, from True Lies to Jersey Shore, reality programming exposes the major circuits of power that organize our lives—and the conflicts in which our own realities are embedded. Whether we're watching conniving Survivor contestants or three-year-old beauty queens, these "guilty pleasures" underscore how conservative our society remains, and how steadfastly we cling to our notions about what counts as legitimate or "true." At once an entertaining chronicle of reality TV obsession and a pioneering work of sociology, True Story holds up a mirror to our society: the reflection may not always be pretty—but we can't look away.

The True Story of George Jr. Ingrid Lee 2004-09-01 George is hardly bigger than a child's middle finger. His knees and his elbows don't bend and his legs are fused together. When Katie and Mackenzie find him at the edge of the ocean, they are unimpressed, but George keeps turning up in their lives. And what may seem ordinary to a girl and a boy can be an awesome adventure if you are six centimeters tall.