

## Chapter 1 : A Review of the "Xenophobe's" guide to the Czechs

*'The guide makes stunning observations about American culture that not even most Americans would realize are true, until reading them. While hilarious, it is in no way derogatory, and describes American quirkiness in accurate detail.'*

It can not be so! It is way too much I think it is a good book to understand some of the aspects of American life. I am not an American but happen to live in the US, in the very Midwest, and a lot of the stuff in this book, sadly, is true, but it is hilarious and at some point is exaggerated I always thought that the US and its people are very interesting, not like others. Anyway, now I want to read a book from this series about my own nation haha. This was recommended to me on my hunt for the X I was told it was funny. But for those of you attempting the Title alphabet there are a whole bunch of these. I am a big fan of America. I have had some amazing times there and would happily sell a kidney or marry a weirdo for a green card I have read articles in this vein, about both England and The States and laughed my backside off while reading. I was expecting the same sort of thing from this book, but this was a bit too cautious perhaps? But this book just came across as incredibly bitchy, rather than affectionate teasing. So - I was expecting something along the lines of that: Instead I got a bunch of slightly spiteful personal observations According to this author And are fundamentally stupid And obsessed with money. And have no class It started to annoy me somewhat by this point The only true LOL moment for me was the guy who sued a golf course because his own golf ball hit in the face The most interesting thing in it was that after the whole Watergate thing Mr. Nixon became some kind of respected statesman due to his relations with China? I have no doubt there are better X books for your list. I KNOW there are better articles on this subject

## Chapter 2 : Bits from the books

*Xenophobe's Guide to the Americans [Stephanie Faul] on calendrierdelascience.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. To many, the American is a strange creature: brash, loud, and a tad on the prideful side.*

I find that stuff fascinating. So I was really happy to find this book at our favorite English-language bookstore in Prague. Reading it, you may not come away with a great impression of the Czech people. But the book exemplifies one of the better traits of the Czechs; their self-deprecation and ability to laugh at themselves. Along the way I also add a few notes recounting some of our experiences to date. The surly Customs officer frowns at you and you suspect that he probably knows about the contraband chewing-gum in your suitcase. The receptionist in the hotel glowers at you and you get the impression that she had her own plans for your booked room that evening. The sales assistant in the shop looks so doleful that you want to ask her if her much-beloved cat has died. She just looks like that. While members of other ethnicities tend to have a serious reason for being sullen, the Czechs need none. Should you be travelling on public transport, and are feeling on top of the world, you had better hide your smiling face and sparkling look beneath a scarf or a hat. Fed-upness is just a typical facial expression and is not usually accompanied by aggressive behaviour. The Czechs enjoy being teed-off. It is their most affordable hobby. We laughed reading this because it is all so true. Our first encounter with the customs officer was just as described. He scanned them with a grim look on his face and handed them back while looking the other way. Interaction with locals on the street or in the market have been a bit more colourful. A woman gave me the nastiest look when I inadvertently blocked her way on the sidewalk while referring to my map. At the food market, an older lady was blocking part of the vegetable section with her food cart – I had to reach over her cart to get a red pepper on the other side. She just stared at me with such hate that you would have thought that I had just punched her in her face. The book covers that as well. All the same, he is drafted into the First World War and there proves to be so idiotic and incompetent as to become a totally useless cog in the war machine. Although he is absolved from military service on an evaluation of his IQ, totally stupid he is not – being an inconspicuous Czech fellow, with a ready smile and silver tongue, he slips with almost proverbial luck from any scrimmage. He cannot be sad for long. The Czechs suffer from the classic inferiority complex of a small nation – In history the Czechs were always the innocent invaded ones – here from the west, there from the east – while all they ever wanted to do was to invent, write poetry and just be themselves. The invaders stole the drawings and plans and exploited them by passing them off as their own. Thus, very few inventions managed to get smuggled all the way to the patent office by Czechs. The Ververka cousins actually managed to do so. The nation is extremely proud of its *ruchadlo*. North Americans tend to walk around smiling at everyone, greeting people like long lost relatives. Where you do see warmth is when they are with their dogs and children. You can see they love each especially their dogs. For the Germans, the Czechs have always been part of their expansion towards the east. The Germans believe the Czechs are very skilled, but in need of management. With good in other words German management the country will flourish. The Germans think this is how the Czechs would end up without them. A lot of Russians come to Prague and to the spa town Karlovy Vary. They find Czechs narrow-minded – The Austrians feel they have a special relationship with the Czechs. Never admit to either of them that you think they are similar as they would be deeply insulted. When they look at one another, it is like looking into a mirror and seeing all their own faults. All in all, the Czechs want the rest of the world to be like them. This is also the official result of a poll conducted by a leading national broadsheet. Because, as a former part of the country, it is the closest everyone can get to their most admired, desired and loved people in the universe – the Czechs. To be a German is not a crime anymore in the Czech Republic. However he must reckon with being viewed, regardless of his true character, as an unsympathetic, coarse and bigheaded creature, devoid of even the most elementary sense of humour. All traditional German virtues – a sense of comradeship, orderliness, dutifulness, obedience and so forth – are to Czechs almost a complete list of human depravities. Czechs have a complex about the Germans because they seem more successful at almost everything, and more and more German companies are appearing in their midst. Many people worry that their country will be sold

out to the Germansâ€¦ The Czechs are only able to beat the Germans at three things; 1 beer drinking, 2 ice hockey 3 being on the right side during world wars. Surprisingly, Germans are not the victims of Czech jokes all that often. On the southern Czech border lies Austria whose inhabitants have the indisputable bad luck to be German-speaking tooâ€¦ But Austrians did not endear themselves to many Czechs when, after the lifting of the Iron Curtain, they posted notices in their shops that said: One half of the nation felt insulted by the implied accusation, while the other half mused over how the Austrians could have found out. Historically, the Poles were always viewed as horse-traders, pedlars and thieves, the Hungarians as primitive vegetable farmers and probably thieves, the Romanians, Bulgarians and Yugoslavs as child snatchers, smugglers and definitely thieves. The Russians and Ukrainians were unmentionables. The most amicably accepted nationals are the Slovaks. The Czechs have even pardoned them for disaffiliating themselves from the Czechs after decades of co-existence. But they always forgive them, Czechs and Slovaks really do seem like brothers. Their languages are so similar that they easily understand each other. I found that interesting. Does it have something to do with the shared hockey culture? Just remember that you can criticise almost everything, but not Czech beer. If you wish to discredit yourself forever in society, just remark that quite good beer is also to be found, for example, in Belgium. Czechia has the highest consumption of beer per person in the worldâ€¦ to say about someone that he drinks like a fish is not a reproach, but a compliment. In the heart of its consumers Czech beer stands only one comparison; that of Irish beer. You can find it at Shakespeare books , located right next to the Charles Bridge on the Little Quarter side. Any surprises with any of the above? Thank you for subscribing.

### Chapter 3 : The Xenophobe's Guide to the Americans by Stephanie Faul (, Paperback) | eBay

*To ask other readers questions about Xenophobe's Guide to the Americans, please sign up. Be the first to ask a question about Xenophobe's Guide to the Americans Americans! They're all the same, aren't they? Overweight, ignorant and self-important that goes without saying. But the worst thing.*

I also take a picture of the actual book you will receive so you can judge for yourself. I typically ship Media Mail, but also offer Priority Mail. International shipping is shown via Priority Mail with delivery confirmation and insurance. With the new 1st Class Rates, unless the book is small, flat rate priority will probably be cheaper. Understand though that 1st Class International does not come with any sort of tracking, and can take several weeks to arrive. I will gladly combine items to save you on shipping. I usually go to the post office every day, so most of the times I will ship items the next day. If you purchase more than one item, ask for the combined shipping invoice, which will save you on shipping. E-mail me if you would like a shipping quote ahead of time, I just need the items you would like to combine and your zip code or country. Please feel free to ask any questions. The free listing tool. List your items fast and easy and manage your active items. Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing. Shipping and handling This item will ship to Germany, but the seller has not specified shipping options. Contact the seller- opens in a new window or tab and request a shipping method to your location. Shipping cost cannot be calculated. Please enter a valid ZIP Code. Worldwide No additional import charges at delivery! This item will be shipped through the Global Shipping Program and includes international tracking. Learn more- opens in a new window or tab Change country:

## Chapter 4 : The Xenophobe's Guide to the Americans - Stephanie Faul - Google Books

*Xenophobe's Guide to the Americans by Stephanie Faul To many, the American is a strange creature: brash, loud, and a tad on the prideful side. This is a straightforward guide to all things American that explains mannerisms, food choices, attitudes, and a bevy of other idiosyncratic characteristics with plenty of wit.*

Character The feel-good factor Winning is important to the Americans because it makes them feel good, and good is the American thing to feel. The Americans spend a small fortune on books, drugs, and various forms of psychotherapy in order to feel good. The twelfth most widely prescribed psychiatric drug in the country is an anti-depressant. People attend therapy groups, participate in selfdiscovery retreats and religious revivals, go for hot stone massages, aromatherapy, Shiatsu, and so forth activities that are especially Good is the popular in California, the feelAmerican thing to feel Feel-goodism affects The American reaction to any all aspects of private kind of personal adversity or and public life. They look at the bright side, whether or not there is one, and if possible accentuate the positive. Feel-goodism affects all aspects of private and public life. Universities hand out academic awards to anyone with even a passable performance. The American business world is full of rosy projections and enthusiastic estimates. The government and various associations pass out awards and citations of achievement like so many Christmas cards. Being depressed is unattractive and thus not suitable for public display. American bookshops have shelves and shelves of self-help books to pander to the belief that you can achieve true happiness by following their advice. Proper Care and Feeding of Husbands, which describes how to keep a man happy. The pursuit of happiness is part of the American Declaration of Independence. Good is what you should expect to feel. Deep down, the Americans have a sense that they may be missing out on The overwhelming something. Many are fearful, emphasis on winning pessimistic, and unhappy. The and being successful overwhelming emphasis on winleaves large numbers ning and being successful leaves of Americans feeling large numbers of Americans feelinadequate. Those who are, expect to enjoy the sunny side of the street " yet, as the media demonstrate, even being rich, powerful, glamorous, or influential is no guarantee. The assault on the World Trade Centre dramatically changed the American world view. Americans are now more fearful than ever. They fear that a terrorist will target them personally. They fear that their children will grow up If single, they fear they to become criminals, or porn will never get married, if stars, or politicians. They fear married, they fear they will that eating raw oysters will kill get divorced, if divorced them, that their neighbours they fear they will never make more money than they meet anyone attractive do, that they have cancer. To prevent these dire events Americans move to the suburbs, buy insurance, avoid shellfish, go into therapy, install security cameras, update their wills, and join clubs for singles, although they are vaguely fearful that the latter may exacerbate their fears by bringing them into contact with people who feel the same way. Someone must be pulling the strings. Who really runs the world " a conspiracy, obviously. Opinions differ as to whether it involves the Illuminati or the Trilateral Commission, or possibly the Catholic Church, but the underlying paranoia remains the same. Terrorism has now provided justification for their fears as they increase their arsenals and install metal detectors at the doors of their offices. But that was last week The Americans are great believers in giving people a second chance, or even a third or fourth. This is in part because they are a forgiving lot, but also because they have a short collective memory. Thus Richard Nixon, the only U. President ever to resign under threat of impeachment, became an elder statesman in his later years on the strength of his China policies. Four years later he ran for his collective memory. Congress found Florida Judge Alcee Hastings guilty of corruption and removed him from his position. This behaviour is not new; in Boston Alderman James Michael Curley, later Mayor Curley, was re-elected while he was actually in jail. They think everything is money. How far can a spiritual nature take you in the The Americans think bull ring of technology and comof everything in terms of merce? How valuable are clean money because money hands and a pure heart in a can be quantified. The Americans think of everything in terms of money because money can be quantified. In the game of life, money is the most effective way to keep score. Americans are quite open about their obsession with money. I guess I got a better deal than I thought!

### Chapter 5 : Culture Shock: Reading List – Xenophobe’s Guide to the Americans | The Guiri Dispatch

*The Xenophobe's Guide to the Americans Friends without friendship Americans are friendly because they just can't help it; they like to be neighbourly and want to be liked.*

### Chapter 6 : Xenophobe's Guide® to the Americans by Xenophobe's Guides - Issuu

*It's an interesting and funny book, but I would not recommend it as a guide to American culture. I would buy another Xenophobe's Guide to try it out, but unfortunately the publication date listed in the Amazon info is the date of "updating" rather than when the books in the series were actually written.*

### Chapter 7 : The Americans | Xenophobe's® Guides

*After the considerable success of The Xenophobe's Guides series, which uncovers the quirks and curiosities of other nations for xenophobes (people who fear foreigners) a series of phrase books is now being launched for the 'xenolinguist' -- people who are afraid of speaking a foreign language. science.com visitors are traveling abroad, they have to expect to meet foreigners.*

### Chapter 8 : The Xenophobe's Guide to the Americans : Stephanie Faul :

*A guide to understanding the Americans which dispels or confirms preconceived prejudices with humour and insight.*

### Chapter 9 : The Xenophobe's Guide to the French by Nick Yapp

*"Xenophobe's guide to the Czechs" is written by three Czech authors and covers everything you want to know about what makes the Czechs tick. It's honest and funny, but at the same time illuminating; both Spanky and I started reading and had some 'Ah-ha' moments where our experiences matched some of those described in the book.*