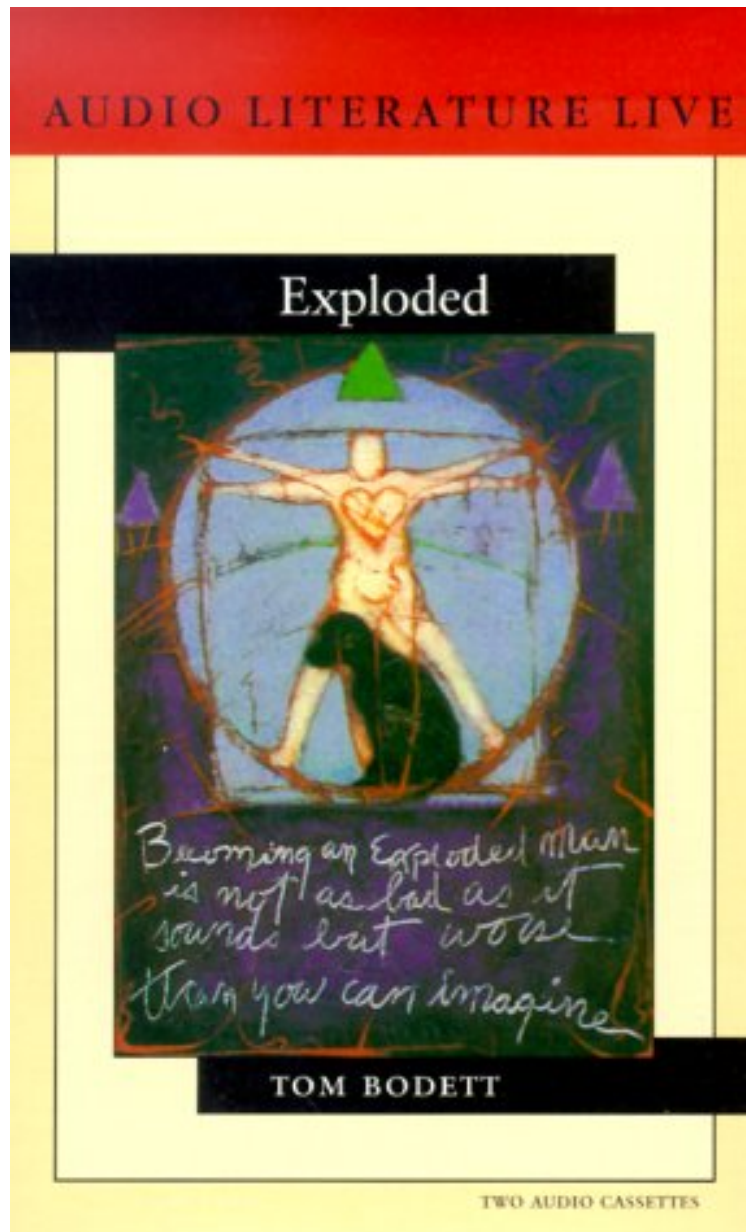


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Exploded

Tom Bodett

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Tom Bodett : Exploded before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Exploded:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Great Tape By llama lee The exploded portion of the story is fascinating. Some of the reviews did not grasp the physical aspect of the telling of the story. You have to picture Tom

in front of a live audience with twelve note cards in his hands. On each card is a portion of his story. He then throws the note cards up in the air to simulate an explosion. Then tells the story in random bits and pieces as he picks up the cards. The joy of this is you as the listener have to assemble the story in the proper order in your mind. You need to pay close attention and you find yourself becoming more involved in the story than any tape I have ever listen to. I think this is a masterful bit of storytelling and a brilliant way to express a tale. As Tom reminds us, we do not remember a story from start to finish but in bits and pieces. So he tells the tale of being exploded in random parts. The listener is responsible to assemble the puzzle. Every friend or family member that has heard it thinks it's great and has purchased their own copy. I have many tapes but this is by far my favorite. 4 of 8 people found the following review helpful. for die hard Bodett fans By Dumbledore It was good to hear the piano music of Johnny B again; it was good (as always) to hear Tom's voice. But... The story is taken from Tom's life. The particular episode involves climbing a power pole, being electrocuted (surprise!), and almost losing an arm. The story lacks the tale teller's humor of "The End of the Road" and is a bit self serving at times. If you are one of those people (like me) that reads EVERYTHING an author has ever done, then this is one for the collection. Otherwise, don't bother. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. EXPLODED By Gilliotte This tape was a definite change from Bodett's wonderful storytelling about the folks at the End of the Road. It is insightful, a bit nostalgic and autobiographical. The entire cassette devoted to the Exploded story is quite deftly presented "live" to an audience who randomly choose which of the twelve or so segments he reads next. Bodett is a master of writing stand-alone stories that fit perfectly into a sequence. I must say that Exploded made me howl and also brought me to tears--I consider this to be a strong endorsement! Tom Bodett has so obviously LIVED his life that it is a real treat when he shares his defining moments, his friends, his heart-felt experiences with the rest of us. I only regret that there are so many people who would get so much joy from his work but who only know him as "that Motel 6 guy" Believe me he is much, much more!

Known as the voice of Motel 6 and author of *The Free Fall of Webster Cummings*, Bodett looks at the windfalls and calamities that disrupt our ordinary lives so that we can never be the same again.

From AudioFile Tom Bodett has that easy-going, conversational tone that creates an intimacy between himself and his listener. The first cassette is all charm and giving as he graciously shares his musings. On the second cassette an adversarial note enters. This is due partly to darker subject matter and partly to a game played in the live performance. Bodett's voice, suddenly abrasive, directs the audience to choose from what is apparently some visual list of routines. Listening at home, it's difficult to follow the action, and a sense of being left out intrudes. The audience members, however, seem to enjoy themselves. S.B.S. (c) AudioFile, Portland, Maine