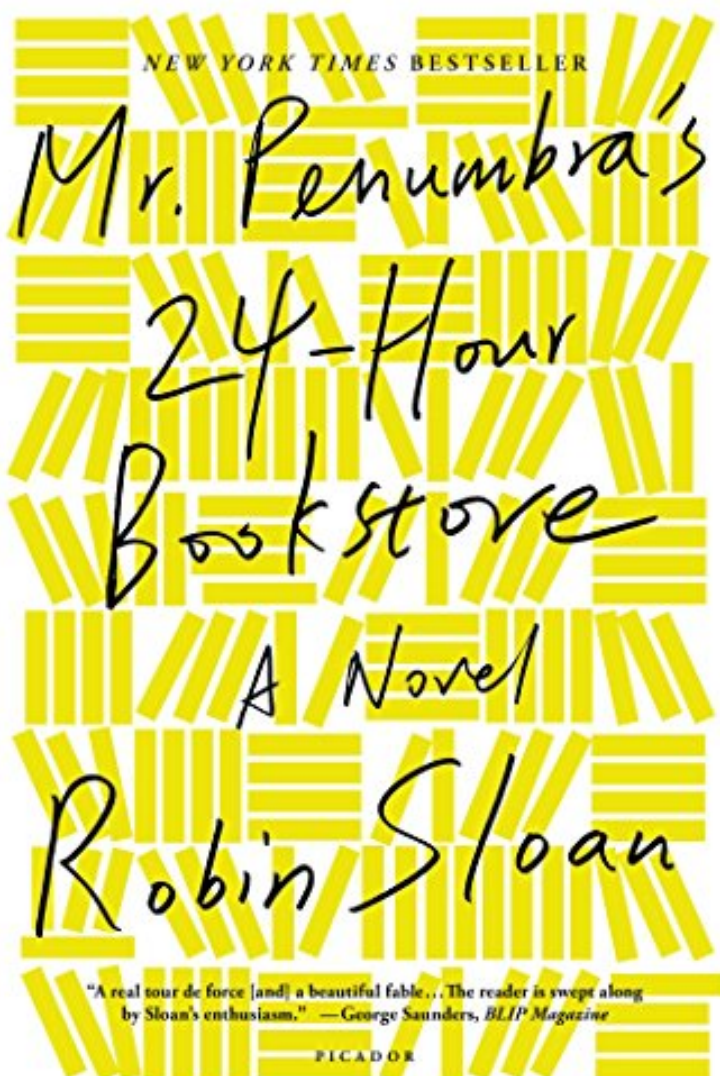


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# Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore: A Novel



Par Robin Sloan  
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## Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurA gleeful and exhilarating tale of global conspiracy, complex code-breaking, high-tech data visualization, young love, rollicking adventure, and the secret to eternal lifemostly set in a hole-in-the-wall San Francisco bookstoreThe Great Recession has shuffled Clay Jannon out of his life as a San Francisco Web-design droneand serendipity, sheer curiosity, and the ability to climb a ladder like a monkey has landed him a new gig working the night shift at Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore. But after just a few days on the job, Clay begins to realize that this store is even more curious than the name suggests. There are only a few customers, but they come in repeatedly and never seem to actually buy anything, instead "checking out" impossibly obscure volumes from strange corners of the store, all according to some elaborate, long-standing arrangement with the gnomic Mr. Penumbra. The store must be a front for

something larger, Clay concludes, and soon he's embarked on a complex analysis of the customers' behavior and roped his friends into helping to figure out just what's going on. But once they bring their findings to Mr.

Penumbra, it turns out the secrets extend far outside the walls of the bookstore. With irresistible brio and dazzling intelligence, Robin Sloan has crafted a literary adventure story for the twenty-first century, evoking

both the fairy-tale charm of Haruki Murakami and the enthusiastic novel-of-ideas wizardry of Neal Stephenson or a young Umberto Eco, but with a unique and feisty sensibility that's rare to the world of literary fiction. Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore is exactly what it sounds like: an establishment you have

to enter and will never want to leave, a modern-day cabinet of wonders ready to give a jolt of energy to every curious reader, no matter the time of day. *Revue de presse* Fun and funny and just plain enjoyable. It

has mysterious books and thievery and Google (the place!)... It celebrates both the old and the new in delightful ways... And it has the honour of being the first novel of 2013 to make me cry, completely

unexpectedly. Happy tears of that good-book-sucker-punch-to-the-place-in-the-heart-where-the-booklove-lives sort. --Erin Morgenstern, author of *The Night Circus* It's a proper novel. By which I mean, not that it

has pages you actually turn that is optional with novels nowadays but pages that you actually want to turn, which is getting rarer and rarer.... Charming, gently comedic, sweetly nerdy and enthusiastic about media

both old and new. --Irish Times Think of this novel as part Haruki Murakami, part Dan Brown and part Joseph Cornell: a surreal adventure, an existential detective story and a cabinet of wonders at which to

marvel. --Newsday A clever and whimsical tale with a big heart. --The Economist Delightful --Washington Post Rollicking --New York Times Irresistible, page-turning --Newsweek A real tour de force, a beautiful

fable... It's a lot of fun but it's also a powerful reading experience. --George Saunders Cryptographic cults, vertical bookshops, hot geeks, theft, and the pursuit of immortality. I loved it. --Nick Harkaway An utterly

charming modern love-letter to reading, and Robin Sloan has affectionately mashed up tradition and technology in this delightful novel that reads like *The Social Network* meets *The Da Vinci Code*. --

Stylist Delightful... The protagonist is a tech nerd, but he's also a book nerd, so both those who crave shiny new technologies and those who relish the scent of paper will find room in these pages... Smart, hip and

witty --Washington Post Irresistible --Newsweek --Newsweek Delightful... The protagonist is a tech nerd, but he's also a book nerd, so both those who crave shiny new technologies and those who relish the scent of

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Newsweek *Présentation de l'auteur* A gleeful and exhilarating tale of global conspiracy, complex code-breaking, high-tech data visualization, young love, rollicking adventure, and the secret to eternal life mostly

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