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THE BAGGAGE WE CARRY

KIRSTEN BELL

An anthropologist decodes our most odd, annoying and profane behaviours.

Is a queef worse than a fart? Are an asshole and a wanker the same thing? What do Brits have against doggy bags? Why don't more people use headphones on transit?

In *The Baggage We Carry*, an anthropologist who has lived in five countries on four continents—and learned about cultural gaffes by constantly committing them—places our everyday behaviours under the microscope.

Taking readers on a tour through the big answers to life's little questions, Bell reveals that the reasons why we do the things we do are much more peculiar and interesting than we think.

“The book is a delight — insightful, witty and wickedly funny. Like a brilliant, diligent anthropologist and a raucous, taboo-busting comedian had a baby, who inherited the best of both parents — Kate Fox, author of *Watching the English*.”



KIRSTEN BELL is the UK's pre-eminent Australian, Canadian and British anthropologist (she has no means of substantiating this claim but how many of us can there be?). She received her doctorate in social anthropology from James Cook University in Australia in 2000 and has held academic appointments at universities in the USA, Australia, Canada and the UK.

