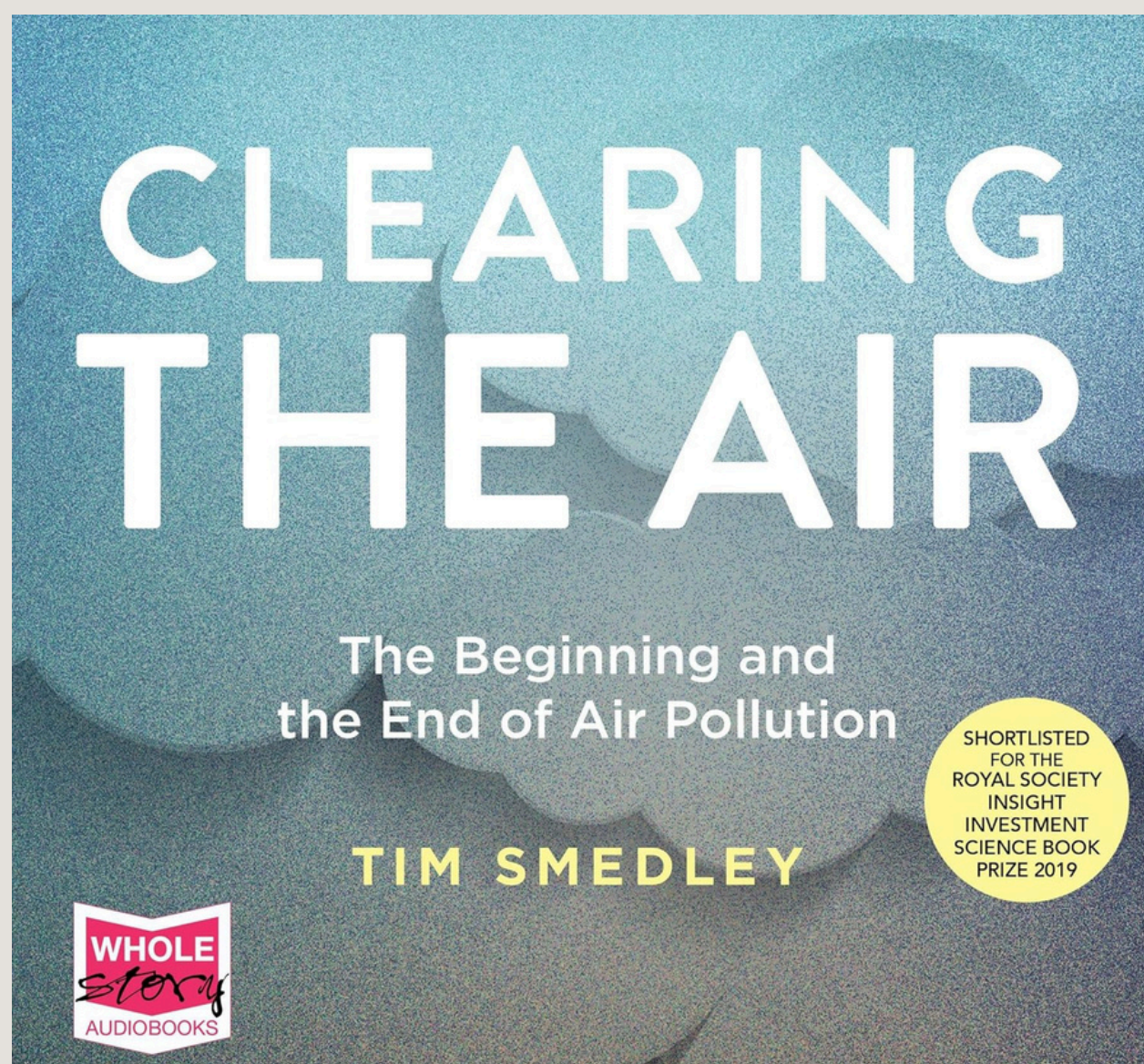


BOOK REVIEW



TITLE: Clearing the Air: The Beginning and End of Air Pollution

PUBLISHER: Bloomsbury Sigma

AUTHOR: Tim Smedley

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YEAR OF PUBLICATION: 2019

NUMBER OF PAGES: 400 Pages

REVIEWER: CHAI HSIEH NEE (JAS NEGERI SABAH)

Clearing the Air: The Beginning and End of Air Pollution is a comprehensive nonfiction book that examines one of the world's most pressing environmental and public health issues which is air pollution. Environmental journalist Tim Smedley investigates the causes, consequences, and potential solutions to air pollution by combining scientific research, investigative reporting, and firsthand observations from countries around the world.



The book explores the major sources of air pollution, including vehicle emissions, industrial activities, coal-fired power plants, agriculture, and household fuel use. Smedley explains how pollutants such as particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), and ozone affect human health, contributing to respiratory illnesses, cardiovascular diseases, reduced life expectancy, and millions of premature deaths each year. He also examines the impact of polluted air on ecosystems, biodiversity, and the global climate.

Drawing on interviews with scientists, policymakers, healthcare professionals, and environmental experts, Smedley highlights successful initiatives implemented in cities and countries that have significantly improved air quality. These case studies demonstrate that cleaner air is achievable through stricter environmental regulations, cleaner energy technologies, sustainable transportation systems, and informed public policies.

Overall, *Clearing the Air* provides readers with a well-researched and accessible understanding of the science behind air pollution while offering practical and evidence-based solutions for governments, industries, and individuals. The book emphasizes that addressing air pollution not only protects public health but also contributes to combating climate change and creating more sustainable communities.

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