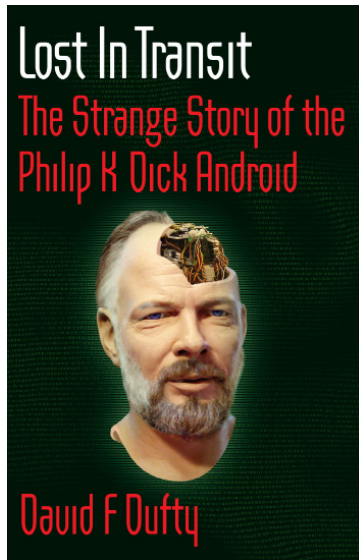


# MEDIA RELEASE

Books With Spine – the best in politics, current affairs  
and biography



**MUP RRP \$29.99**

**PUBLICATION/EMBARGO DATE**  
01 July 2011

David Dufty is available for  
interviews throughout July.

For more information please  
contact **Andrew Hawkins** at  
Mainsheet Media  
on 0422 953 928, or email  
[andrewwhawkins@gmail.com](mailto:andrewwhawkins@gmail.com)

## LOST IN TRANSIT

### The Strange Story of the Philip K Dick Android

by David F Dufty

*'It's the best kind of popular science—a book that doesn't require any previous knowledge, but leaves you hungry to know more, and wondering at the possibilities that may lie ahead'*

— Australian Bookseller & Publisher magazine

#### STRANGER THAN FICTION?

*In late January 2006, a young roboticist on the way to Google headquarters lost an overnight bag on a flight somewhere between Dallas and Las Vegas. In it was a fully functional head of the intelligent android replica of cult science-fiction writer and counter-culture guru, Philip K Dick. It has never been recovered.*

In a story that could have been lifted straight from one of Philip K Dick's science-fiction novels, David F Dufty brings to light the incredible events surrounding the creation of the intelligent android replica of Philip K Dick. The PKD Android not only looked eerily like the man himself, it moved and spoke like him. The android would 'watch' people as they approached him, 'hear' their voices and answer complex questions. It was received to great acclaim, winning prestigious awards, capturing the imagination of the international media, and taking the science community by storm. Then it was gone.

In a tale where contemporary science pays homage to some of Dick's most outrageous predictions and paranoid fears; and where events surrounding the mysterious disappearance of the android's head seem to mirror the writer's most inventive novels, it is sometimes hard to know where science ends and fiction begins. Yet every word is true.

Some of Philip K Dick's most popular stories have been made into films. Films such as *Blade Runner*, *Total Recall*, *The Minority Report* and *Paycheck* were all based on Dick's stories.

**David F Dufty** was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Memphis at the time the PKD android was being developed; he was a confidante to the team of scientists and had access to the android itself. David completed a psychology degree with honours at the University of Newcastle and a PhD in psychology at Macquarie University, before his fellowship at the University of Memphis, Tennessee. He returned to Australia in 2007 and lives in Canberra with his wife and son.

MELBOURNE · UNIVERSITY · PUBLISHING

MUP 187 Grattan Street Carlton 3053 Australia · +613 9342 0300 · [mup-info@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mup-info@unimelb.edu.au) · [www.mup.com.au](http://www.mup.com.au)