

Blubberland by Elizabeth M Farrelly

Author Elizabeth Farrelly kicks off Blubberland with something of an extended mea culpa:

I, like you, drive too much. I buy too much of which I keep too much and also throw too much away. I overindulge my children, and myself. Directly as well as indirectly I use too much water, energy, air, and space. My existence, in short, costs the planet more than it can afford.

Farrelly's concerns here are spatial, aesthetic, social, political, and environmental, and the questions she delicately poses and answers at considerable length are poignant ones: Why do we First-World denizens insist on owning ugly houses and cars that we don't really need? Similarly, why do we believe that buying useless stuff will make us happy? Why won't world leaders legislate in favor of sensible ecological co-existence with nature? Why are we so pathetically out of shape? Why are we so desperate to isolate ourselves from others, and how can we break the vicious cycle of narcissism?

Here, Farrelly, a University of Sydney adjunct architecture professor and Sydney Morning Herald columnist, supposes that Blubberland isn't so much a place as it is a state of mind that champions an out-of-control sense of self-entitlement. When it comes to suburban sprawl and energy conservation, she explains, governments are like overly permissive parents who allow their children (constituencies) to have whatever they want. Furthermore, she argues, this more-and-now mindset has us in a double-bind because parenting trends have followed a similar course in the last several decades:

This compulsion to desire-fulfillment has democracy in a trap. If we want to eat meat, with its huge eco-footprint, we do it. If we want to sprawl our cities across the landscape, live in a McMansion, drive an SUV, leave the lights or the hose or the TV on all night, we do exactly that. Even governments are intimidated to the point of being frightened to regulate. If it can't be achieved by the market, they weakly presume, it can't be achieved.

This culture of permission has spawned the notion that what's unpleasant or painful about life can and should be surgically removed or made plain. Even places of worship aren't immune, according to Farrelly: Everywhere, under every log and rock, nice old churches are being melted down into imitation dry-cleaning shops, nightclubs, and ad agencies while the new, bursting-at-the-seams versions have the common-or-corporate look so down pat it's hard to pick them from the general high-street lineup.

Farrelly envisions monotonous suburban sprawl as both key villain and deadening aftereffect here, a geographic phenomenon that encourages social disconnects by allowing us to be separate from one another and necessitating long, isolation-chamber drives to work: Forget yoga. Forget acupuncture, hypnosis, and mindfulness therapy. Bested only by television and alcohol, the car is one of the most effective anaesthetics ever discovered.

Drastic urban renewal, she believes, is the key to our selfish malaise, noting that life expectancy is higher in cities than suburbs and that city living encourages people to share energy, share transport and share space to a degree that is inconceivable in any other situation.

Blubberland's final chapter, however, imagines a Utopian future in which famines, oil shortages, and droughts confine masses to walled cities: everyone walks to work, on-break employees exercise on machines that help power their office buildings, everyone's healthier because nobody can afford to drive. Farrelly may just be onto something there; whether or not world leaders will arrive at similar conclusions and act courageously before our selfishness hits a crisis point is an open question that's almost too depressing to contemplate.

Ouge RL, Lexus has two displacement 3.0-liter models, priced at 618,000 yuan and 67 for Million, taking into account the entry-level GS300 even the basic electric sunroof, sensing wipers, reversing imaging system basic configuration of these luxury cars are not available, I believe most consumers will choose to 670,000 yuan of the GS300 luxury.

Lexus is clearly better performance. From September last year, landing the Chinese market so far in the past six months time, only Ouge sales in China more than 200 vehicles, a figure equivalent to only one Lexus dealer in Beijing's one-month sales.

Can be seen from the sales, from Toyota's Lexus than from Honda

Space vehicle: Lexus GS longer wheelbase RL Ouge better space vehicle

From the contour design style, the Lexus GS more dynamic, Ouge RL is more than prudent to give people a sense of lack of passion. GS shorter before the hanging not only looks dynamic full, it is also in the body within a relatively short period to design a longer wheelbase, GS Series 2850 mm

wheelbase RL grow than 50 mm.

Although not dominant in the wheelbase, but the overall performance space in the car on the RL is Ouge full advantage, that advantage fully benefit from its 1847 mm and 1542 mm of body height and width, this value respectively over the GS series More 22 mm and 112 mm. GS-series line of the body design will head back some passengers feel depressed, and the RL is ample rear room.

Although this is that two of the senior control the car, but the rear of the same comfort factor to consider is, after all, no one wants their families sitting more comfortable.

Dynamic: Ouge RL better than the original value GS300

Although some boring, but people The feeling is very good opening, which for women drivers is also extremely important.

If it is purely for the pursuit of simple, with SH-AWD Light System Ouge RL more deserve recognition, this super control not only all-wheel-drive system in the distribution of power between Qian Houlun, after the bridge is about two axle On the electromagnetic coil for a clutch. SH-AWD can Qian Houlun between free distribution of 30 percent to 70 percent of the torque, the two rear wheels can be carried out between 0 to 100% of the power distribution, which means that when the outside wheel in Guowan Can be assigned to up to 70 percent of the driving force, which can help smooth Guowan drivers. In addition, the planetary gear can also speed up the device to increase rear-wheel speed,

Excellent four-wheel-drive system, made up for a soft chassis tuning the shortcomings so that novices can also become a master.

Evaluation: Ouge RL more cost-effective Lexus GS of the first ring for more

Whether or Ouge RL Lexus GS, from manipulation and control of influenza, the two vehicles have not reached the BMW 5 Series

Ouge RL is more to ordinary people To drive top level. For those who feel the pursuit of movement, stress comfort and high-targeted consumers, Ouge RL and Lexus GS300 than the BMW 5 Series more attractive, with their sales more than the BMW 5 Series, Can make to many Hui Toulv.

Specific to Ouge RL and Lexus GS300 two cars, Ouge RL is the price higher, on the one hand it is the greater displacement, but also provide an excellent Light system, coupled with the juice is the original Taste of imported cars

About the Author

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