



Book

Whoopi Goldberg

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Whoopi Goldberg speaks... 'Here's where I'm supposed to say all kinds of hip, Whoopi-esque stuff to get you to buy the book... So this is when we seal the deal, when I tell you in my own inimitable way, how uproarious and provocative this book is, how OUT THERE, and cutting edge, and whatever else I can think of to throw into the mix. Or, I could say things like, 'Not since *War and Peace*...' or 'Move over Alice Walker...' Well come on now, if a book were all those things it would be a novel, and I wouldn't resort to such low tactics... So I'll give it to you straight.'

As befits the sassy, original entertainer, this is no ordinary autobiography filled with the boring details. Instead, Whoopi delivers twenty-five monologues with titles such as *Fate, Trust, Home, Self, Cost, Race, Choice, Dick, Death and Dream*. Under the chapter 'Wind' she reveals: 'A lot of people don't know this about me... but that's how I got my name, from my frequent farting. When I was in my 20s and diagnosed with ulcers, I was encouraged to fart up a storm, and my friends started calling me Whoopi. I was like a walking whoopee cushion, they said. It was an easy tag and the name stuck.'

Book Details

Date : Published 1999 by Warner Books (first published 1997)

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Author : Whoopi Goldberg

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Zacky Gaffy says

I have to admit that I chuckled a few dozen times reading Whoopi's take on numerous subjects. It is not the most profound piece of writing but what do you expect from a celebrity book. I am a fan of Whoopi's but this left me wanting more. It is set up as a stand up routine, where she discusses taboos such as the n word, sex heck even pee stains. Nothing is off limits. Overall, it was quick and casual read which delighted me.

Kris Lugosi says

Whoopi Goldberg's book, **BOOK**, is hilarious. Whoopi is a comic genius as it is and her views on life, death and more are both hysterical and poignant. She makes no apologies for her sailor mouth and witty anecdotes. Whoopi Goldberg is a storyteller of epic proportions hitting us with such important topics like, faith, trust, race, sex, love, dreams, and even funnier topics like dicks (penises), breaking wind, and the nature and power of words. If you are looking for a quiet read this is not it. She has opinions and she fucking has a voice to say them with. Whoopi's captivating rawness makes this a page turner.

The book was published in 1997 and though some of her references are dated the material is far ahead of it's time and very relevant to today's readers.

Whoopi gives us a glimpse of her childhood and what it was like growing up. She moves forward into her love lives and the various jobs she worked while being a single mother. Whoopi leaves very little out and with an unabashed sense of humility with her words.

I love the storytelling of this book. Especially love the casual tone in which Whoopi delivers her messages. Her use of the word fuck is absolutely wonderful and her chapter on words is incredibly relate-able to me. I think that's why I love this book so much, I can relate to damn near everything she talks about. We share a lot of the same opinions and thoughts on many of the subjects discussed.

Whoopi Goldberg is a powerful comedian and narrator and **BOOK** is an insightful uproarious journey through a strong opinionated woman's mind.

Debbie says

I like Whoopi she says it like it is and doesn't care what anyone thinks or says. Her books are the same way. In this one she covers all topics and how she feels about them. She even lets in to her private life a little bit when she shares the story about how her daughter at 14 told her she was having a grandchild. No not for everyone and yes I was shocked a few times when I read it but on the whole I enjoyed the book.

Jack says

This is all Whoopi! No areas are off limits.. sex, politics, farts! Musings on any and all topics, written 20 years ago now, when she was appearing on Broadway in "Forum". At times it makes you long for the time of innocence when she was growing up in the Chelsea section of NYC in a true melting pot of America. Of course her 8 year old self saw it as idyllic. Being on the View for 10+ years, she has related a number of these stories. But there was still a lot of new material here that I had not heard.

Emily Heath says

Easy read....received as gift years ago. Wouldn't buy it but was entertaining. I like whoopi more after reading the book.

Jamie says

I have always absolutely loved Whoopi Goldberg. This book is HILARIOUS. I always return to it when I've had a bad day and need a good laugh. Her take on relationships, families, and sharing bathrooms cracks me up every time. Whoopi also shares her personal experiences that I think almost anyone can relate to and appreciate. I just love this book.

Kristine (fezabel) says

I bought this to listen to on my daily commute. I had to listen to it at home because I kept driving off the road from laughing so hard. Whoopi Goldberg is honest, funny and real. Book was hilarious, but this is so much better from her reading and adlibs. Find a copy and share!

Greg says

This is a light, fast, enjoyable read. Sometimes very funny. But there isn't much substance: after reading it I remember feeling as if I'd seen Goldberg do a series of comedy skits. This lady has worked hard to be where she is today, and that's what I'd like to read about.

Allie says

Dissappointing. Some worthwhile essays, but lots of bathroom humor

RainbowWriter says

Classified as an autobiography. Yes, it's a loose one but more like a collection of essays. Whoopi addresses herself as different, special and liberal. All true and that's why I actually admire her. I was hoping the book

to be inspiring because of the nature of subjects she's talking about but I found it controversial instead. The beginning was funny but I laughed less towards the end. Anyway, while reading this book you should remember 2 things: Whoopi is unconventional and you shouldn't expect any less of her. Also, the purpose of good comedy is exposing taboos and dealing with simple, everyday subjects. All found in here. I took off some stars because of her dirty language and because I disagreed with her on few subjects. But in a nutshell, disagreement doesn't stop me from admiring her work (movies). You disagree even with your loved ones but love them nevertheless. This is a good book for fans because it explains very well where she's coming from and it helps you to understand some of her movie roles, especially Sister Act.

Jeanette "Astute Crabbist" says

I read this many years ago and still remember how entertaining it was, so that says a lot for the book. Whoopi is just incomparable. Funny, bold, and surprisingly insightful.

Some good things I copied from the book:

"If everything else went away and the penis was still alive, men would probably be okay with that. They'd be lying there thinking, *Well, at least my dick still works.*"

"A man will show a woman his penis at the drop of a hat, but he will not show it to another man."

"Don't come in the room acting like God, because, honey, when you're meeting me, you're meeting God. And there can't be two Gods."

"So I realized I wasn't God, which was a slight disappointment, you know. Just a slight disappointment---and a mild surprise."

"I believe we come into this world through a revolving door; we leave and then we come back again. Call it reincarnation...when I look at children who are ill, or dying, I know that they will come back in some other body, in some different form. I know they'll get another shot at a happy ending; I know they will be at peace."

(I disagree with Whoopi on the above topic, but I think it shows the softness of her heart.)

Sue says

Whoopi is incredibly honest. I enjoy the movies that she's been in, but I'm not liking her on the "View". It seems she has no patience for other people's view point, especially if it doesn't mirror her own. She either has nothing to say or cuts people off unless it is something she wants to talk about. She's not a team player, she is full of Whoopi. This book is funny and grossfully truthful. Now I know more than I ever wanted to know about Whoop(Caryn)Goldberg.

Kathy says

This is Whoopi speaking on various subjects. It is not for the faint of heart or those that don't like the 'f' word, which is also a subject discussed. This book was written in 1997 and it's interesting to see how things have NOT changed. I definitely want to read more of what she has written.

Adrian says

Whoopi is just one honest woman who is outspoken and know her grounds...she has hell of a lot of wit too...and definitely definitely hilarious.

This "Book" is indeed a page turner and it's interesting to read about her hardship and how she struggled as a child, a sister, a daughter, a single mother, etc etc etc. It's educating and it's an eye opener...sort of.

BrokenTune says

Well, this was fun. The style of the book immediately reminded me of the scene in one of my favourite Goldberg films Jumping Jack Flash, where her character, Terry Doolittle, is injected with a truth serum and can't stop herself from commenting on everything that is going on around her.

I loved that scene, but I can see how the train-of-thought approach to writing might not be to everyone's tastes.

Nevertheless, this was a book I really enjoyed. Goldberg is honest and forthcoming, to the point that she does admit that she had the help of a co-author when writing this, her first ever, book.

The sad aspect of the book of course is that many of the issues she writes about in this mixture of biography and social commentary are still relevant 20 years after the original publication in 1997.
