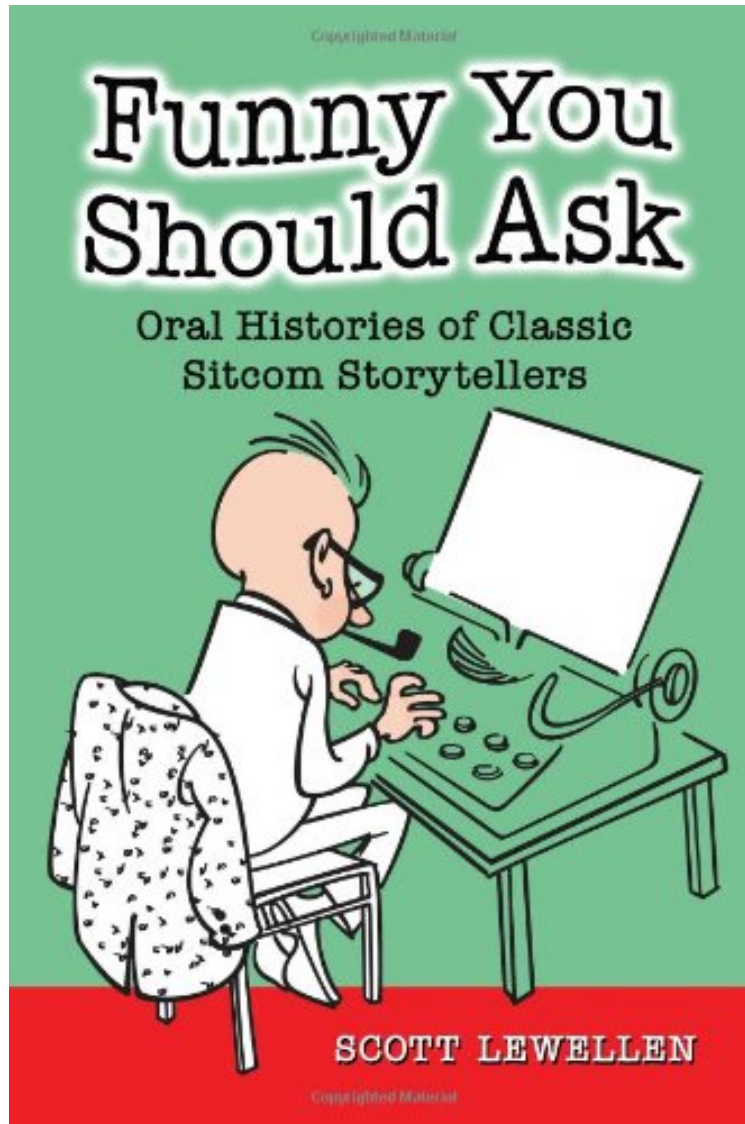


[Free] Funny You Should Ask: Oral Histories of Classic Sitcom Storytellers

Funny You Should Ask: Oral Histories of Classic Sitcom Storytellers

Scott Lewellen

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Scott Lewellen : Funny You Should Ask: Oral Histories of Classic Sitcom Storytellers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Funny You Should Ask: Oral Histories of Classic Sitcom Storytellers:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great look at writers of classic sitcomsBy Bill ZahrenIf you're a fan of pioneering sitcoms like Here's Lucy, The Dick Van Dyke Show, All in the Family, The Mary Tyler Moore

Show, MASH and any others, this is a great book to get a glimpse at what went into writing those classic shows. The book delivers great insight into the personalities and talents of some of the show biz's greatest writers. Lewellen's interviews cover both what went right and what went wrong -- why some shows were hits and why some were flops. Based on many interviews conducted over many years, this book is a great historical preservation of the insights of these pioneering TV writers. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Sitcom Writers' funny words (and sometimes last words) By Wag This is a great resource for sitcom fans. In-depth personal interviews with many of TV's funniest writers (some already passed on), just published in 2013. You can look up their credits. Here are their names: Allan Burns, Arnold Margolin, Austin Kalish, Bernie Orenstein, Bill Persky, Bob Carroll Jr., Bob Schiller, Carl Kleinschmitt, David Lloyd, Ed Scharlach, Elroy Schwartz, Fred Freeman, Irma Kalish, Jack Elinson, Jerry Mayer, Jim Parker, Lilia Garrett, Madeylyn Davis, Paul Wayne, Rick Mittleman, Sam Bobrick, Sam Denoff, Saul Turteltaub. The writers were interviewed separately but put together on the page on common topics. (this is the only way to get a bunch of comedy writers together and not have them constantly interrupting each other) Topics include their first break. Their biggest successes. And the shows that didn't quite make it. Collaboration. Retiring. And more. It's so good, I am going to read it again. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What a Wealth of Information By A Teacher This book is a treasure trove of information about writer/producers of well-known sitcoms. It is well organized and the author's transitional remarks provide a coherent thread to tie the interviews together. Each section has a clever title that piques the reader's interest. The book would be an excellent textbook for a class on television history and it also provides insight into the minds of writers who have not been widely studied. Whether you are a fan of history, writing or television, this book is well worth reading.

This oral history of television sitcom writing offers the perspectives of 22 of the best and most prolific early comedy writers. How they broke into the business; how they wrote scripts (and where they got their ideas); what it was like to work on hits--and on flops; what the sitcom actors were like; how they collaborated with other writers and producers; and why they retired are just some of the topics they speak to. The book documents insider knowledge and gives the reader a better understanding of what makes great television comedy. The writers' observations about the changes that took place during their long careers help explain why television comedy has evolved so greatly in recent years.

"A fascinating collection"--Examiner.com. About the Author Scott Lewellen, co-founder of Saturday Mfg., a Des Moines, Iowa marketing company, has more than 25 years of broadcasting and marketing experience. He lives in Des Moines.