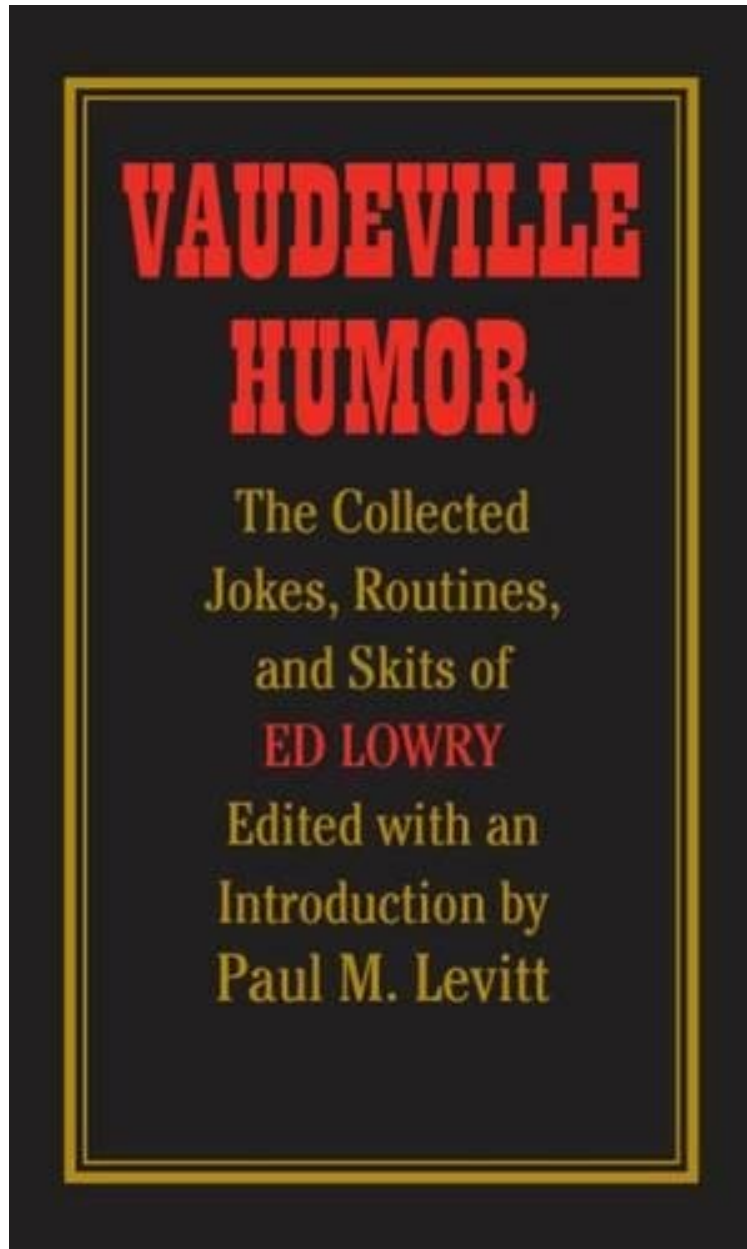


Vaudeville Humor: The Collected Jokes, Routines, and Skits of Ed Lowry

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Vaudeville Humor: The Collected Jokes, Routines, and Skits of Ed Lowry:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Slowly I Turned ...By Erica kathrynGift for an older retired clown - I enjoyed watching him chuckle0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The joy of LaffterBy John R. BrehmerAn excellent reference of collected material from Ed Lowry (1896-1983) for anyone who stands before an audience. The book starts with a fact-filled introduction by Paul M. Levitt outlining the history of vaudeville humor and continues with a compendium of Lowry's jokes in categories from A to W. Part two contains his M C material: introductions, skits and routines. An appendix consists of reproduced material from a book by Lowry titled "Ed Lowry Laffter." Much of the material is dated so a glossary of personalities is included so we don't have to Google their names. The end of the book is a comprehensive index to all the material covered.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Dated and Politically Incorrect, but EnjoyableBy Lajeane KellerThe jokes in here are dated and politically incorrect, however the jokes are timeless. Because I read older authors, I read quite a few books where there is an obvious prejudice about different cultures. Regardless of the culture being pointed at, the creative ways in which these writers point the OMG finger is quite telling of the pointer and their culture. This is a collection of an old vaudeville comedian's material for his acts, which comprises jokes and material from time immemorial. A valuable collection of funny.

Vaudeville Humor: The Collected Jokes, Routines, and Skits of Ed Lowry contains vaudeville jokes, skits, and routines from the first three decades of the twentieth century originally compiled by comedian Ed Lowry (1896–1983). Although occasionally found in bits and pieces in anthologies and in some period dramatic comedies, vaudeville humor has never before been available in one collection—performers rarely if ever kept a record of their jokes and routines. Fortunately, Ed Lowry was an inveterate collector. He kept copious notebooks of jokes and routines that he not only commissioned but also stole from other comics, clipped from newspapers, and copied from now defunct popular magazines of the day. Editor Paul M. Levitt has reorganized the material into categories that preserve some of the flavor of Lowry's scrapbooks yet provide for finer distinctions. Part one, "Jokes," is organized by subject matter and cataloged by genre, dialects, and wordplay. From "Accidents" to "Work," this exhaustive catalog of humor features over one thousand jokes with topics that range from city slickers and country hicks through midgets and old maids to Swedes and tattoos. Part two, "MC Material: Biz, Jokes, Routines, and Skits" is germane to the job of master of ceremonies, routines, and skits. It features topics from fractured fairy tales to stuttering. Part three, an appendix, "Ed Lowry Laffter," reproduces a privately published collection that is now a rare collector's item. "Although some of the jokes can undoubtedly be found in other places," explains Levitt in his introduction, "I know of no source as rich as this one for the twenties and thirties, a period so abundant in humor that for years afterward it fueled radio, cinema, and television."

"This is a marvelous look at an era of American entertainment now faded from most people's memory. . . . The subject as presented serves as a compendium of vaudeville and its reflection of a culture much different from today's. The work has added value because it provides a view of that world as seen by one man—Ed Lowry."—Robert F. Nisbett, Colorado State University