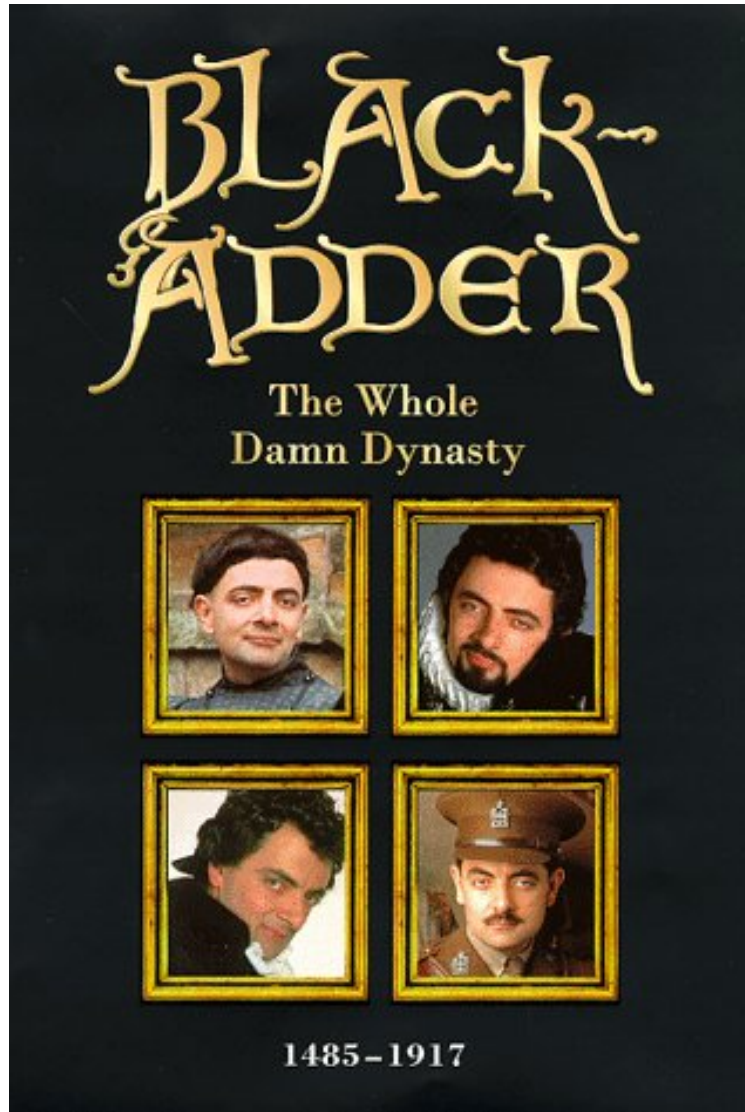


[Download] "Blackadder": The Whole Damn Dynasty

## "Blackadder": The Whole Damn Dynasty

*Richard Curtis, Ben Elton, John Lloyd*  
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**Richard Curtis, Ben Elton, John Lloyd : "Blackadder": The Whole Damn Dynasty** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised "Blackadder": The Whole Damn Dynasty:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. All the Words. And some also More Words. AND publicity photos. And turnips.By P. LenaghIt's the scripts as filmed. Plus a few other tid-bits. A few pages of The BlackAdder Chronicles; a not-quite-as-funny outline of some of the missing bits between the series. i.e. a paragraph on Queen Anne's obsession with table legs. A paragraph on Cardinal Blackadder Henry 8th eating lightly oiled lampreys... that sort of stuff. Also graphically spread with period wood-cuts of turnips, sheep, archers, etc. plus publicity photos.All-in-

all a nice collection of the writing from the series specials. Especially useful when you can't understand the Scots accents or miss a line due to the badly done British sound recording. (I'll never understand the BBC et. al. inability to record human speech. One can only guess they bought the off-brand recording tape and borrowed microphones from the neighbor's kid. Either that or there's a serious compatibility issues between the US UK recording systems.) Buy it, so you to can mouth the words along with the greats. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Livery Of An Underscrogman (Apprentice Dogsbody) Circa 1799 By Robert I. Hedges "Blackadder" is one of the most brilliant television shows ever. The star, Rowan Atkinson, along with other series regulars such as Tony Robinson (as the perpetual dogsbody with a cunning plan,) Tim McInnerny, Stephen Fry, and Hugh Laurie carry this show through four distinct historical periods, with more laughs than could possibly be expected. Series one starts in the fifteenth century, with Atkinson as Prince Edmund, the illegitimate and despised son of the lunatic king, Richard IV. During this season Edmund adopted the moniker "The Black Adder" only after Baldrick advised him it was much more awe inspiring than his original choice "The Black Vegetable." (Note that while his name is spelled "Blackadder" in the scripts, when it is used as a title in season one, it is spelled "Black Adder.") This season sets the stage for Blackadder as a conniving and scheming con man, a reputation he and his Blackadder descendants live up to through the rest of the series. Seasons two and three see a progression through history with Edmund first becoming Lord Edmund Blackadder, in the court of Elizabeth I (who is delightfully played by Miranda Richardson,) and later becoming the butler to Prince George, the Prince Regent, who is the idiot offspring of crazy King George III. These seasons provide the most laughs of the series for me, and I am particularly enthralled with the episode "Ink and Incapability" in which Baldrick burns Doctor Johnson's new dictionary. This episode is the ultimate in Blackadder humor, witty and urbane, yet full of madcap comedic moments as well, especially when Blackadder introduces new and confounding words for Dr. Johnson's considerations: "Contrafibularities, sir. It is a common word down our way....I am anaspeptic, phrasmotomic, even compunctious to have caused you such pericombubulations." (Of course in true Blackadder fashion this only gets him in trouble, as Coleridge, the poet and Johnson ally threatens to thrust an Oriental disemboweling cutlass up his "ignoble behind.") The fourth season of Blackadder sees Atkinson as Captain Edmund Blackadder in the British army during the trench warfare of World War One France. This series also had a lot of laughs, with my favorite episode being "Private Plane," in which Blackadder and Baldrick join the Royal Air Force and are forced down behind enemy lines. They are subsequently interrogated and insulted by the Red Baron ("How lucky you English are to find the toilet so amusing, for us it is a mundane and functional item, for you it is the basis of an entire culture.") and sentenced to teach home economics to a convent of nuns for the duration of the war. One thing about this season (and two of the others) is that in the last episode of the season the entire cast dies, which elevates the series into a peculiar blend of black comedy and social commentary which I have still not grown fully accustomed to. The book is a collection of scripts and has several extras germane to the time period being satirized which are also well done. I like the excerpt from "Dr. Johnson's Dictionary" provided on page 106, with definitions such as "left behind - part of the sitting apparatus of a personage," and "leek - a long, thin Welsh tomato." There are also helpful lists of the "Duties of the Prince Regent," "Duties of a Butler of a Royal Household" which includes "Commissioning moleskins (as and when necessary)," and "Duties of an Underscrogman." Baldrick, being the Underscrogman serving under Edmund is responsible for (among other things): "Removing and making good all squoles, whiffen-plugs, and blunters," "Cleaning the vulger-hole," "Quilping," "Cliving," "Groving," "Arranging the sheep droppings into neat little pyramids," "Frossiking the hounds," "Folding the glut-pile," and of course, "Making sandwiches." This is a wonderful book, though if you are unfamiliar with the series, I recommend buying the DVD set and watching the shows first; a subsequent reading of this book will ensure many more laughs. As a side note, profits from this book go to the charity Comic Relief, a brief history of which appears in the last three pages of the book. I recommend this book very highly for intelligent wit, and I likewise recommend the television series on DVD interphrastically. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Who'd notice one more lunatic here? By David Neiman I hope you aren't looking at any of the canned descriptions uses. Predictable? Blackadder comes up with clever plans that fail. Surprise! Dark? Queen Bess asks for more minty things under threat of death. Steady? As inexorable as the march from the trenches at the end of season IV. As a reference to rival the Guinness Book of Records for settling bar arguments? A plan so cunning t's like a fox who's been elected Professor of Cunning at Oxford.

A collection of complete scripts from all four of the "Blackadder" television series. From Medieval times through the Elizabethan and Regency periods to World War I, Edmund Blackadder and his downtrodden sidekick Baldrick veer from one calamity to another.

About the Author Richard Curtis is an award-winning and international film-director and script writer, and the creator of Four Weddings and a Funeral, Love Actually, Notting Hill and Mr Bean.