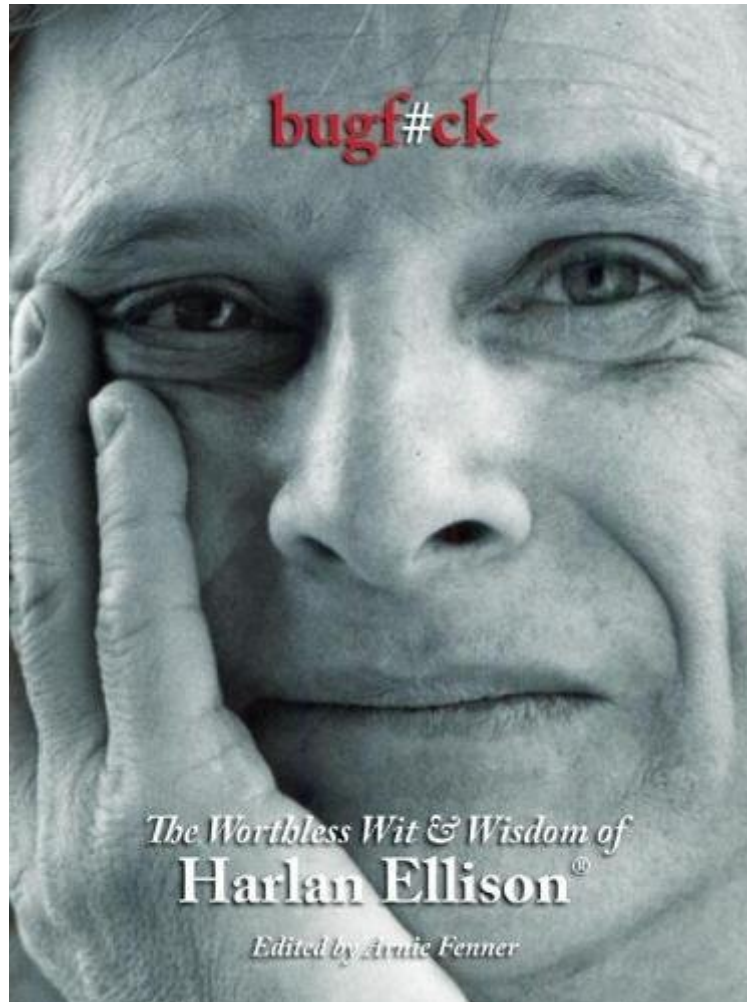


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Harlan Ellison

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Harlan Ellison : Bugf#ck: The Worthless Wit and Wisdom of Harlan Ellison before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bugf#ck: The Worthless Wit and Wisdom of Harlan Ellison:

18 of 18 people found the following review helpful. A thought-provoking collection of Harlan Ellison's most memorable quotes. By Beam Most of you simply want to know: Should I spend my time and money on this book? The short answer: Yes. The slightly longer answer: Hell, yes! A small-sized hardback book (128 numbered pages with a 4 x 5.5 inch trim size), this collects Harlan's insights principally culled from his fiction and notable interviews, with photographs. Edited by Arnie Fenner, whose introduction sets the stage by introducing Harlan to people who may not otherwise know him, this isn't your mother's quote book: cute and quippy with sappy cartoons. Like his fiction and his life, this is a high explosive sampling of his passions expressed in print. Writers, especially, will glean a lot of insight into their craft from this timely tome: Harlan's quotes about the craft of writing are so damned truthful that I've posted

several of them over my office desk. There's one, though, that's missing: In a letter to Thomas Pluck, posted on the Web, Harlan gently chides him querying him, on the grounds that "All a writer has is time and a portion of talent." And, as Harlan points out to him, "answering queries from readers eats away at the former, thus disallowing full use of the latter. I continue to beseech my readers not to burden me with this sort of personal need, but every day I receive a dozen items that demand my response." (Mr. Pluck, because he is, or was, a subscriber to the Harlan Ellison Record Collection, got a full-page response from Harlan, ending with a characteristically blunt request: "...I cannot conceal my annoyance at having to depart from deadline work to satisfy your curiosity. Please don't do this to me again.") That's a vintage Harlan response. In this eminently quotable book, editor Arnie Fenner has served up a worthy collection of Harlan's observations, utterances, and verbal explosions drawn from six decades of Harlan living life full tilt boogie. An obvious "must buy" for Ellison's many readers, this book deserves as wide a readership as possible: Those who do not know of this man or his work should, if nothing else, contemplate what is surely one of the most pertinent quotations in the book: It's about having an informed opinion. I could quote it, but BUY THE BOOK and read it for yourself. And then pass the word on. PS: Mr. Fenner, I offer a suggestion: a follow-up book simply titled HARLAN ELLISON ON WRITING. Make it so.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Tiny Pocket-Sized Book of Quotes/Writings For A Quick Read By benjamin bannister I think Harlan Ellison is hilarious. He's blunt, he's honest, his points are on point. That's why I was a little disappointed in this book. Maybe I should've been a little more careful in reading the product description. It said there was 160 pages to this, it's actually 128. My expectations were for a book, not a book of one-liners throughout those 128 pages. This book is a collection of some of Ellison's best sayings/writings/quotes. Most of them are gems, but the content is too short for the money. I think if you set your expectations properly you will be fine with this book. This is one of those books you find at the cash register, a tiny book, for impulse purchases. I read this all on the subway on my way home. I've rated this three stars for "It's okay". Good, but I wanted more Harlan.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ELLISON ON...EVERYTHING By Mark Barsotti As tiny and power-packed as the writer it celebrates, BUGF#** finds the force of nature that is Harlan Ellison expounding on everything from the existential ("Like the wind crying endlessly through the universe, Time carries away the names and deeds of conquerors and commoners alike. And all that we are, all that remains, is in the memories of those who cared we came this way for a brief moment.") to the banal ("Talking to him (Merv Griffin) is like talking to your armpit.") with his usual wit, insight, and venom. Always known for his quick lip and lack of an internal censor, Ellison's observations could fill a volume many times this size. For now, BUGF#** serves as a satisfying primer that demonstrates, in addition to being one of the best fantasists and short story writers of the 20th century, Mr. Ellison was and remains an unparalleled raconteur.

Harlan Ellison has a lot to say; as one of America's most honored entertainers, he has been writing fiction and commentary, and speaking on college campuses and television talk shows, and challenging his audiences to think outside the box for sixty years. With 90 books bearing his by-line and thousands of stories and essays and anecdotes and speeches and interviews to his credit, Harlan Ellison has written countless memorable lines in the course of his career. BUGF#CK (a word that Ellison coined in the 1960s and a favorite of Stephen King's) wonderfully and unforgettably gathers some of Harlan's best bon mots. "The two most common elements in the universe are Hydrogen and stupidity." "K is for 'Kenghis Khan'; He was a very nice person. History has no record of him. There is a moral in that, somewhere." "The problem with being a pain in the ass is that you never quite know who's trying to get you." "Why do people keep insisting that I join the 21st Century? I *LIVE* in the 21st Century! I just don't want to be bothered by the shitheads on the internet!" "I have no mouth. And I must scream." "I think love and sex are separate and only vaguely similar."