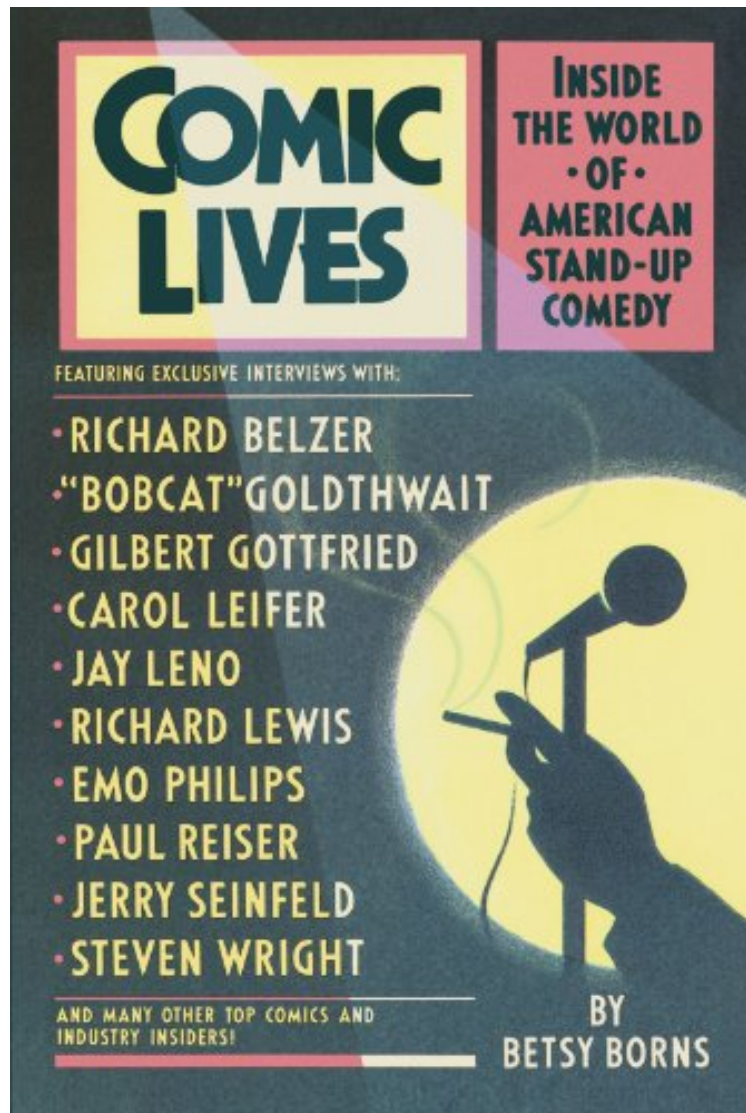


Comic Lives

Betsy Borns

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Betsy Borns : Comic Lives before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Comic Lives:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The most in-depth book on stand-up...everBy Phillip SchwarzmannI haven't been this glued to a book in a while. This is essential reading for any fans of stand-up comedy.Published in the late 80's I believe, it's the most thorough look at the American stand-up scene ever released, now or back then. Even though it's dated, it doesn't matter, most of it is as true today as it was.Just an amazing, amazing read....3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Phenomenal insights into the history of Stand-UPBy A CustomerIf you've ever

been wondering what it's like to be a stand-up comedian, their lives or the history of stand-up from its beginnings at the IMPROV, then this is the definitive guide. The book details beginning comics though starts from having no place to practice their art to striking clubs who reaped a bonanza when the clubs took off who still were not paying the performer. This is one of the best and most complete books I've read on the subject. A must for anyone considering entering the field of stand-up. It'll answer those questions you'd love to ask the 'name' comedians if you could get an hour of their time. 5 of 13 people found the following review helpful. the author uses the book as a vehicle for her career only. By A Customer This book is an unresearched, fictional account of a much more complicated business. Borns can't interview a few people over two months and write something that has anything to do with the comedy business. Total rubbish!. It was used as a vehicle for a climber in the business to do just that. It was immediately in the bins at KMart and sat there for a year. Don't waste your money. By the way, if she's such a great author, where's anything else she's written?? She got a ten thousand dollar advance, and the publisher rues the day they did that!

Book by Borns, Betsy

From Library Journal The world of the stand-up comic is spotlighted here in a surprisingly serious analysis replete with interviews with numerous performers. Although many of those featured are far from household names, most of them have appeared in comedy clubs and in some instances on national TV. The tension and pressure involved in trying to make people laugh is graphically expressed by such comics as Jay Leno, David Brenner, Steven Wright, and Carol Leifer. The ultimate goal is to appear on the Johnny Carson or David Letterman late night shows their impact is pervasive. Borns appears to have little appreciation of the old-time comedians, and there is little about their influence on today's comics. Not for all libraries, but a uniquely individualistic study. Samuel Simons, Memorial Hall Lib., Andover, Mass. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc.