



Fierce Pajamas: An Anthology of Humor Writing from The New Yorker

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When Harold Ross founded *The New Yorker* in 1925, he described it as a “comic weekly.” And although it has become much more than that, it has remained true in its irreverent heart to the founder’s description, publishing the most illustrious literary humorists of the modern era—among them Robert Benchley, Dorothy Parker, Groucho Marx, George S. Kaufman, James Thurber, S. J. Perelman, Peter De Vries, Mike Nichols, Marshall Brickman, Woody Allen, Donald Barthelme, Calvin Trillin, George W. S. Trow, Veronica Geng, Garrison Keillor, Ian Frazier, Roy Blount, Jr., Bruce McCall, Steve Martin, Christopher Buckley, and Paul Rudnick.

This anthology gathers together, for the first time, the funniest work of more than seventy *New Yorker* contributors. Parodists take on not only writers like Hemingway and Kerouac, but TV documentaries, Italian cinema, and etiquette books. (Enough have been published, Robert Benchley maintains, “that there should be no danger of toppling over forward into the wrong soup, or getting into arguments as to which elbow belongs on which arm.”) Other pieces offer perspectives on the heights of fame, the depths of social embarrassment, and the ups and downs of love and sex. Such well-loved sketches as Thurber’s “The Secret Life of Walter Mitty” take their place alongside light-hearted essays on food, tennis, and taxis, and flights of fancy that follow an apparently simple premise to the point of no return, and sometimes well beyond. Here you will find large insights (Woody Allen: “Why does man kill? He kills for food. And not only food: frequently there must be a beverage”) and hard-earned wisdom (Ian Frazier on dating your mom: “Here is a grown, experienced, loving woman—one you do not have to go to a party or a singles bar to meet, one you do not have to go to great lengths to know”). And, not least, a great deal of helpful advice, including Steve Martin’s on memory and middle age: “Bored? Here’s a way the over-fifty set can easily kill a good half hour: 1. Place your car keys in your right hand. 2. With your left hand, call a friend and confirm a lunch or dinner date. 3. Hang up the phone. 4. Now look for your car keys.”

A rich selection of humorous verse includes caustic gems by Dorothy Parker, the effortless whimsy of Phyllis McGinley, and Ogden Nash’s unforgettable slapstick prosody, as well as forays by luminaries who ought to have known better, like Robert Graves, Elizabeth Bishop, and W. H. Auden.

A wonderful gift for others, or a delightful treat for oneself, **Fierce Pajamas** is a treasury of laughter from a publication described by Auden as “the best comic magazine in existence.”

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From reader reviews:

Rachel Garber:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book is usually option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the book untitled Fierce Pajamas: An Anthology of Humor Writing from The New Yorker can be very good book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

Mary Moore:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity here is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent all day every day to reading a book. The book Fierce Pajamas: An Anthology of Humor Writing from The New Yorker it is quite good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book provides high quality.

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Jamie Wallace:

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