



## Dave Barry's Greatest Hits

*Dave Barry*

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## Dave Barry's Greatest Hits Dave Barry

WHEN DAVE BARRY IS ON THE LOOSE, NO ONE IS SAFE!

What Dave Barry did for the men's movement in his Complete Guide to Guys and for foreign relations when he did Japan he now does for . . . everything in America. The rapacious observer of Tupperware ladies and leisure concept salesmen sounds off on:

Football--Football is more than just a game. It is a potential opportunity to see a live person lying on the ground with a bone sticking out of his leg, while the fans, to show their appreciation, perform "the wave."

Sailing--There's nothing quite like getting out on the open sea, where you can forget about the hassles and worries of life on land, and concentrate on the hassles and worries of life on the sea, such as death by squid.

Gambling--Off-Track Betting parlors are the kinds of places where you never see signs that say, "Thank You for Not Smoking." The best you can hope for is, "Thank You for Not Spitting Pieces of Your Cigar on My Neck."

"The good news: he's funny as ever. The bad news: the book is only 304 pages."

--Los Angeles Daily News

## Dave Barry's Greatest Hits Details

Date : Published April 28th 1997 by Ballantine Books (first published 1988)

ISBN : 9780345419996

Author : Dave Barry

Format : Paperback 304 pages

Genre : Humor, Nonfiction, Comedy, Writing, Essays

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## **From Reader Review Dave Barry's Greatest Hits for online ebook**

### **Kelly says**

He is hilarious, but really expected more LOL moments

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### **John says**

I'm old enough to have read many Dave Barry columns the first time around, but young enough not to have read any of the essays in this collection before. The volume doesn't start off well, with the first few essays offputtingly strident. Pretty soon, though, the book settles in with a consistent low-key wackiness that makes good use of callbacks and other comedic set-ups. The structure of the columns vary, with some of the later ones taking the form of interviews or letter responses.

As a person who can remember that events like the Iran-Contra scandal did occur, but don't really remember anything about them, this book has made the transition from being outdated to actually historical. There's one of his "end-of-year" review essays that I thought was particularly illuminating. These columns also gave me a better understanding a kind of Reagan-era conservatism, which highlights a few particularly ill-thought expenditures, such as metric road signs, as a basis for taking a strong anti-tax position without much thought to the overall consequences. There was one notable exception, an off-hand comparison of the privatization of national lands to the deregulation of the airlines. This gave me a bit more historical insight that the "review" of national parks and monuments for privatization is not truly unprecedented.

Overall, there are some good jokes and you'll learn a thing or two about the events and attitudes of the United States in the 1980s.

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### **taeli says**

read 10/16/17

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### **C C says**

Younger me loved Dave Barry; older me doesn't love Dave Barry.

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### **Marshall Langman says**

Possibly the funniest American columnist

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## **Donna says**

I enjoyed this and I knew I would even before I read it because I've always been a Dave Barry fan. It was such a short read though, I wished it had been longer and contained more of his greatest hits. It was everything I've come to expect from Dave Barry. He is definitely funny. I love the way his mind works and that he is able to translate on to a page.

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## **Joshua Dancer says**

While parts of this haven't aged well, the majority is still just as funny to me as it was when it was helping shape my sense of humor as a teenager. Dave Barry, Erma Bombeck, and 'Weird Al' Yankovic are the main reasons I am the way I am.

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## **Leew49 says**

Dave Barry's alert readers will enjoy this collection of columns from the 1980's. Those who lived through that decade and are still alert enough to remember will enjoy it even more.

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## **Valerie says**

Ian will probably read these next. He's already convinced boogers are funny.

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## **Bill Eckhardt says**

### **Dave Barry is funny as a stitch in time.**

Those who appreciate the exaggerated metaphors of David Barry will certainly appreciate this book. Others be aware. Thank you Dave for making light of what should be made later.

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## **Wes Locher says**

This is one of those timeless humor books that holds up just as well today as it did when it was initially released 15 years ago! Dave Barry's mastery of the written word is at peak performance with this collection of columns. When they stuck the words "GREATEST HITS" on the cover, they were absolutely not lying.

Sure, some of the events and people discussed within these pages may be dated, but if you were alive for those times (or took a history class in school) then you'll still appreciate a fresh and hilarious perspective.

This book contains my all time favorite Barry column titled "Molecular Homicide" which tells the tell of the

author having the flu and what happens when he is unable to get out of bed to monitor his young son's activities. This column alone is worth the price of the book. If you enjoy that column then there are plenty more that will tickle your funny bone.

This is a good starting point for anyone getting into Barry for the first time. It's a book that's easy to pick up whenever you have a few minutes and since each column is only 2-3 pages in length you can always come back to it later without having to worry about remembering what you read previously. Though don't be surprised if you find yourself reading some columns numerous times! It's a perfect book to keep in the bathroom for those quick visits, or in the kitchen for when you're microwaving some food.

If you make it through his "Greatest Hits" then I highly recommend "Dave Barry's Only Travel Guide You'll Ever Need," followed by "Dave Barry is Not Making This Up."

You can't go wrong with any of his books, but I found the 3 mentioned to be the funniest.

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### **Elisabeth Warner says**

I like Dave Barry's humor, but in this book it is very outdated. I don't understand his humor because he talks about issues from the 80s and earlier! Not funny.

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### **J. says**

I used to love reading Dave Barry's columns in the Sunday paper when I was a kid in the 80s. I found this book at a thrift shop recently and got a few chuckles, but the humor didn't age well.

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### **Honza Fedak says**

I just discovered Dave Barry when I saw his latest book *You Can Date Boys When You're Forty* at a local bookstore. After reading it, I was ready for more.

*Greatest Hits* is a collection of his newspaper columns. For someone like me, who never read any of them, it presents a nice profile and overview of his newspaper work. The columns are silly, often very funny, and each one of them is an easy read but reading dozens of them is quite a heavy dose; I am now ready to go and read something else.

But I am very glad I discovered Dave Barry. I think I will come back to read another one of his books in the future when I need a good laugh.

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### **Int'l librarian says**

I don't read when I'm in the bathroom. But if I did, Dave Barry would provide most of the material. His work pretty much screams bathroom. As if the essay title, "Some Thoughts on the Toilet," didn't make that clear enough for his billions of readers.

Not that I like bathroom humor. I don't. I've probably only read "Some Thoughts..." two or three times. I've read a few of the other essays in here a couple dozen times. There's just so much to learn, such as Dave's tips for truffle harvesting. "When you see the pig chewing something, fire a few shots over its head and collect whatever it spits out in a Mason jar." He also has a profound appreciation for global politics. "Lately I've been thinking a lot about the defense of Western Europe. It keeps my mind off this rash in my right armpit."

This book should be required reading in every high school class, or at least the ones that have their own bathrooms.

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