



The Official Dick Van Dyke Show Book: The Definitive History of Television's Most Enduring Comedy

By Vince Waldron

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The most acclaimed comedy of TV's golden age, *The Dick Van Dyke Show* comes to life in this fun-filled and impeccably researched book, the first and only authorized biography of television's most influential comedy. Readers are afforded full backstage access at the making of one of America's most beloved comedies in a book that's packed with exclusive behind-the-scenes anecdotes from the show's entire cast and crew, including Carl Reiner, Mary Tyler Moore, Rose Marie, Morey Amsterdam, Larry Mathews, and, of course, Dick Van Dyke himself. Illustrated with more than 150 rare photos--many of them never before published--this indispensable companion to *The Dick Van Dyke Show* also features the first and only complete viewer's guide to all 158 episodes of the show, including Carl Reiner's *Head of the Family*, the pilot film that started it all. Written in an engaging style by the Emmy-winning writer and journalist Vince Waldron, *The Official Dick Van Dyke Show* really is the definitive book on television's definitive comedy show.

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The Official Dick Van Dyke Show Book: The Definitive History of Television's Most Enduring Comedy By Vince Waldron Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #225715 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Chicago Review Press
- Published on: 2011-10-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.90" h x .80" w x 6.00" l, 1.25 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 416 pages

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Editorial Review

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Definitive is a much-abused word, especially in subtitles, but this time it's used properly. The author of *Classic Sitcoms* (1987), Waldron combines nostalgia with substance, offering not only the expected stills, plot summaries, and backstage anecdotes, but also some fascinating commentary on what made the *Dick Van Dyke Show* unique in television history. Drawing extensively on the recollections of the show's creator, principal writer, and producer, Carl Reiner, Waldron argues that the saga of Rob, Laura, Buddy, and Sally took the sitcom genre in a new direction, away from complete reliance on *I Love Lucy*-like slapstick and toward a more reality-based version of comedy. Reiner, in fact, was famous for his obsession with "realies," carefully observed snippets of reality: "How do you use that rubber thing on the end of a toothbrush?" he once asked. "Put that in the show." Put it in the show they did--and with enough frequency to create a timelessness rare in television of any kind. The show's fans already span multiple generations, and there's no end in sight as long as the reruns keep coming, and Rob keeps tripping over (or sidestepping) that confounded ottoman. *Definitive show, definitive book.* Ilene Cooper

Review

"Entertaining and exhaustively researched...fans of the show will not be disappointed."--*The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*

"A terrific writer and painstaking researcher...it doesn't get any better than this, folks."--The TV Collector

"It was the very best time of my life and Vince's book helps me recall every treasured moment. Thanks, Vince!" —**Dick Van Dyke**

"Wonderful. You got all the facts down in the right order. No embellishments. All the truth. Somebody finally got the whole story right." —**Rose Marie**

"*The Official Dick Van Dyke Show Book* is the best reference book on my shelf. It makes it even more fun to watch the show, if that's possible."

—**Morey Amsterdam**

"What an unexpected pleasure to read a book on a subject about which I thought I knew everything, only to find out that I didn't. A very serious contribution to understanding what really were the best years of my theatrical life. I'd say it was a wonderfully scholarly work--but I won't, because I don't want to scare people away from a book that's as much fun to read as this is." —**Carl Reiner**, producer/creator of *The Dick Van Dyke Show*

"Vince's tribute to our show offers as accurate a snapshot of the series—and the era that begat it—as any I've seen." —**Sheldon Leonard**, Executive Producer

“A compelling narrative. . . . Waldron waltzes through the series’ story as gracefully as Van Dyke sidestepped his living room ottoman.” —*Entertainment Weekly*

“Vince Waldron lovingly and very thoroughly recounts the history of *The Dick Van Dyke Show*.” —*Los Angeles Daily News*

"The definitive history...offers a wealth of backstage anecdotes."
—*Emmy Magazine*

About the Author

Vince Waldron is an Emmy Award-winning writer and the author of *Be My Baby* and *Classic Sitcoms*. He is the creator and director of *Totally Looped*, a stage show in which comedians provide new dialogue for old movie clips. He lives in Los Angeles. **Dick Van Dyke** is one of America's preeminent comic actors. Known for his work on stage and in film, he will always be best remembered for the television show that bore his name. He lives in Malibu, California. **Dan Castellaneta** is an actor best known for his many voice roles, including Homer, on the television show *The Simpsons*. He lives in Los Angeles.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Crystal Sanchez:

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Alex Tipton:

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Tommy Worm:

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love The Official Dick Van Dyke Show Book: The Definitive History of Television's Most Enduring Comedy, it is possible to enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

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