

# **The Hilarious Evolution: A Journey through the History of Film Comedy Routines and Gags**

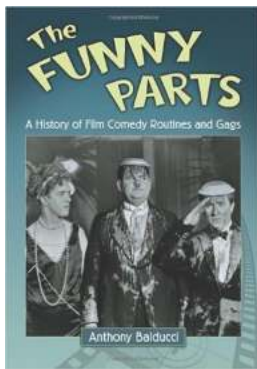
Comedy has always been an essential part of cinema, bringing joy and laughter to audiences throughout the years. From silent films to the modern era, comedy routines and gags have evolved along with the medium itself. Join us as we embark on a historical adventure, exploring the origins, landmarks, and unforgettable moments of film comedy.

## **The Roaring Beginnings: Silent Film Era (1890s - 1920s)**

The birth of cinema coincided with the rise of vaudeville and variety acts, providing a fertile ground for comedy routines to blossom. Silent film comedians like Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, and Harold Lloyd became household names, and their physical comedy routines enchanted audiences worldwide. Slapstick humor, exaggerated actions, and creative gags dominated the silent film era, transporting viewers into a world of laughter and spontaneity.

## **The Golden Age: Talking Films and Screwball Comedies (1930s - 1940s)**

With the arrival of sound in films, comedy took on a new dimension. Famous comedians such as the Marx Brothers, Laurel and Hardy, and the Three Stooges charmed audiences with their witty dialogues and hilarious banter. Additionally, the screwball comedy genre gained popularity, delivering clever wordplay, situational humor, and romantic entanglements. The likes of Cary Grant and Katherine Hepburn brought these unconventional stories to life, leaving audiences in stitches.



## The Funny Parts: A History of Film Comedy Routines and Gags

by Anthony Balducci (1st Edition, Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 9656 KB

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Print length : 314 pages



### **Slapstick Resurgence and Witty Parodies (1950s - 1970s)**

In the mid-20th century, slapstick and physical comedy had a resurgence, thanks to comedic geniuses like Lucille Ball, Jerry Lewis, and The Marx Brothers. Slipping on banana peels, exaggerated falls, and outrageous stunts brought back the timeless element of visual comedy. Alongside the slapstick revival, witty parodies also gained prominence. Movies like "Some Like It Hot" and the satirical works of Mel Brooks injected comedy into everyday situations, mocking societal norms and conventions.

### **The Birth of Satirical Sketch Comedy (1980s - 1990s)**

Comedy routines took a different form in the 80s and 90s with the emergence of satirical sketch comedy shows like "Saturday Night Live" and "Monty Python's Flying Circus." These groundbreaking shows presented a blend of live sketches and pre-recorded skits, often targeting political and cultural aspects. Notable comedians such as John Belushi, Eddie Murphy, and John Cleese became synonymous with intelligent and humorous social commentary in a format that combined spoken humor with visual gags.

## **Modern Comedy: The Digital Age (2000s - Present)**

As technology advanced, comedy routines found a new platform to thrive – the internet. Online video sharing platforms like YouTube enabled comedians to reach a global audience like never before. Viral videos, web series, and online sketches amplified the reach of comedians such as Key and Peele, Sarah Silverman, and YouTube sensation Jenna Marbles. Comedy routines became more diverse, inclusive, and accessible, breaking traditional barriers and connecting with viewers on a personal level, as laughter truly transcended geographical boundaries.

## **The Legacy Lives On: Comedy Routines in Film Today**

Today, we continue to witness the evolution of comedy routines and gags in movies. From physical comedy to clever wordplay, filmmakers tap into a wide range of comedic techniques to entertain audiences. Comedians like Melissa McCarthy, Kevin Hart, and Tiffany Haddish bring their unique comedic styles to the big screen, proving that the art of making people laugh is as vibrant as ever.

Throughout the history of film, comedy routines and gags have captivated and amused audiences, providing a timeless source of entertainment. From the silent film era to the digital age, comedians and filmmakers have continuously pushed the boundaries of laughter, creating unforgettable moments on-screen. As we look back on this fascinating journey, we celebrate the ingenious minds behind these routines and the joy they have brought to millions around the world.

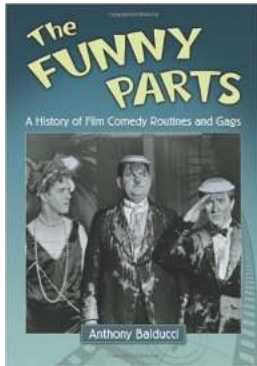
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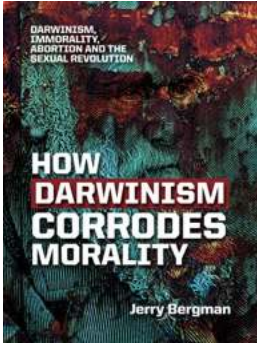
Classic comedy routines and individual gags have been around for many hundreds of years, probably thousands; the best of these ribticklers make their merry way through theater, circus, film and television. The challenge to comedians has always been to adapt familiar material in a way that emphasizes their personal style and outlook. The many routines and gags cited in this illustrated history are lovingly deconstructed to show how they have been shaped to suit different eras and performers.

These tried and true laugh-provokers are indestructible. Through all the remakes, revivals, recycles and revamps, they have survived robustly to the present day. As these timeless comedy gems are traced to their beginnings and followed through the years, readers are taken on a mirthful journey from Keystone to Zombieland.



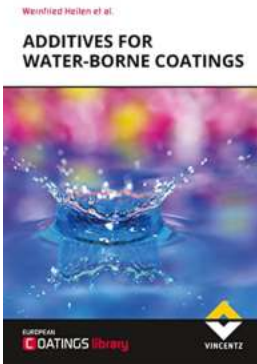
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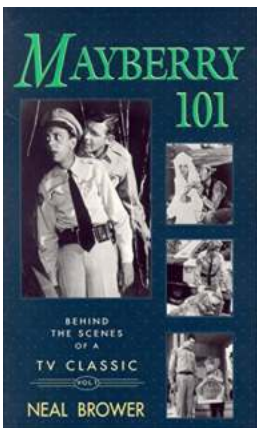
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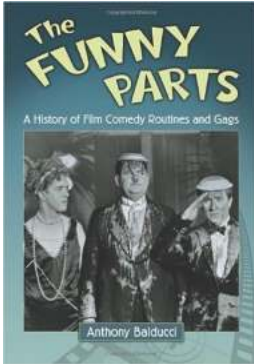
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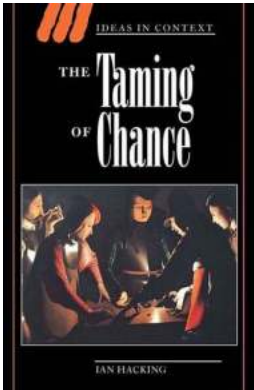
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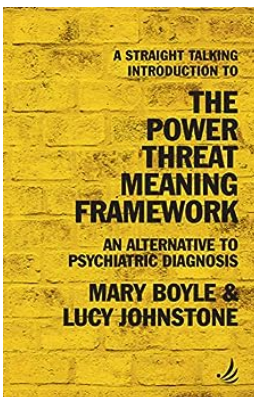
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