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LEWIS GRIZZARD

**Don't Bend Over
in the Garden,
Granny, You Know
Them Taters Got
Eyes**



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Lewis Grizzard

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This time Lewis Grizzard has gone and done it--written a book about sex, as seen through his bespectacled, ironic squint. He tells us why Junior Leaguers don't do it in groups, why Baptists won't do it standing up, and why Richard Nixon never did it, among other things.

From the Paperback edition.

Don't Bend Over in the Garden, Granny, You Know Them Taters Got Eyes Details

Date : Published August 27th 1997 by Ballantine Books (first published 1988)

ISBN : 9780345419248

Author : Lewis Grizzard

Format : Paperback 256 pages

Genre : Humor, Nonfiction, Comedy, American, Southern, Funny

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From Reader Review Don't Bend Over in the Garden, Granny, You Know Them Taters Got Eyes for online ebook

Brandi says

This book was a hoot and a half. I haven't heard some of these jokes since I was a kid, and it was nice to hear some polite "raunchy" humor again. The perspectives in the book, if written in language that has fallen sadly out of favor within general use, are just as valid as they were when they were first written. It's nice to hear a logical, reasoned argument again.

Gail says

People should read more southern humorists and publishing houses take note.

Carrie says

My hubby absolutely loved Lewis Grizzard and his books. We even went to see him on stage and laughed so hard at his style of Southern humor. Hubby has ALL the books and refuses to part with any of them.

Anne Hendricks says

The best book to own and re-read by the great Grizzard.

Greg Bates says

"There's nothing inherently dirty about sex, but if you try real hard and use your imagination you can overcome that quite easily."

If you weren't around during a very specific point in American history (the late 80's, when Reaganomics was the rage and "Full House" was the raunchiest thing on TV) and in a specific place (the South), you've probably never heard of, nor would you care to hear of Lewis Grizzard. Erma Bombeck with a penis, the proto-shoggoth version of Jeff Foxworthy, Grizzard (rhymes with "his yard," not "blizzard") wrote about a dozen comedic books between 1984 and 1993, mostly about living in the South and not understanding these dad-blasted kids today. If you remember him at all, it's probably for having some of the most ridiculous book titles to ever grace the shelves at Woolworth's: *Shoot Low Boys*, *They're Riding Shetland Ponies*, *Elvis is Dead and I Don't Feel So Good Myself*, and of course *Don't Bend Over in the Garden, Granny, you Know Them Taters Got Eyes*. When I was ten years old, I thought he was the funniest motherfucker on the planet.

And to be honest, I did chuckle and guffaw a few times re-reading *Don't Bend Over in the Garden...*, though mostly from nostalgia rather than anything in the book being actually funny. This was Grizzard's "sex" book,

the one I remember most clearly from childhood, probably because it had "dirty jokes" in it. In truth, the book is so PG-rated these days it transforms the reader into a bizarre time-traveling cultural scavenger, the way i'd imagine it might feel to discover a collection of daguerrotypes of frontierswomen's ankles. It waffles between hilariously dated cultural jokes (Tammy Faye Baker is a big target of Grizzard's ire, as is surprisingly Jerry Falwell), dirty jokes torn right out of your bestselling bathroom reader, like Big John and his "big business," three inches long (measured from the floor, of course); and weird personal anecdotes about Grizzard and his wives.

Don't Bend Over is frequently paleolithic in its social outlook (Diane Keaton is ugly and has a 'smart mouth'! Women like to engage in foreplay with men and then not have sex with them!), but also surprisingly progressive at times for something written during the height of the "family values" boom. On anti-sex preachers like Jerry Falwell, Grizzard writes:

"The only people who say 'fornicating' are people who spit on you when they talk and started branding people with scarlet letters when witch hunts went out of style."

and on the subject of banning pornography:

"Give the book burners one little victory like Falwell over Flynt and those people can get absolutely red-eyed with determinatino to see everything but the Bible, 'Reader's Digest' and 'Guns and Ammo' flushed down the toilet."

So it's not all bad. And very, very occasionally, it manages to be a bit more than a late-80s cultural artifact and get a little funny. I'm not going to recommend this, or any of Grizzard's work to anybody, but if you grew up with these books it might not be a terrible idea to pick one up, just for nostalgia's sake.

Barbara Chapman says

I've never heard of the author before. He was obviously popular in the 80s. He reminds me of a male Erma Bombeck. I look forward to reading more of his stuff!

Amelia says

Lewis Grizzard can always be counted on for a laugh and this book all about sex was no exception, though I have to say that the best part is the title. Well that, and the list of terms he promised not to use -- love muscle, heaving orbs, tunnel of lust, etc.

Kitty says

The late Lewis Grizzard was my favorite Southern humorist. I grinned the whole way through.

Griffin Brown says

Lewis Grizzard's Don't Bend Over in the Garden, Granny, You Know Them Taters Got Eyes is a book with no true purpose. The book covers Lewis's views on sex and marriage while giving the reader a good laugh. It's sad to say that the title is better than some of the book, but with a title as catching as Don't Bend Over in the Garden, Granny, You Know Them Taters Got Eyes, it's hard a book up to par. This book is overall a bunch of unrelated jokes about things that should not be listed in a class environment. The wonderful thing about this book is that it does not make the reader feel awkward with language that may be deemed extreme by some people. In fact, Lewis manages to go the entire book without actually saying any crazy words. With a book that contains no plot, it is very difficult to fill an entire box titled plot tease. This is a whole hearted attempt. My overall satisfaction with this book is four stars; hence the four stars next to the title Overall Satisfaction. As the book progresses, and as I became more comfortable with Lewis Grizzard's writing, I began to enjoy it much more. Due to the somewhat awkwardness of the book, I took away a star because stars are taken away for awkwardness. Overall, this book is a good, funny, four star book.

Henry says

Read almost any book by Lewis Grizzard, blest be his name, and you will turn off your TV instead of watching stupid sitcoms or even Dancing with the Stars. Just to see his name is hilarious.

He spares no one in his satiric and iconoclastic views of life and the people who we see around us. He doesn't try to be politically correct, which already merits five stars.

You will certainly be reading all his books you can find. Unfortunately, my library has gotten rid of most of his works, and I MUST find them somewhere!

David Caldwell says

This is Lewis Grizzard's book on sex. Now before you start imaging all sorts of things, let me clarify that some. He does talk about sex, but never uses any bad language and doesn't talk about positions or things like that. What the book is, is a collection of musings and jokes and comments on how sex basically shapes all of our lives told in his downhome humorous style. This is not a collection of his newspaper columns.

He tells about his several honeymoons, how men are raging hormones as teenagers (and girls say no) and trying to avoid sex in their 40s when their wives are raring to go, and even ways to deal with not getting sex when you want it among other things. A lot of the things he discusses were very topical when he wrote the book. Of course, that was 1980. So now those parts are seriously dated. But the other jokes and stories make up for it.

This was a fun read. Even though it was a book about sex, it is more PG than rated. You still couldn't tell the jokes at work but that is more about being Politically Correct than them being dirty. But then you also can't tell someone their haircut looks nice without going against PC standards. It would probably appeal to those who are old enough to remember 1980 so they can understand some of the references.

I actually read this to meet one of the goals of the local library's reading program for adults.

Deborah says

Can't say exactly what was so great about all these Grizzard books that I read during the 80s, but they made me laugh. I think I learned a lot about men, especially men who became befuddled after the women's revolution of the 60s . . . those men who couldn't figure out whether or not to open a door for a woman (or lady as he puts it) . . . those men who unwillingly made the transition from "a haircut at the Barber shop" to a "hair-styling at the Salon" at the insistence of their wives. In all he seemed to be an honest and open man/boy who died too young. I would have liked to see how he dealt with old age.

David Ward says

Don't Bend Over in the Garden, Granny, You Know Them Taters Got Eyes by Lewis Grizzard (Villiard Books 1988) (814.54). Lewis Grizzard has gone and written himself a book about sex. Southern sex, to be precise. Southern sex traditions and mores, to be even more exact. It's filled with the standard Lewis Grizzard formula: old jokes that you've heard many times before, and filler. The filler is the ghostwritten part; I imagine that Lewis writes his book as follows: Lewis meets with a ghost-writer hack, Lewis tells the hack his (Lewis') most recent jokes, and the hack writes a book above Lewis' signature. I can't believe that we thought these books were funny when they were published. I'm not sure whether this is badly dated or whether it was just never funny at all. My rating: 7/10, finished 7/25/16. Years ago I pitched all of my Lewis Grizzard books out. I forgot that they were all autographed copies. I pulled this hardback copy out of the free bin at McKay's. HHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH

Cercis11 says

This is a funny, easy read. Don't buy it though, check it out at the library instead. It's somewhat misogynistic and other books show the author to be more than a little racist and misogynistic. So choose not to spend your dollars supporting his writing (even if he is dead).

Marty says

Good book - easy reading. I've read most of his books. I started in about 1980, when a "Non-reader" got one from Christmas and passed it to me to read and give him a book "report". And that started me reading Lewis Grizzard's books. The world lost a great writer when he died a few years ago.
