



The Eight Characters of Comedy: Guide to Sitcom Acting and Writing

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At the core of this Hollywood howto guide is the concept of The Eight Characters of Comedy, the eight specific character archetypes used in sitcoms dating back to the advent of TV. Every actor can find a sitcom niche by identifying with one of these eight characters. Using past and current actors and sitcom personalities, Sedita describes in detail where these characters come from and how actors can play them truthfully. * who is normally cast as The Logical Smart One' * why do we love The Lovable Loser' * why is The Neurotic such a fun character to play' In addition, readers learn how to break down a comedy script, how to identify different types of jokes, how to deliver them with comedic precision, sitcom auditioning techniques, and how to market themselves.

The Eight Characters of Comedy: Guide to Sitcom Acting and Writing Details

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From Reader Review The Eight Characters of Comedy: Guide to Sitcom Acting and Writing for online ebook

Joe says

Very insightful for actors looking to get into the world of tv comedy.

Krystelle says

I think this guide can be confusing for actors. I read this book and it took me over a year of solid sitcom training to get out of my head about these characters and just do the work.

Carolyn Stein says

A very entertaining read on how to create the central characters comprising sitcoms. I read it to understand how to set up humor as a writer, but the book is primarily written for actors. Nonetheless, Sedita's insights are on the money and useful for both actors and writers.

David says

Facile and arbitrary - anyone who wishes to make use of this book must first buy a bag of salt to take with it.

Filled with mediocre to horrible original writing, and a series of dated and grasping examples to prove the author's points, this book is more an example of promotion trumping talent than it is a useful textbook to aid in creating engaging and enjoyable sit-com characters. I conceive it might be possible that he is a much better teacher in person, working with actors on specific scripts, but it doesn't come through in his writing.

Chandra Ryder says

The tone of this book is a bit dated for the state of comedy today so it may or may not entertain you. From this standpoint it can be a bit tedious to read if it isn't your comedic cup of tea. Having said that, it is chalked full of great insights for writers and actors about the characters the most successful comedies on TV employ. Once you do read this book, you will never watch a sitcom the same way again.

Yhill Kurosaki says

no lo encontré entretenido pero sí, muy práctico. esta orientado para los actores pero para escritores da las pautas básicas de la creación de personajes de comedia... junto con The Comedy Toolbox me ayudaron a

escribir un par de escenas de humor que hicieron reír bastante.

shelly orlandi says

Fun and insightful!

While I was familiar with many of the great characters that Sedita details, seeing them fit into archetypes shone a whole new light on my understanding of them. This book has changed the way I watch comedies -- for the better! As an aspiring actor, I look forward to seeing projects through this terrific lens.

Angelina Conte says

its a nice introduction to sitcom writing, quite simple and easy to read. not a definitive guide in any sense, but helped me get started.

Brett Bavar says

Nice introduction to the characteristics that make many of our favorite comedic characters so funny. Also, some interesting insights about the way each of the character types interacts with other character types.

I'd like to explore this more in my improv scene work. There is probably a good improv exercise here: Introduce the eight character types to each play, then try scenes with randomly chosen combinations of those character types and see what emerges from the interaction.

Ariella says

Bit reductive and quite repetitive, but it's good for seeing the bones of how sitcoms are structured. It's also a helpful guide if you need a starting point for figuring out your characters. But the book is like 300+ pages and could achieve the same goal at 30 pages.

Nizar says

As a comedy writer I found this book to be VERY informative. Full of current shows examples and trade info.
