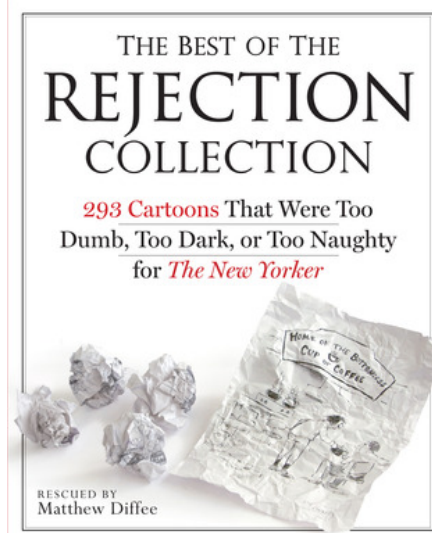




The Best of the Rejection Collection: 293 Cartoons That Were Too Dumb, Too Dark, or Too Naughty for The New Yorker

Matthew Diffie (Editor)

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It's the best of the worst: 293 of the funniest cartoons rejected by "The New Yorker" but luckily for us, now in paperback and available to enjoy. "The Rejection Collection" brings together some of "The New Yorker's" "brightest talents--Roz Chast, Gahan Wilson, Sam Gross, Jack Zeigler, David Sipress, and more--and reveals their other side. Their dark side. Their juvenile side. Their sick side. Their naughty side. Their outrageous side. And what a treat. Ventriloquist dummy cartoons. Operating room cartoons. Bring your daughter to work day cartoons (the stripper, the prison guard on death row). Lots of couples in bed, quite a few coffins, wise-cracking animals--an obsessive's plumbing of the weird, the scary, the off-the-wall, and done so without restraint. Every week "The New Yorker" receives 500 cartoon submissions, and rejects a great majority--mostly, of course, for not being funny enough. There's no question why these were rejected, and it's not for lack of laughs. One can almost hear Eustace Tilley sniffing, "We are not amused."

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Date : Published October 19th 2011 by Workman Publishing Company (first published October 1st 2011)

ISBN : 9780761165781

Author : Matthew Diffie (Editor)

Format : Paperback 352 pages

Genre : Humor, Sequential Art, Comics, Nonfiction, Cartoon, Funny, Graphic Novels

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From Reader Review The Best of the Rejection Collection: 293 Cartoons That Were Too Dumb, Too Dark, or Too Naughty for The New Yorker for online ebook

Rich Meyer says

A great collection of New Yorker cartoons and some great cartoonists. This one has some of my favorites, including P.C. Vey and Milt Gross (two of my favorites from National Lampoon). The interview sections are incredibly funny, particularly when editor Sam Mankoff answers the questions the cartoonists as asked to leave for him. Definitely a fun read, and currently free for people in Kindle Unlimited.

Sumit Singla says

Haha, some of these cartoons are brilliant. The only reason I can think of for rejecting them is that they had better competition those weeks. Yes, they are not for prudes and many of them are borderline inappropriate and a small minority are downright offensive.

(Depending on where you are in the prudishness spectrum, this might vary for you.)

More enjoyable than the cartoons themselves are the insightful interviews with the cartoonists, who come up with some really funny stuff.

Samantha Grabelle says

Read in two sittings. So cool that he interviewed all the other cartoonists and got them to answer ridiculous but telling questions and then to submit their rejected cartoons. Many of them were gross but still many were as funny as the published ones. I loved his introduction.

TrumanCoyote says

A lot of this was funny (and not just the cartoons). Even--unexpectedly--the intro from the NY editor himself. Who would've thought anybody working for such an August Publication could actually be cool? Sure, some of the cartoons were dumb--and some I didn't get--but that I find is true even for regular collections. And what this book really does is give you a feel for the day-to-day grind of being a professional cartoonist; it ain't all magic wands and cartoon balloons, that's for sure.

Stewart Tame says

As the title says, this is a collection of cartoons that were turned down by The New Yorker. All the usual suspects are here: Roz Chast, Gahan Wilson, S. Gross, P.C. Vey, etc. Each cartoonist is represented by at least a couple of examples, as well as their answers to a questionnaire that was at least partially designed to

elicit funny answers (e.g. "Where do you get your ideas?", "What are some things that make you laugh and why?", "What did the shepherd say to the three-legged sheepdog?", etc.) It's an interesting idea for a book, though I don't think it's markedly better or worse than any of the various New Yorker collections I've read. The questionnaires were a nice touch. It gave me a sense of the people behind the cartoons. I particularly loved Tom Cheney's answer to the question, "Come up with a name for an unpleasant medical procedure." His answer, "A colonoscopic tonsillectomy, " still makes me grin, easily the best answer to that question of all the cartoonists in the book. This was a fun book. Whether or not you'll enjoy it depends on how well you enjoy cartoon collections in general. Some of them are decidedly raunchy, but that's a plus for some people, myself included.

Justin says

A very enjoyable collection of cartoons that were rejected for publication in *The New Yorker*. Often, it's obvious why a cartoon didn't make it (scatological, sexual, and just plain gross humor abounds) but there were a few here I thought the editor should have run. I often laughed more at the "interviews" with the various cartoonists. (Actually, all the cartoonists filled out the same survey, answering questions like "Where do you get your ideas?" with absolutely hilarious results.) Some great stuff here - and I'd go so far as to say this is probably a "must-read" for fans of *New Yorker* cartoons.

Kirsti says

A collection of cartoons that *The New Yorker* rejected for being vulgar, obscure, offensive, or dumb. I laughed out loud several times. For some reason, the cartoons about ventriloquist dummies get me every time.

Judy says

Great to add this to my earlier reading of 'The Complete Cartoons of the New Yorker'. (<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1...>) If you love this stuff, you really just can't get enough. Some of the cartoons were really very funny or clever. The occasional one left me wondering why it was rejected at all, although with most I could get it. The cartoonist interviews were fun to read too. And after reading so many, (answering mostly the same set of questions) I felt I had a small sense of the collective culture / group personality of the US cartoonist world, whilst also having the occasional glimpse into the more personal attitudes of some of them. The irreverence was great though. A good antidote to the bad news of our times.

Stephanie (aka WW) says

(3.8 stars) This book is more than I thought it would be. It contains cute question/answer interviews with lots and lots of cartoonists who have been published by The New Yorker, along with their actual 'rejected' cartoons. The cartoons were almost all hilarious, right in line with my irreverent tastes. The only thing lacking was more cartoons. The artistry in these cartoons is top-notch, though, and I'm sure ideas that were likely to be rejected didn't warrant the time required to execute them.

David says

Interviews a couple dozen cartoonists about how they got started etc. (not sure if a memo went out or what, but every one of them treated the interview questions as an opportunity for shticky humor, and before long I was skimming these to get to the cartoons) and reproduces some of their cartoons that did not get accepted by the New Yorker. Apparently the vast majority of submissions are rejected, so this certainly doesn't mean they are not funny.

I liked several of them a lot, maybe the most a store with a "toys for tots" sign, showing a line of people walking in carrying various toys and a line emerging, each with a child in tow. Not sure if this conveys verbally, but it looks funny.

Susan says

The New Yorker magazine rejects more cartoons than it publishes, even the submissions by well-known cartoonists. This is a collection of some of the rejections by a variety of cartoonists, who've filled out a fairly jocular questionnaire first, and then picked a few of their unpublished cartoons. Some are quite funny and don't seem that much different from the ones that do get published; some are clearly too crude or too dark for publication in the magazine; and a few are just not too funny. Still, you've never seen them before.

Ms. Arca says

3.5 or maybe a 4? It's so cool to see a range of comics, and to read their responses to questions... clever, weird, and fun. You definitely get the feel of the comic community and that's a sweet wacky space to be invited into through this book. I definitely laughed at a few of these and enjoyed this quirky collection.

KA says

Sometimes a cartoon fails because it's just downright wrong--transphobic, racist, etc. But for the most part these cartoons are hilarious, if you have a slightly warped or random sense of humor.

Emily D says

Too many repetitive Q&A's and not enough cartoons. But the cartoons were great.

Aneesa says

Best Faux Christmaux gift ever! Read it in a day (In between playing our new board game twice). Some of the cartoons were great, and may have only been rejected because there were a lot of good submissions at the time. I loved one of the cartoon ideas that was suggested by the cartoonist's bank teller, which the cartoonist himself rejected. It was great to read some of their thoughts on their profession (though mostly they just made [the same] jokes) and the foreword by The New Yorker's cartoon editor. I don't like to think of the cartoons which were rejected for this volume.
