



Fucking Apostrophes

Simon Griffin

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Despite what you might think from the title of this book, I do actually like apostrophes. It's important that people use them correctly in the same way that it's important for people to spell correctly, or say please and thank you, or clean their shoes on a semi-regular basis. I'm in little doubt the world would go on if apostrophes disappeared off the face of it, but whilst they exist we should at least try and use them correctly.

Nor, I should add, do I wish any harm on people who misuse apostrophes. I've done it plenty of times myself – sometimes by accident, but also because I just couldn't get my head around whether the market belongs to a group of farmers, or whether it's a market for the farmers?

So that's why I decided to write this book – a respectful frustration that no matter how simple people insisted the rules of apostrophes were, there still seemed to be a lot of confusion out there about them.

Love them, hate them, couldn't-give-a-mother's-tit about them, this book was my way to make some sense out of them. With a bit of bad language thrown in for added value.

With greatest of thanks to the wonderful people at Music in Manchester (www.ideasbymusic.com). A special nod to Olly, Terry, Jon, Amy, Mike, Adam, Matt, Dave and Sue. And all those who have been kind enough to offer advice on my excessive swearing: Jo, Mum, Dad, Em, Lucy, Amy, Jon, Katri, Nicola, Chris, John, Clive and Maia.

Simon Griffin is the founder of copywriting agency Hyperbolic (www.thisishyperbolic.com) and lives with his wife and two children in Leeds. He currently has no plans to learn how to touch type and can happily write whole paragraphs without realising he's left caps lock on.

<http://fuckingapostrophes.com/the-book>

Fucking Apostrophes Details

Date : Published 2015

ISBN :

Author : Simon Griffin

Format : Hardcover

Genre : Nonfiction, Humor, Humanities, Language, Reference

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From Reader Review Fucking Apostrophes for online ebook

Kristina Leonard says

How could I NOT love this well-titled gem filled with punctuation reminders?!

Manny says

I was minding my own fucking business this afternoon down at Imprint's, leafing through this book and it's amusing comments on the most treacherous punctuation mark in the English language, when I was rudely interrupted by a person who's name I will not fucking mention, though it could possibly have been Nots.

"It's inappropriate to read the stock without paying for it," she primly admonished me, in the tone of someone quoting one of Jesus's lesser-known moral precepts, together with further unwanted advice about minding my Ps and Qs when visiting bookseller's establishments.

I guiltily put it down and hoped I hadn't been spotted. Fuck!

Natalie aka Tannat says

O little book, you have amused me.

This short little book covers apostrophe usage with little asides like:

"See that fence over there? Take a nice comfy seat on it with me and watch them fight it out. The important thing is to know the meaning of each one, and remember, it's just a fucking apostrophe."

I should mention that this book covers current British usage, so North Americans may argue with some of it, but I've been noticing that NA has been following the British trends in apostrophe usage more and more anyway, so it may just be a matter of time. Also, although Griffin acknowledges the changing usages over time, he doesn't really cover the evolution. It's a really short book. I don't regret getting it though.

Perfect for grammar geeks and those who appreciate a good swear. Some sections are best read out loud to unsuspecting people.

Rocky Flintstone says

Simon... I should have read this book before entering the murky world of self publishing's... thank you for pushing some of the fog aside and doing it in a very entertaining way'. I refer to it as I write and promise no more fucking apostrophe mistake's!! Well done!

ps could you do one on semi colon's?

Belinda Missen says

Brilliant fun, and educational.

I've always said the quickest way to impart knowledge was to make the subject funny.

I now declare Simon Griffin must go through the rest of the grammar rules and write some books about them. Pronto.

Easy to understand, great examples, well produced.

Love it.

Erin Kernohan says

Mostly wanted to read this for the comedic value the title would give to my Goodreads updates. Turns out this is actually a handy little book on a topic that we debate in the office quite a lot (the mystery of Kids Craft vs. Kid's Craft vs. Kids' Craft is finally solved!). The use of the f-bomb does get a bit gimmicky after awhile. But the book is short and the humour self-deprecating, so it doesn't get too annoying. Good humorous addition to the grammar nerd's arsenal.

Lys Ng says

As an almost English tutor trying to explain what apostrophes are and where they come from, this book speaks to me on a deeper level. Nice short hour read, a jading level of profanity and I learnt the traumas of the grocer's apostrophe. Would recommend.

Georgina says

My 7th & 8th grade teacher -- Mrs. McGilly -- taught me well!

cynthisizing says

As a English language teacher I love books on grammar! I need a whole set of these on different topics. Way more fun than offer usage books ;)

Elizabeth says

A fun grammar guide that is clear and concise. It should win extra points for being low-key; it covers some complicated rules but never makes the reader feel pressured to remember all the details. Neither does Griffin fall into the trap of trying too hard to be more fun than the subject matter: other grammar book authors have gone to such over-the-top lengths to be distracting and funny, or they have tried to make fun of grammar and even belittle it. Griffin's only gimmick is the swearing, and he only uses it in specific places; I was expecting to be put off, but it worked surprisingly well and was even a little funny. (I would have preferred "doggone," but I suppose one can't have everything . . .)

Tracey Allen at Carpe Librum says

Fucking Apostrophes by Simon Griffin is laugh out loud funny and is a book for book-lovers, teachers, librarians, grammarians and pedants everywhere; provided you're not offended by the 'f' word that is.

This is a stunning A6 size clothbound guide to the correct use of apostrophes that makes for very entertaining reading.

Griffin uses contemporary and up to the minute references to current affairs to demonstrate both correct and incorrect usage of the apostrophe and it makes for very easy reading.

Griffin's sense of humour shines through on every page, however he also manages to present a handy educational tool that's easily referenced and a pleasure to dip into again. This little gem no doubt falls into the gift book genre, but could easily sit under the self-help or writing genre.

I loved *Fucking Apostrophes* by Simon Griffin and recommend it widely. Only for adult audiences though.

* Copy courtesy of Allen & Unwin *

Stacia says

What's not to like? It's punctuation satire, complete with references to Kardashians and politicians. Sure, I disagreed with a few of their "rules," but if the world would abide by what they teach in this book, it would be a more literate planet on which to live.

Christian West says

Amusing and quick book about where to use apostrophes. May contain slightly rude language... maybe.

Jo says

Rather amusing look at apostrophes and where to fucking put them.

J.P. Willson says

I wish to f*ck they would have had textbooks like this when I was in school...

F*ck!

Too funny, and useful also.
