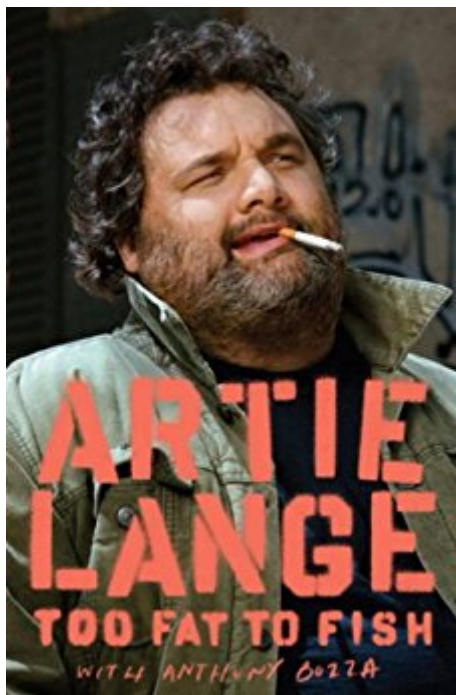


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Too Fat To Fish



Synopsis

Outrageous, raw, and painfully funny true stories straight from the life of the actor, comedian, and much-loved cast member of The Howard Stern Show—•with a foreword by Howard Stern. When Artie Lange joined the permanent cast of The Howard Stern Show in 2001, it was possibly the greatest thing ever to happen in the Stern universe, second only to the show's move to the wild, uncensored frontier of satellite radio. Lange provided what Stern had yet to find all in the same place: a wit quick enough to keep pace with his own, a pathetic self-image to dwarf his own, a personal history both heartbreaking and hilarious, and an ingrained sense of self-sabotage that continually keeps things interesting. A natural storyteller with a bottomless pit of material, Lange grew up in a close-knit, working-class Italian family in Union, New Jersey, a maniacal Yankees fan who pursued the two things his father said he was cut out for—•sports and comedy. Tragically, Artie Lange Sr. never saw the truth in that prediction: He became a quadriplegic in an accident when Artie was eighteen and died soon after. But as with every trial in his life, from his drug addiction to his obesity to his fights with his mother, Artie mines the humor, pathos, and humanity in these events and turns them into comedy classics. True fans of the Stern Show will find Artie gold in these pages: hilarious tales that couldn't have happened to anyone else. There are stories from his days driving a Jersey cab, working as a longshoreman in Port Newark, and navigating the dark circuit of stand-up comedy. There are outrageous episodes from the frenzied heights of his coked-up days at MADtv, surprisingly moving stories from his childhood, and an account of his recent U.S.O. tour that is equally stirring and irreverent. But also in this volume are stories Artie's never told before, including some that he deemed too revealing for radio. Wild, shocking, and drop-dead hilarious, TOO FAT TO FISH is Artie Lange giving everything he's got to give. And like a true pro, the man never disappoints.

Book Information

File Size: 4315 KB

Print Length: 354 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0385526571

Publisher: Spiegel & Grau (October 30, 2008)

Publication Date: November 11, 2008

Sold by: Random House LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B001FA0IWY

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #301,727 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #20

in [Kindle Store > Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Hunting & Fishing](#) #157 in [Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Actors & Entertainers > Comedians](#) #387 in [Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Actors & Entertainers > Actors & Actresses](#)

Customer Reviews

Artie bares a lot in this book. It's a nostalgic look at a NJ suburban childhood. But what is SO GREAT is Artie's ability to tell a story. I was teary eyed most of the time reading it, and some of the tears were from laughter! This is a great book for anyone wanting to remember the searing agony and ecstasy of adolescence. His courageous and self-effacing honesty really impressed me. Whether it's losing his virginity, or adolescent screw-ups, the book is a page-turner. Thanks Artie for a great book.

Very similar in prose and content as the other book he has authored, the name of which slips my mind at the moment. Despite several stories being retold or similar to ones heard in the other bestseller, there is enough original Artie Lange storytelling here to keep true fans entertained, and should not disappoint fan's of the Stern Show either, as his years at the hit radio show are heavily discussed throughout the book, as well as Artie's earlier life. Artie writes from a place of self-loathing and the dark, dirty and destructive humor he is known for in his Stand-up routines and radio personality are on every page in this book. Fans of Lange should not miss this book, and this would be a good time to pick it up if you haven't read it already as Lange is about to co-star in the new HBO series about life as a comedian called "Crashing". Looks promising, hope he can make a comeback. He was one of the best parts about the Stern Show when it was arguably at it's best.

Die-hard Stern fans will be equal parts delighted and disappointed by "Too Fat to Fish". They'll be delighted because Artie was a great addition to the show (especially during the Sirius years), and

reading this book is like hanging out with Artie for a night and listening to him tell stories over a bottle of Jack. They'll be disappointed because there isn't much here that Artie hadn't previously discussed throughout his 8-year tenure on the Stern show. Artie's second book "Crash and Burn" is more interesting, as it reveals a great deal more about Artie Lange the man. The best sections of "Too Fat to Fish" are Artie's stories about his dad: they'll bring tears to even the most hardened man's eyes. What makes Artie such a great storyteller is his attention to, and remarkable ability to remember, every little detail. The fact that he cares to remember every detail of every wild situation he's gotten himself into shows that Artie really does love life at the end of the day, even if, sadly, he sees letting people down as being the main story line of his life.

Love Artie from MadTV days and then was so happy when he joined the "cast" of The Howard Stern Show. Bought the Audio CD version as I was taking long drives for work and enjoyed him reading his own story. Very interesting book, and definitely worth the read or listen!

I've been a long time listener of the Stern Show and I fully welcomed the replacement of Jackie. Artie has had me laughing on many occasions. Many of the stories in this book have been talked about on the radio show, but they were still funny this time around. I also gleaned more details from this book and had a deeper understanding with Artie giving us the play-by-play from his perspective. Although Artie has had much success in recent years, his life is filled with heartache, turmoil and drama. Like so many of us, it varies between self-induced and external stimuli. It's great to see, after all of this struggle, Artie is finally staying clean and getting the help he needs. I recommend this book to all Howard Stern fans.

I loved the book. Yes, Artie Lange has beaten his body to crap and he's lived a crazy life. This book was able to make me see why. Interesting look into the mind of someone who hasn't dealt well with the death of his father, as well as the blame he put on himself for not being there to help him. You can say what you want about how it wasn't his fault, etc., but the mind is a terrible place sometimes.

I'd like to thank Artie for sharing his story with me...I've been in his shoes plenty of times and I know it can be a real struggle to stay on the right path...good on ya mate!

If you're a big fan of Artie Lange, you'll enjoy this book. If you have only a passing interest in him, as I do, it's only OK. The style of the 'writing' feels like a transcript of stories read into a recorder and

were promptly typed up and printed. It can be difficult to read at times because the train of thought wanders away from the original point or story. I'm obviously not a stickler for grammar or syntax, but the only way that I could get through it was to hear Artie's voice in my head. The writing is a definite distraction, but definitely Artie. The stores are mostly interesting and a good profile of his life.

However, for someone who has gone through so much turmoil and strife, I wouldn't call it gritty. The book seems like a cathartic exercise for him to admit a few wrong doings and apologize to some folks he's wronged. In a lot of places it feels a little shallow. Then again, it is an autobiography, and things may be that simple for Artie. It feels true and honest, but ultimately a bit flat for me. I actually think that the audio book may have been more enjoyable so that I could hear Artie tell the stories in his own voice. Ultimately, it's an interesting profile of an addict and save for the fame he's enjoyed in his life, is probably extraordinarily similar to every other addict out there.

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