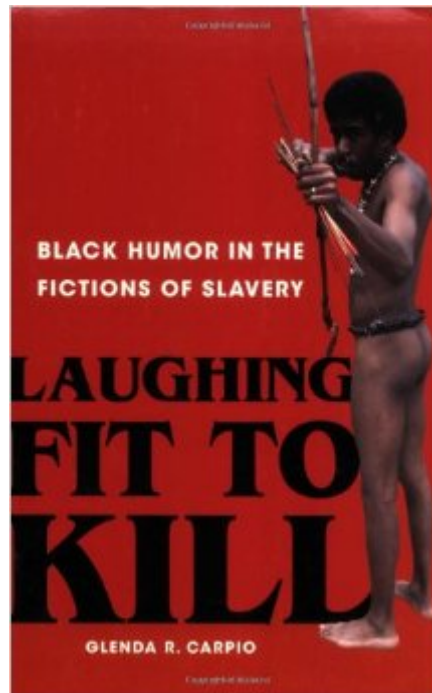


The book was found

Laughing Fit To Kill: Black Humor In The Fictions Of Slavery (The W.E.B. Du Bois Institute Series)



Synopsis

Reassessing the meanings of "black humor" and "dark satire," *Laughing Fit to Kill* illustrates how black comedians, writers, and artists have deftly deployed various modes of comedic "conjuring"--the absurd, the grotesque, and the strategic expression of racial stereotypes--to redress not only the past injustices of slavery and racism in America but also their legacy in the present. Focusing on representations of slavery in the post-civil rights era, Carpio explores stereotypes in Richard Pryor's groundbreaking stand-up act and the outrageous comedy of Chappelle's Show to demonstrate how deeply indebted they are to the sly social criticism embedded in the profoundly ironic nineteenth-century fiction of William Wells Brown and Charles W. Chesnut. Similarly, she reveals how the iconoclastic literary works of Ishmael Reed and Suzan-Lori Parks use satire, hyperbole, and burlesque humor to represent a violent history and to take on issues of racial injustice. With an abundance of illustrations, Carpio also extends her discussion of radical black comedy to the visual arts as she reveals how the use of subversive appropriation by Kara Walker and Robert Colescott cleverly lampoons the iconography of slavery. Ultimately, *Laughing Fit to Kill* offers a unique look at the bold, complex, and just plain funny ways that African American artists have used laughter to critique slavery's dark legacy.

Book Information

Series: The W.E.B. Du Bois Institute Series

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press (July 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0195304691

ISBN-13: 978-0195304695

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 1.1 x 6.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #117,246 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Theories of Humor](#) #20 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Genres & Styles > Humor](#) #54 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > United States > African American](#)

Customer Reviews

Well, this is a good book to take the tension out of one of America's worst historical chapter. IN light

of recents in Ferguson, Missouri, one would do worse that reading this book. Recommended!!!!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Laughing Fit to Kill: Black Humor in the Fictions of Slavery (The W.E.B. Du Bois Institute Series)
Performing Marginality: Humor, Gender, and Cultural Critique (Humor in Life and Letters Series)
God Has A Sense Of Humor For Heaven's Sake: A Collection of Religious Humor Transformations
in Slavery: A History of Slavery in Africa (African Studies) Native America: A Concise Guide To
Native American History - Native Americans, Indian American, Slavery & Colonization (Crazy Horse,
Custer, Slavery, American Archaeology, Genocide, Aztec) Get Fit, Stay Fit Three Ancient Colonies:
Caribbean Themes and Variations (The W. E. B. Du Bois Lectures) The Philadelphia Negro (The
Oxford W. E. B. Du Bois) The Works of W.E.B. Du Bois Define and Rule: Native as Political Identity
(The W. E. B. Du Bois Lectures) The Anatomy of Racial Inequality (W.E.B. Du Bois Lectures)
Laughing IS Conceivable: One Woman's Extremely Funny Peek into the Extremely Unfunny World
of Infertility For Laughing Out Loud: Poems to Tickle Your Funnybone Laughing All the Way to the
Mosque: The Misadventures of a Muslim Woman Absolutely Hilarious Adult Golf Joke Book: A
Treasury of the Best Golf Jokes Causing Loud Guffaws and Laughing Convulsions. Hilarious Golf
Jokes For The Clubhouse Bar! The Laughing Cure: Emotional and Physical Healing;A
Comedian Reveals Why Laughter Really Is the Best Medicine Laughing Lost in the Mountains:
Poems of Wang Wei The Laughing Corpse: An Anita Blake, Vampire Hunter Novel From Laughing
Gas to Face Transplants: Discovering Transplant Surgery (Chain Reactions) Trigger Warning: Short
Fictions and Disturbances

[Dmca](#)