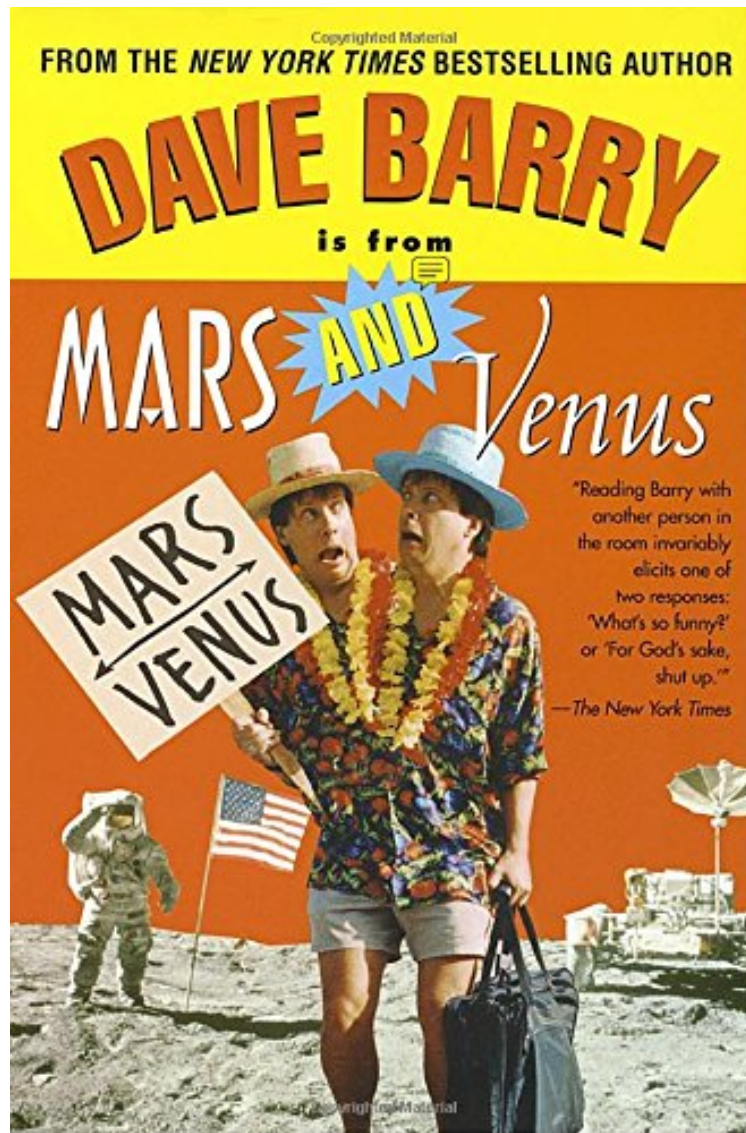


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Dave Barry Is from Mars and Venus

Dave Barry

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Dave Barry : Dave Barry Is from Mars and Venus before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dave Barry Is from Mars and Venus:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A quick, hilarious read!By Teresa A. LangleyOkay, so this is not your normal computer book. In fact, take everything you know about computer books and throw it out the window because Dave Barry certainly did. This book is a humorous look at the booming computer age - written back in 1996. Windows 95 was the hot hot hot operating system; AOL was one of the top internet service provider - and you would

be ridiculed for being an AOL newbie if your ip address ended in aol.com; and the internet was shiny and new. Humor columnist for the Miami Herald, Dave Barry has lent his skewed, sometimes questionable sense of humor to a variety of topics - everything from home renovations to raising children to Binky the Polar Bear in the Anchorage Zoo - and this book is no exception. His satirical view of the computer industry and how much they looooooove to take your money is spot on - without being a complaint, he accurately describes just how quickly the computer market was changing then. He also delves into the mysterious world of the Internet and the World Wide Web - virtually unknown frontiers for most people back in 1996. He takes a look at different off-beat websites he researched; internet acronyms and their meanings; and the world of emoticons (like the person who isn't happy to be giving birth to a squirrel). And, because it wouldn't be Dave Barry without him touching upon, he also takes you into the world of a fictional cyber-relationship - complete with all of the emotion and insanity you feel when caught up in one of those. I highly recommend this book to everyone - even if you're not a big computer geek. It's a funny look at an everyday object you probably don't even give much thought about until it is broken (like HARDWARE being the part of the computer that doesn't work after you spill beer on it.) This is a great book!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
By Jan M. Verrijcke
Another Gem! Dave Barry's humor is hilarious.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Title Speaks the Truth!
By Wes Locher
This is one of those timeless humor books that holds up just as well today as it did when it was initially released 15 years ago! Dave Barry's mastery of the written word is at peak performance with this collection of columns. When they stuck the words "GREATEST HITS" on the cover, they were absolutely not lying. Sure, some of the events and people discussed within these pages may be dated, but if you were alive for those times (or took a history class in school) then you'll still appreciate a fresh and hilarious perspective. This book contains my all time favorite Barry column titled "Molecular Homicide" which tells the tell of the author having the flu and what happens when he is unable to get out of bed to monitor his young son's activities. This column alone is worth the price of the book. If you enjoy that column then there are plenty more that will tickle your funny bone. This is a good starting point for anyone getting into Barry for the first time. It's a book that's easy to pick up whenever you have a few minutes and since each column is only 2-3 pages in length you can always come back to it later without having to worry about remembering what you read previously. Though don't be surprised if you find yourself reading some columns numerous times! It's a perfect book to keep in the bathroom for those quick visits, or in the kitchen for when you're microwaving some food. If you make it through his "Greatest Hits" then I highly recommend "Dave Barry's Only Travel Guide You'll Ever Need," followed by "Dave Barry is Not Making This Up." You can't go wrong with any of his books, but I found the 3 mentioned to be the funniest.

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, bestselling author, and Wheel of Fortune contestant Dave Barry exposes the shattering truth. Whether he's splashing with the U.S. synchronized swim team ("Picture a bunch of elegant swans swimming with a flailing sea cow") or reliving the Pilgrims' first Thanksgiving ("We've decided to obliterate your culture, but first may we try the stuffing?"), Dave Barry proves that one man can make a difference--by having the guts to answer the questions few people bother to ask: , What makes people want to eat animals they would never consider petting? , Where do the World's Three Most Boring People meet? , Why is Colorado freezing so many human gonads? , And just how does Oprah have the power to turn a 1957 Hotpoint toaster manual into a #1 bestseller?

.com "Booger." In case you're wondering, that's the title of a winning entry from a parody contest that Dave Barry's flagship paper, the Miami Herald, ran in 1989. There's more to Dave Barry than "boogers," of course--he's the McDonald's of American humor. One, nearly everybody likes him. Two, he's everywhere. Three--and this is the key--when you open one of his books, you know exactly what you're going to get: "Eugene is located in southwest Oregon, approximately 278 billion miles from anything." "If you're looking for a hearty entree that (1) is related to spiders; (2) is descended from a worm; and (3) has mutant baby-poopers walking around on its lips; then you definitely want a lobster." This collection of columns--sure to serve billions and billions--is called Dave Barry Is from Mars and Venus. (Strangely, it isn't a parody of John Gray's series, even though there's nobody better equipped to do one.) Inside you'll find the same genial, absurd fantasies, riffs on clippings that Barry insists he is not making up, and bizarre personal adventures that are his trademark. Do you like hamburgers? Of course--and you'll like this book, too. From Library Journal
For readers of previous collections of Barry's syndicated columns, there are no surprises here. Enthusiasts will expect?and will find?that the author writes with ease and whimsicality on almost every subject that chances to catch his fancy. And there seems to be nothing too insignificant or casual to attract his attention. If readers dip into the book at random, they may find first his ideas?tongue-in-cheek of course?for eliminating the drug problem in the country. Next they may turn to Barry's reflections on the importance of having visible stomach muscles. Then they may find themselves reading about his views on the National Pretend Speed Limit. Barry is never uproariously funny, but he does set underway delicious trains of chuckles. At a time when so many people are in a chronic state of irritation, suspicion, and mental jaundice, the effect of the book is soothing. It cleans the palate, if not like champagne, then at least like a cool sorbet. Recommended.-?A.J. Anderson, GSLIS, Simmons Coll., Boston
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No, syndicated columnist Barry isn't trying to take over John Gray's franchise

(the Mars-and-Venus "solution" to the war between the sexes); he merely covets Gray's place on the best-seller lists. (An introduction discussing other "grabber" titles panderingly considered for this column collection is a hoot!) Having explored guys, gifts, and cyberspace in recent books, Barry covers the waterfront here: he boldly (but foolishly) joins a team of future Olympic synchronized swimmers in the pool in response to a challenge; checks out laser tag; appears on Wheel of Fortune; runs for president; and expresses himself on history, politics, culture, various insects, and the aforementioned war between the sexes in pungent prose, plus occasional poetry and drama. Although Dave's World the CBS sitcom loosely based on the realities (family, friends, Miami Herald column) behind Barry's columns--was not renewed, the show may have expanded the readership for his vaguely twisted brand of humor. Mary Carroll