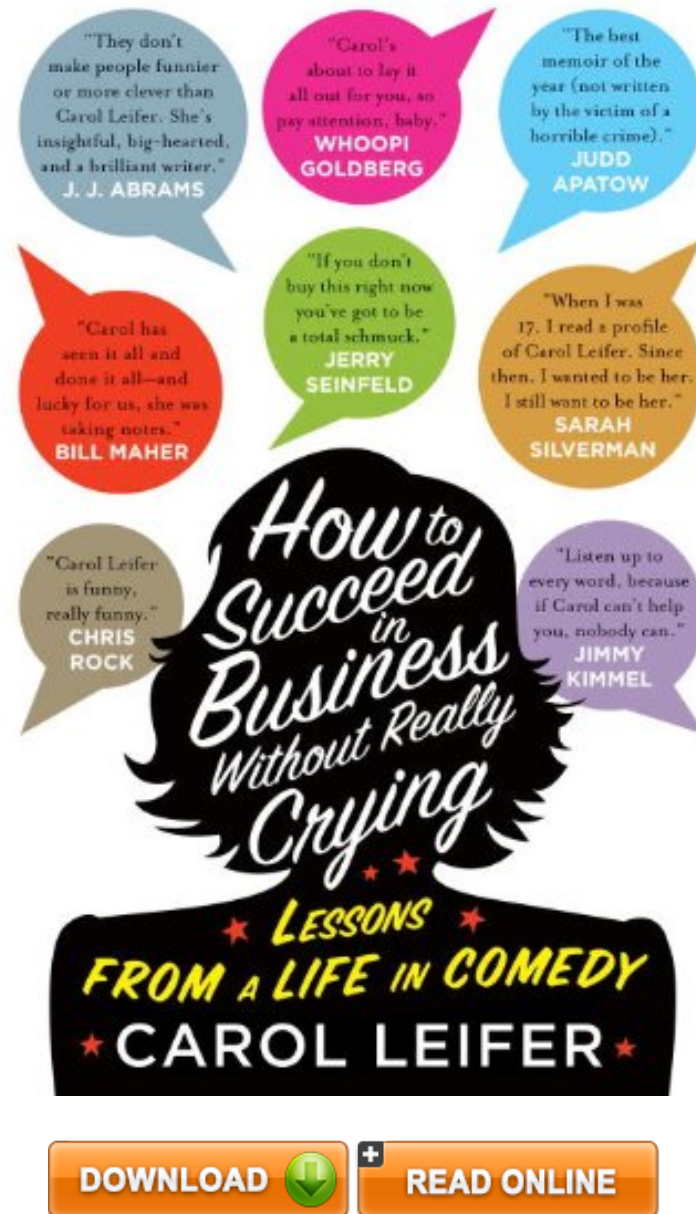


How to Succeed in Business Without Really Crying: Lessons From a Life in Comedy

Carol Leifer

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Carol Leifer : How to Succeed in Business Without Really Crying: Lessons From a Life in Comedy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How to Succeed in Business Without Really Crying: Lessons From a Life in Comedy:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. the role model we need!By MiaTo be perfectly honest, I downloaded this book by mistake. I meant to purchase Leifer's other book (which I did go back and buy) so I had no expectations for this book. I ended up enjoying it much more than I expected because although it's told through the guise of "tips for

succeeding in business" it's actually the story of Leifer's career. What I love most about Leifer's story is that she wasn't "discovered" randomly. She MADE her career. She put in the blood, sweat, and tears to make her dream a reality. Did she get a leg-up by knowing some influential people? Absolutely. And she doesn't deny it -- in fact, she recommends it. If you know influential people, let them help you! -- but she also makes sure that she's got the chops to stand alone and prove her worth. This is why she's so inspirational to me. Nothing that happens for her is ever random or just a "right place, right time" coincidence. She put in the effort to build relationships and foster trust and respect. She's really the role model that women in entertainment should be looking to. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Carol L is one funny lady...By DKSforWritingCarol Leifer has always been one of my favorite funniest people of all time, and her most recent book, HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY CRYING is a wonderful mix of different nuggets dealing with (a)finding a job (including basic common sense- such as bathing, dressing appropriately and not overdoing perfume or cologne- oy!) (b)going after one's passion when it comes to deciding on/pursuing a profession and (c)great 'nuggets' of autobiographical experiences that follow Ms. Leifer on her way up the hilariously funny ladder of success. The book is very entertaining and an extremely fast read--Learning about the author's background (for example, she met fellow talent/comic, Paul Reiser, who was a year ahead of her, in college)allows the reader to see how talent---and friendship---really do triumph. (To this author's great credit, she clearly states that KNOWING someone can be a major 'leg up' in getting an interview.) There are many famous, talented people mentioned in the book (not to name drop, but to let the reader know about the author's life as a stand-up comedienne, as a performer, as a television writer and as an author.) Since I'm not a young kid starting out, however, I need to mention that the most amazing people in this book--the ones who 'set the bar' for supportive, loving parenting, were Carol's parents. Without wanting to give anything away, when I came to a particular part of the story, where Carol had to choose just one path, I was shocked at the advice she received from her parents. I don't know if I'd have been able to do the same. (They should be national role models for us all!) that being said, I have one minor disagreement with Ms. Leifer- I do not believe in unpaid internships- at least, not when a person has finished college and will have school loan debt that hits the stratosphere waiting to be repaid--My one piece of advice would be--unpaid internship? DO IT WHILE YOU ARE STILL IN SCHOOL! (I hope my kids have heard that, btw!) It's a minor point, and a point of view from a parent, not an idealistic, invincible young person preparing to follow their passion--The book truly is a fun read that shares Carol's lessons learned (then and now.) I think young people---and their parents---will all gain insight from this book (at a time when finding jobs is extremely difficult!) Who is wise? S/he who learns from the lessons of Carol Leifer!3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Comedy Common SenseBy Dan FiorellaA memoir/self help book that neatly and nicely lays out the nuts bolts of the biz side of show biz. I can see this advice being very helpful to those starting out and a reminder to people like me of how and where I screwed up. Could use a chapter on dealing with bitterness.

For many years, television comedy was an exclusive all boys' club—until a brilliant comedian named Carol Leifer came along, blazing a trail for funny women everywhere. From Late Night with David Letterman and Saturday Night Live to Seinfeld, The Ellen Show, and Modern Family, Carol has written for and/or performed on some of the best TV comedies of all time. This hilarious collection of essays charts her extraordinary three-decade journey through show business, illuminating her many triumphs and some missteps along the way—and offering valuable lessons for women and men in any profession. Part memoir, part guide to life, and all incredibly funny, How to Succeed in Business without Really Crying offers tips and tricks for getting ahead, finding your way, and opening locked doors—even if you have to use a sledgehammer.

“...how can you not love a book that offers useful life lessons under chapter headings like 'So I Stole Soda From Aaron Spelling'?”—New York Times Book “Part Lean In, part Saturday Night Live, Carol Leifer serves up some side-splitting work and life advice in How to Succeed in Business without Really Crying.”—Ladies Home Journal“...a brisk, level-headed tome that skips self-aggrandizing and goes straight to the real-world wisdom.”—TheSpitTake.com “In this witty, well-written book, Leifer anecdotally explores her own career in comedy while explaining the pitfalls of adulthood.”—Edge “Who needs a life coach when you have Carol Leifer?”—AfterEllen.com“...a smart...and entertaining memoir...”—Tampa Bay Times “Equal parts memoir and showbiz staying power guidebook, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Crying highlights Leifer’s straightforward advice, which applies to anyone in any profession who wants to maintain genuine, civil ties with his or her peers.” —Florida Times-Union“An amusing, amiable read.” —Kirkus s “A remarkable memoir that’s packed with anecdotes, advice and humor, all while maintaining a high level of dignity and self-awareness.”—Steve Martin “The only thing more impressive than Carol’s success is how she has retained and polished all the lessons she’s learned along the way. And the fact that she has decided to throw them your way for just a few bucks is such a ridiculously good opportunity for you, I can hardly believe it! If you don’t buy this right now you’ve got to be a total schmuck.”—Jerry Seinfeld “When I was 17, I read a profile of Carol Leifer. Since then, I wanted to be her. I still want to be her.”—Sarah Silverman “They don’t make people funnier or more clever than Carol Leifer. She’s

insightful, big-hearted, and a brilliant writer.”—J. J. Abrams “Carol’s about to lay it all out for you, so pay attention, baby.”—Whoopi Goldberg “The best memoir of the year (not written by the victim of a horrible crime).”—Judd Apatow “Listen up to every word, because if Carol can’t help you, nobody can.”—Jimmy Kimmel “Carol has seen it all and done it all—and lucky for us, she was taking notes.”—Bill Maher “Carol Leifer is funny, really funny.”—Chris Rock “To survive in life, you need a major trust fund and/or a sugar daddy. Carol has neither, but she’s still managed to come out way ahead. Here’s how she did it, and how you can, too.”—Joan Rivers. “Funny and sage. A great read. I even loved the parts that weren’t about me.”—Paul Reiser “Carol’s gift is that she sees ordinary, everyday things in a very funny way. She’s made other comics say, Why didn’t I think of that?”—Jay Leno “I was sad when I finished this book. I don’t know if it’s because I didn’t want it to end, or because I’m just sad in general.”—Larry David “Carol is relentless, and an entrepreneur to the core. Read this book and learn! I have no doubt she will corner you if you don’t!”—Mark Cuban “I’ve been in the comedy business for 30 years and thought I’d seen and heard it all...until I read Carol’s book! It’s witty, classy, and filled with real-life advice gleaned from her years of getting laughs and enjoying success.”—Caroline Hirsch, founder of the legendary New York comedy club CarolinesAbout the AuthorCarol Leifer is a four-time Emmy nominee for her writing on such shows as Seinfeld, Modern Family, Saturday Night Live, The Larry Sanders Show, and seven Academy Awards telecasts. She has starred in five of her own comedy specials, which have aired on Showtime, HBO, and Comedy Central. Her previous book was the national best seller *When You Lie about Your Age, the Terrorists Win*.