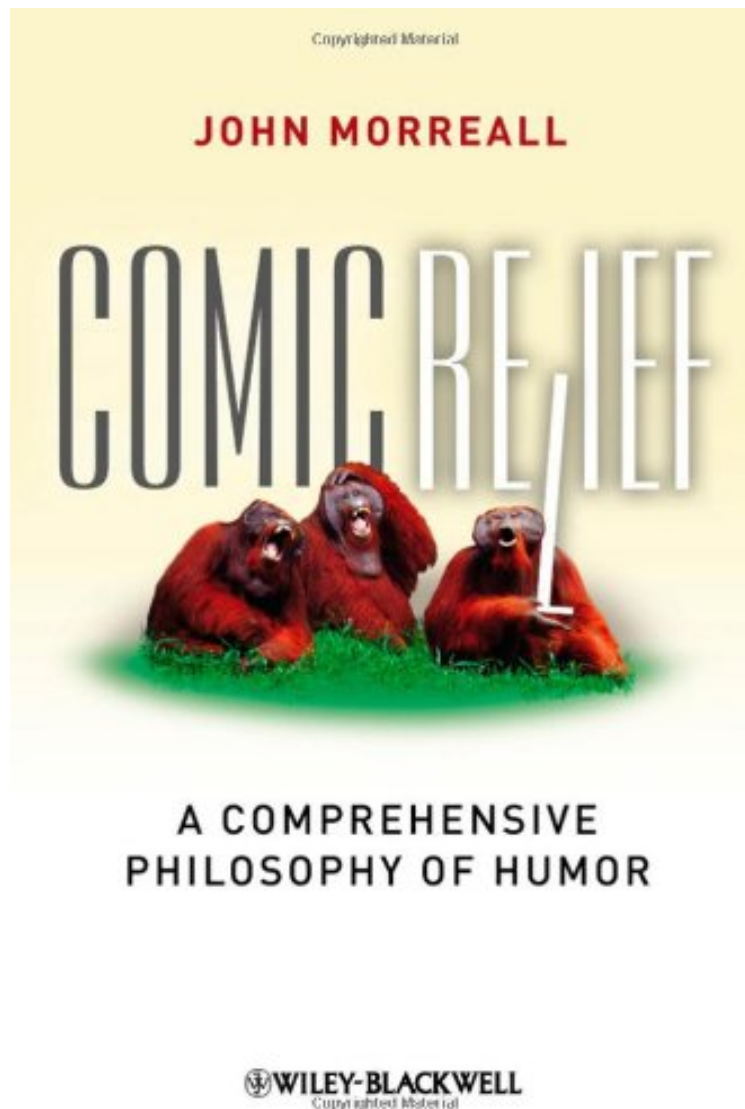


(Free download) Comic Relief: A Comprehensive Philosophy of Humor (New Directions in Aesthetics, No. 9)

Comic Relief: A Comprehensive Philosophy of Humor (New Directions in Aesthetics, No. 9)

John Morreall

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John Morreall : Comic Relief: A Comprehensive Philosophy of Humor (New Directions in Aesthetics, No. 9) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Comic Relief: A Comprehensive Philosophy of Humor (New Directions in Aesthetics, No. 9):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Psychology of Humor By Tracey M. This was a required book

for a class, *The Psychology of Humor*, that I took as a humanities requirement. But, it is not like a textbook, at all. It is a very interesting view of how we use humor and laughter. He also tells the history of humor, and I learned a lot of interesting things about humor that I didn't expect to learn. It is much better than the textbook that was also required for the class. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By José Benjamim Picado reading it 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer would order again

Comic Relief: A Comprehensive Philosophy of Humor develops an inclusive theory that integrates psychological, aesthetic, and ethical issues relating to humor. Offers an enlightening and accessible foray into the serious business of humor. Reveals how standard theories of humor fail to explain its true nature and actually support traditional prejudices against humor as being antisocial, irrational, and foolish. Argues that humor's benefits overlap significantly with those of philosophy. Includes a foreword by Robert Mankoff, Cartoon Editor of *The New Yorker*.

"As an intelligent treatment of what humor is and what it means, this work raises significant questions and proposes plausible answers." (CHOICE, September 2010) "Of all of the humor scholars I know, John Morreall is the best at making original, fascinating, and useful observations. We should all be grateful that in *Comic Relief* he has once more demonstrated--in his witty and accessible style--that the play ethic is as important as the work ethic." --Don L. F. Nilsen, International Society for Humor Studies "Comic Relief is an engaging, wide-ranging discussion of how humor is defined within the disciplines of philosophy and history, as well as a brilliant and comprehensive overview of how it is used today. This book is a superb addition to the body of genuinely important works on humor." --Regina Barreca, University of Connecticut

From the Back Cover: Western philosophy's traditional assessment of the nature and value of humor has not been kind, as the standard theories made humor look antisocial, irrational, and foolish. It wasn't until well into the twentieth century that humor gained even a semblance of respect. *Comic Relief* goes a great way toward ameliorating this injustice. In it, noted philosophical humor writer John Morreall develops a comprehensive theory that integrates psychological, aesthetic, and ethical issues relating to humor. He also presents and critiques the standard Superiority, Incongruity, and Relief Theories of humor, revealing how they not only fail to explain its nature, but actually support traditional prejudices against humor. While utilizing elements from traditional theories of humor, Morreall goes into much greater depth about the opposition between amusement and emotions, the cognitive and practical disengagement in humor, the psychological and social benefits of humor, and the comic vision of life itself. He further argues that humor's benefits overlap significantly with those of philosophy, concluding that philosophy's traditional rejection of humor has been an egregious error. Informed by scholarly research, *Comic Relief* is an enlightening and accessible foray into the serious business of humor.