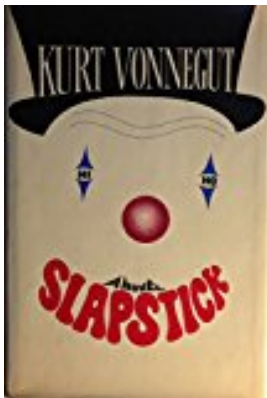


[PDF] Slapstick

Kurt Vonnegut - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: Slapstick
Author: Kurt Vonnegut
Released: 1976-08-01
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Pages: 243
ISBN: 0385289448
ISBN13: 978-0385289443
ASIN: 0385289448

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Description:

Dr. Wilbur Daffodil-11 Swain, centenarian, the last President of the United States, King of Manhattan, and one-half (along with his sister, Eliza) of the most powerful intelligence since Einstein, is penning his autobiography. He occupies the first floor of a ruined Empire State Building and lives like a royal scavenger with his illiterate granddaughter and her beau. Buffeted by fluctuating gravity, the U.S. has been scourged by not one, but two lethal diseases: the Green Death and the Albanian Flu. Consequently, the country has fallen into civil war. (Super-intelligent, miniaturized Chinese watch the West self-destruct from the sidelines.) Swain stayed at the White House until there were no citizens left to govern, then moved to deserted New York City, where he writes a thoughtful missive before death.

In *Slapstick*, Vonnegut muses on war, man's hubris, and the awful, crippling loneliness humans are freighted with--but, miraculously, the book still manages to delight and amuse. Absurd, knowing, never depressing, *Slapstick* kindles hope--for the possibility of wisdom, perhaps; for human resiliency, surely.

It's best to end with a quote from the prologue wherein the author discourses on The Meaning of It All, or at least This Book: "Love is where you find it. I think it is foolish to go off looking for it, and I think it can often be poisonous.

I wish that people who are conventionally supposed to love each other would say to each other, when they fight, 'Please--a little less love, and a little more common decency.'"

Amen. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Review "Vonnegut's ongoing puppet show. . .the fabulous is reborn."--John Updike, *The New Yorker*.

"Imaginative and hilarious... a brilliant vision of wrecked, wacked-out future!" --*Hartford Courant* --
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