

ears pierced
while you wait

Robert S. Swiatek

Copyright December, 2012, Robert S. Swiatek.

All Rights Reserved

First Edition

No part of this book may be reproduced
or transmitted in any form or by any
means, electronic or mechanical, including
photocopying, recording, or by any
information storage and retrieval system
without written permission from
the author of this book.

Printed in the United States

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Thanks to Adam, Al, Alice, Archie, Artie, Ben,
Bernie, Bill, Billy, Bob, Bobcat, Bud, Buddy,
Buster, Carl, Carla, Carol, Carrot Top, Charles,
Charlie, Cheech, Chevy, Chico, Chong, Chris,
Christopher, Cliff, Dan, Daryl, Dave, David, Dick,
Dom, Don, Dudley, Ed, Eddie, Edith, Elaine, Ellen,
Ernie, Father Guido, Flip, Frank, Fred, Gallagher,
Garrett, Gary, George, Gilda, Goldie, Gracie,
Groucho, Harpo, Henny, Imogene, Jack, Jane, Jay,
Jerry, Jim, Joan, John, Johnny, Jon, Kramer,
Laraine, Larry, Latka, Lewis, Lilli, Lou, Louie,
Lucy, Madeline, Mae, Mark, Martin, Meathead,
Milton, Moms, Mort, Muppets, Newman, Norm,
Oliver, Pat, Peter, Phil, Phyllis, Ray, Red, Redd,
Rich, Richard, Rick, Rita, Robert, Robin, Rodney,
Rosalind, Rowen, Russell, Sam, Sandra, Seth, Sid,
Slappy, Soup Nazi, Soupy, Stan, Stephen, Steve,
Steven, Tim, Tom, Travis, Trixie, W. C., Zeppo and
all those I missed, who brought laughter to us all.

also by Robert S. Swiatek

Don't Bet On It

*Tick Tock, Don't Stop –
A Manual For Workaholics*

for seeing eye dogs only

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

I Don't Want To Be A Pirate – Writer, maybe

wake up – it's time for your sleeping pill

Take Back The Earth

Press 1 For Pig Latin

This War Won't Cost Much

here's your free gift – send \$10 for shipping

Mirror, Mirror, On My Car

Save The Animals And Children

Recipes For Joy In Life

Computers For Smart People

We've Got To Get Back To The Garden

We Arrrgh Family

Table of contents

Introduction	1
1. With eyes wide open	7
2. Can't you read the sign?	16
3. Laughs from the web	27
4. Problems? Just do a restart	36
5. How are you managing?	50
6. No laughing in church	63
7. Take my wife, please	74
8. Headlines	84
9. Our government at work	95
10. This and that	104
11. Making fun of old people	118
12. Questions you shouldn't ask	126

Introduction

I think that everyone has a sense of humor, even though it varies from one person to the next. I'm not aware of any studies done to find out where it originates, but somehow I feel heredity has something to do with it. You may get it from your mom or dad, or even from an uncle, aunt or some grandparent. Though he died a week before my ninth birthday, my grandfather Thomas – my mom's father – seemed to always be so happy. This is in spite of the fact that he lived through the *Great Depression* – another oxymoron – and his health wasn't the greatest.

Some people are jovial, happy and seem to always be laughing. Others may appear glum and never to have smiled, let alone chuckle. George Costanza offered that his mother never laughed in her life. The best she would do is *smirk*. That word has most of the letters found in *smile*, so that might be good enough. If I remember correctly, she did smile on the episode when she played Mahjong with her friends.

Some individuals – like Baptists, relative to drinking – may be closet laughers, or they just never show it, while actually having a great time. I need not tell you about others who seem joyful, while simultaneously not having that good a time in reality. They just put on a good show, like a comedian or entertainer.

As you've noticed, I thanked many of the comics, satirists, icons and funny guys and gals

at the beginning of the book. As you can see, there are quite a few humorists that affected my writing life. Some get into political humor, while a few make a living by putting people down. Others deal in slapstick or making brilliant observations about human behavior and language. My favorite section of the Sunday Buffalo News is the comics because it's funny, carefree and full of great looks into people and what they do. If you're into them, you'll find a few on the pages I have for my books on my website, www.bobcooks.com.

I've always felt that laughter is the best medicine, and you don't need a referral. You also don't have to have health insurance and there are no side effects. In fact, smiling, chuckling and roaring with laughter have some great effects on the side, front and belly. You can't have too much humor in your life.

Laughter can heal, help you recover quicker after hospital visits and reduce stress. This latter benefit means longer life, lower blood pressure and fewer doctor visits. Co-pays are almost eliminated. Humor is vital in today's work environment. As a consultant, I faced many days when I asked myself, "Did what I saw in that meeting really happen?" Fortunately, I laughed and then wrote about just those times in a few of my books, some of which weren't even part of the series of my books on missing intelligence, which consensus has it are my funniest books.

ears pierced while you wait is my sixteenth or seventeenth book, depending on how you count and if you're happy about the number thirteen. Since my cookbook was republished in 2010 – that edition was soon unpublished and the third edition came out in 2011, but only as an ebook – I don't think I should count it more than once. Also, the book published just before Thanksgiving in 2010 was written by Wendy. She's a woodchuck – something that may have to be considered in the count – but I helped her since she's not that familiar with spellchecker. Nevertheless, each of those books – whatever the count is – has my sense of humor, some more than others. This book is one of those books that I hope you'll find belongs in the category of *more*.

The whole *adventure* – the truly good kind – began about thirty years ago when I read ***Real Men Don't Eat Quiche*** by Bruce Feirstein and Lee Lorentz. You may know that I don't eat quiche – this has nothing to do with the title just mentioned – but strangely enough, my cousin Jim's wife, Virginia, prepared a delicious quiche not that long ago. This was on February 2, 2010, when we were snowbound in their North Carolina home after more than a foot of that white stuff fell.

The Feirstein and Lorentz book is a short book, having fewer than a hundred pages. It's somewhat amusing and may even have made the best-seller list. Once I finished reading it, I

thought I could write a similar book, maybe even funnier than *Real Men Don't Eat Quiche*. My idea was a short book on language, sayings and expressions in the English language. You can find more detail on this in my 2008 book, *I Don't Want To Be A Pirate – Writer, maybe*. My friend Tom in Florida found it – my journey as a writer – to be very funny.

That book to challenge Feirstein and Lorentz in the laughs marathon was never published, but you can find pieces of it in *for seeing eye dogs only* and *wake up – it's time for your sleeping pill*. The third book in the series came out at the end of 2008, *here's your free gift – send \$10 for shipping*. I would describe the books as nothing more than watching what people do and say. It can really be funny. My observations in those three books cover government decisions, the thoughts of children – always funny and they always will be – church bulletins that aren't proofread, wondrous quotes, computers, the internet, health-could-care-less, laughter from the great comics and questions you shouldn't ask. Regarding this latter category, it is indeed a fact that there are truly dumb questions. A few other topics brought up include criminals in training, signs, headlines, disorder in the court, *oxymorons*, *pleonasms* and *paraprosdokians*. Don't feel bad, I didn't know about that last one either until recently. Please don't ask me to spell that word without looking at this page.

The title of this book was originally meant to serve as the title of my first book on missing intelligence. Instead it became *for seeing eye dogs only*. That's all in lower case with no capital letters, as shown. *ears pierced while you wait* is the fourth in the series of these books, or the third sequel, and it could be the last. You know how it is with sequels. Maybe it's fitting that way, and perhaps, I've come full circle. As far as this title, you can't stop in to the ear place, drop them off and pick them up after work. You'll have to wait for them.

On the back of the cover of these four books – but not on the ebook versions – you'll find that poor rottweiler. By now, I think he knows how to swim, poor guy. In a similar fashion to what you see at the end of most motion pictures, “No animal was harmed in the writing of this book.”

Someone said, “Art is either plagiarism or revolutionary.” You'll probably see some familiar things in this book, but I hope there's a good deal of the latter – without the guns, bullets and violence. Also remember that I'm only the messenger. I remind you of a Steven Wright bit that he did.

I walked into a hardware store and soon a clerk said to me, “May I help you?”

I replied, “Do you have anything I would like?”

She then said, “How do I know what you would like?”

I answered, “You started it!”

Being an author means that no matter what you write – even if it’s intended as a compliment – someone might be offended. All I can say is, “Lighten up.” This is intended to brighten your day. As you read this book, I warn you, you may not laugh at everything. That’s a good thing. Enjoy and may the farce be with you!

1. With eyes wide open

Maybe I'm an observant person, but I truly have my doubts. After all, I belong to the masculine part of the human race. Nonetheless, at some point a few years ago, I began to observe men, women and children, and what they say and do. You wouldn't be reading this if that weren't the case. I'm using a great deal of our language to arrive at some of this.

I figured out why the United States is losing the war in Afghanistan and Iraq. They have an Army of one.

For all you Seinfeld fans, I had to include the next one.

It was so cold out, I saw a lawyer walking with a cape on.

It's not much of a surprise, but capes don't provide that much warmth. I prefer, "It was so cold out I saw a lawyer with his hands in his own pockets."

My friend Michele not only is a great singer, she also does my hair. In March 2009, I had an appointment with her since that stuff on top of my head was becoming rather long. The time for me to be at the salon was 7:30 in the morning. On arrival there, I asked her husband Tom if these were normal hours. He said they did it as a reminder of when they first opened the business. A few minutes later I asked Michele if she was a morning person. She said no, but that she wasn't a night person either. Tom and I both concluded that she was a mid-day person.
Those people don't receive enough attention.

On April 2, 2009, I made sushi.
It wasn't intentional.

I imagine that Mexico has a lot of senior moments.

On December 24, 2010, I ran out of the *Forever* stamp.

I saw this *fact* on television in the spring of 2009. **You were born with more bones than you have now.**

In my case, that's not true. I eat a lot of fish.

I printed a document on a sponge since I wanted a soft copy.

I wouldn't say that some of my friends are demented, but all I get from them is immoral support.

On May 14, 2009, my tongue wound up in my cheek.

I had to unwind it.

I have a Scotchgard terrier.

If people spill anything on him, I don't have to worry.

While walking on the Ellicott Creek Trailway on Wednesday morning, April 29, 2009, I saw a Mexican border collie.

I would have said it was a Canadian border collie, but that would have only gotten three quarters the number of laughs.

I walk the Ellicott Creek Trailway almost daily. People doing the same wonder why I'm moving so slowly. They ask, "Do you have lead in your feet?"

"Well, my hiking boots were made in China."

While on a trip back up north from Sun City, Florida, in January 2010, I believe I came upon an answer to the question, "Where's Waldo?"

On this same trip, I saw a feral pig grazing along the interstate.

Perhaps he just escaped when he heard they were going to have a pig roast.

Onion bean soup is one of my favorite recipes and it can be found in my cookbook as well as on my website. The herbs I use in making it are bay leaves, sage, rosemary and thyme. One person who tried it felt it needed parsley.

He was on his way to Scarborough Fair.

Some vehicles have windshield wipers on the back window – a great idea for people who drive backwards.

Did you know that dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish?

I'm working on a family genealogy and wondering if there is such a thing as a cousin somewhat removed.

A woman president is fine with me but not one who is rogue.

There's a new internet thing similar to *Dancing with the Stars*. It's called Face the music and dance book.

If you really want to make your genealogy complicated, add in Foster children.

I wanted to be a gigolo, but I couldn't find any colleges with programs.

At one of the festivals in which I participated in 2010, I saw a policeman eating an apple, not a donut.

Thank You for previewing this eBook

You can read the full version of this eBook in different formats:

- HTML (Free /Available to everyone)
- PDF / TXT (Available to V.I.P. members. Free Standard members can access up to 5 PDF/TXT eBooks per month each month)
- Epub & Mobipocket (Exclusive to V.I.P. members)

To download this full book, simply select the format you desire below

