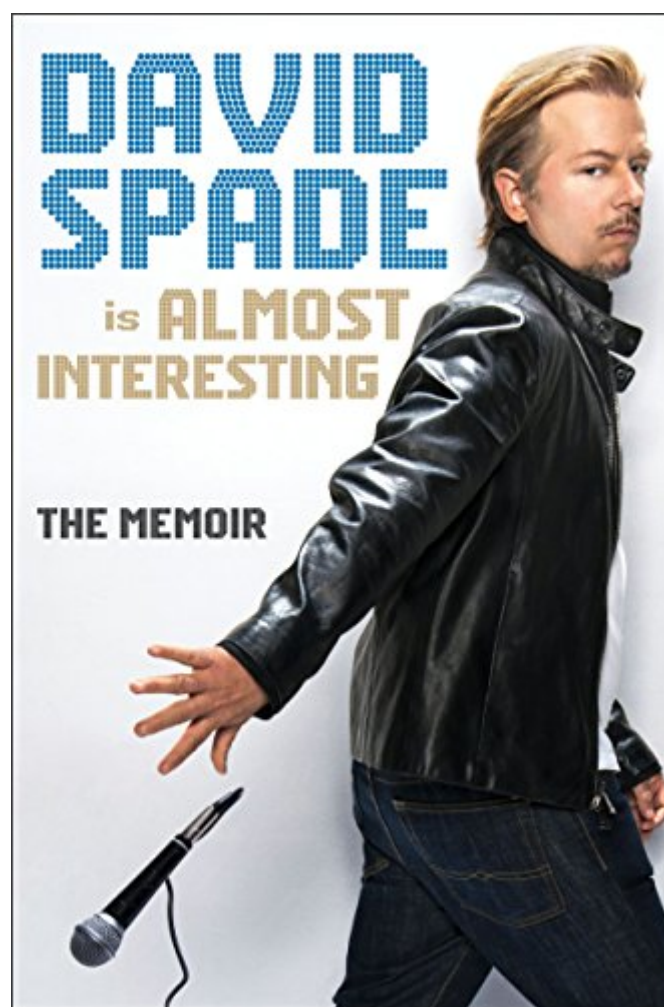


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Almost Interesting



Synopsis

A hilarious and biting memoir from the actor, comedian and *Saturday Night Live* alumni David Spade. David Spade is best known for his harsh *œHollywood* • Minute Sketches on *SNL*, his starring roles in movies like *Joe Dirt* and *Tommy Boy*, and his seven-year stint as Dennis Finch on the series *Just Shoot Me*. Now, with a wit as dry as the weather in his home state of Arizona, the *œcomic brat extraordinaire* • tells his story in *Almost Interesting*. First Taking fans back to his childhood as a wannabe cool younger brother and recounting his excruciating road-tour to fame when he was regularly mistaken for a ten year-old, Spade then dishes about his time crisscrossing the country as a comedian, for low-paying gigs and dragging along his mother's old suitcase full of props. He also covers his years on *SNL* during the beloved Rock/Sandler/Farley era of the 1990s, including his close working relationship and friendship with Chris Farley and brags about the ridiculous perks that fame has brought into his life, including the constant fear of being fired, a crazy ex-assistant who attacked him while he was sleeping, a run-in with Eddie Murphy on the mean streets of Beverly Hills, and of course an endless supply of hot chicks. Sometimes dirty, always funny, and as sharp as a tack, *Almost Interesting* reminds you why David Spade is one of our generation's favorite funny guys.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This was a funny and casually well-written book, a good read But it's a little frustrating because it abandons the "narrative," if you will, without finishing it. The first 2/3 of the book deal with Spade's upbringing, his grind through the comedy club scene, and his slow climb from SNL writer to SNL performer. Even though it's written with a light touch, that stuff is all pretty compelling. But it drops that thread after he's made it as an SNL cast member. It doesn't tell the story of what prompted him to leave SNL, or his movie career (except for Tommy Boy), or his experience on sitcoms. Instead, the last 1/3 of the book morphs into more of a George Carlin "Brain Droppings" type thing -- little observational essays on miscellaneous topics ranging from doing cocaine to his thoughts on dating tricks that women pull. I would have been really interested to hear why he made the jump from SNL when he did (given how hard his climb there was) and whether he's happy or not with his sitcom and movie work. The guy writes so well and so honestly about his career that I certainly could have read a lot more of it. But still, this is an entertaining read and I'd recommend it for anyone who likes a fun, self-aware memoir.

Growing up loving/idolizing Farley, Spade, Sandler, and Rock on SNL, I knew I had to read this book. If you're like me and can recite Tommy Boy, line-by-line, this book's for you. Spade's sense of humor translates very well (no ghostwriter, just Spade). If you're not a fan of his dry, somewhat silly, sense of humor, this book isn't for you as much of its charm is how Spade manages to deliver his trademark humor throughout. I loved hearing about his years on SNL, and the inner-workings of that machine, including the intense schedules, politics with guest hosts and cast members and writers, etc. The majority of the book is his early life growing up in Arizona, starting in stand-up comedy, getting his start in LA, and SNL. It's almost like this is part one because so much is seemingly left out. While I loved the Chris Farley/Tommy Boy/Black Sheep chapters (check out the book, The Chris Farley Show, if you want an excellent read), I knew he wouldn't get too deep into that. Spade was deeply affected by Chris's death and I respect that he wants to keep private moments private. Also, it would have brought the book down too much to dwell. I was very surprised there weren't any chapters devoted to his tv shows like 8 Simple Rules..., Just Shoot Me, or Rules of Engagement. I also wanted to know more about his daughter. Other than a brief mention in the acknowledgements, there was nothing. We hear about how he loses his virginity, does too much coke (such a

randomly-placed chapter, by the way), Twitter and Instagram shenanigans, and dating how-to's, yet no mention of her. There aren't any great revelations made, though he's lived a very colorful life and worked hard to obtain his level of fame. I found myself laughing out loud several times. Check out this book for a good laugh and several good stories, including the "deets" on the infamous Eddie Murphy "sitch".

As a huge David Spade fan, I enjoyed the early chapters and stories about SNL/Tommy Boy and Chris Farley, but feel Spade petered out way too soon. Maybe he ran out of diary pages. I loved two of his TV shows Don't Shoot Me and Rules of Engagement (forget about 8 Simple Rules) and there was ZERO coverage. His memoir ends after the infamous Skippy Attack in 2000. Pretty lame to leave out the last 15 years, huh? Spade seems pretty funny in stand up, as I've seen on cable, but he must be running out of movie and tv roles and decided to cash in on some quick money through publication. Disappointing, to say the least. I'd wait for the library edition.

The story is fantastic (constant use of parentheses annoying enough to not be able to finish). I kid you not right in the middle of every paragraph (well maybe not quite the middle) there are inserted (insert meaning in the story not like a finger insert). The use of these unnecessary (some would argue) constant interruptions (in an otherwise great story) makes the book unreadable. I have given up (not in the sense of giving) trying to read the book. The editor should be fired. (just my opinion). If you think MY review is annoying, just wait until you attempt to read David Spade's book.

Quick read (or listen) and very funny. I listened to the audiobook, which I am guessing adds an additional element to the humor due to Spade's pro comedic delivery. Interesting behind-the-scenes SNL stuff, but even more weird and funny stories about the author's real life. The one about his first sexual experience made me spit out my drink with laughter. I always reflect on whether I like a celebrity more or less after reading a memoir. In this case, I was left liking David Spade more than I did previously.

As a Gen Xer going to college during much of David Spade's SNL stint and loving the entire cast and every sketch during those early 90's, I became a fan of his a long time ago. I love his standup, so funny to watch. This book is not written by a professional writer which makes this better...he writes this book like he's doing standup which works perfectly for his story and his personality. As was mentioned previously a million times, I hope he comes out with another book picking up where

he left off and talking more about the rest of his professional life (and personal). Dennis Finch is one of the best TV characters of the last few decades....would love to read more about that. This book gives a really fascinating insider's look at how the SNL sausage was made during that time. I have read several books by comedians but this one gets more personal than other's I've read. After you read this, you come to the understanding that he was a regular schlub, just like the rest of us, who worked his butt off to get where he is...and he must be a really charming guy.

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