


The Complete Beyond the Fringe (Methuen Humour Classics)

Alan Bennett, Peter Cook, Jonathan Miller, Dudley Moore
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Alan Bennett, Peter Cook, Jonathan Miller, Dudley Moore : The Complete Beyond the Fringe (Methuen Humour Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Complete Beyond the Fringe (Methuen Humour Classics):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. (Perhaps it might explain something to know our favorite magazine was Mad Mag)By Kathleen SpellmanI have been enamored of Beyond the Fringe ever since, as a preteen, my parents got the record. My sister and I would laugh uproariously regardless of how many times we heard them. (Perhaps it might explain something to know our favorite magazine was Mad Mag). Anyway it is now a joy to have it printed out. I do miss Peter Cook's "The Great Train Robbery" (No loss of train), though1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. good stuff/musicBy rexregi bought this book primarily for the music contained therein...the skits were funny, albeit somewhat datedthe music was wonderful...BUT, the notation was so cramped as to make it difficult to work with the book could not be made to lie flat without breaking the spine...still, good stuff4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Satire begins and peaksBy S J BuckBeyond the Fringe was a theatrical revue that was first performed in London in 1961 but went on to play Broadway etc.The contributors and performers were Alan Bennett, Peter Cook, Jonathan Miller and Dudley Moore. For those unfamiliar with the names they were respectively a brilliant English writer (Bennett), English comic writer and probably one of the funniest men who ever lived (Cook), Doctor, Opera director and many other things (Miller), musician and Actor (Moore). This book contains the complete scripts for that famous review. In fact there were a number of different versions, but the scripts here contain virtually everything from the shows.Forty six years later and a lot of this material is still brilliantly funny. Take the opening

sketch 'Steppes in the right direction'. After an introduction where Dudley Moore plays the National Anthem on a Piano, it turns out Dudley's character is not British but from Russia. The others then try to teach him about the British way of life. After failing initially they resort to extreme tactics by blowing a raspberry when Khrushchev's (the then Soviet Premier) name is mentioned and saying mmmn when Macmillan's name is mentioned. By the end though the whole the cast is saying Macmillan and blowing a raspberry everytime. Remember at the time of the show Harold Macmillan was the Prime Minister and nobody had ever mocked the Prime Minister in public. Also included in the book is the sheet music to the musical pieces Dudley Moore wrote for the show including his brilliant piece 'And the same to you'. This is the theme to Col Bogey played in a variety of classical Piano styles. Wonderfully funny if you ever saw film of him playing it, as he can't end the piece. Its a sort of spoof Beethoven ending with Dudley starting to panic...Sadly Peter Cook and Dudley Moore are no longer with us, but this book is a fine way to remind yourself of the great contribution to British comedy that these four made.