Jim Owens Hillbilly Humor

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confronts readers with the implications of a popular tourist destination founded on the values and sentiments of american evangelical protestantism thomas s bremer journal of the american academy of religion over the past century branson missouri has attracted tens of millions of tourists nestled in the heart of the ozark mountains it offers a rare and refreshing combination of natural beauty and family friendly recreation from scenic lakes and rolling hills to theme parks and variety shows it has boasted of big name celebrities like wayne newton andy williams and petula clark as well as family entertainers like mickey gilley the shanghai magic troupe jim stafford and yakov smirnoff but there is more to branson s fame than just recreation as aaron k ketchell discovers a popular variant of christianity underscores all branson s tourist attractions and fortifies every consumer success in this lively and engaging study ketchell explores branson s unique blend of religion and recreation he explains how the city became a mecca of conservative christianity a place for a spiritual vacation and how through conscious effort its residents and businesses continuously reinforce its inextricable connection with the divine ketchell combines the study of lived religion popular culture evangelicalism and contemporary american history to present an accurate and honest account of a distinctly american phenomenon as ketchell brilliantly argues branson entrepreneurs wove christian sentiment into a fabric of nostalgia premodern longing and whitewashed rusticity matthew avery sutton the christian century at a time when jim wallis and other observers have forecast the end of the prominence of right wing religion on the u s political stage this book will cause many readers to question that prediction david stricklin the journal of southern history

branson s wholesome brand of entertainment made it the nation s destination for family fun but the vacation wonderland can t claim a spotless past murder and mischief dogged the town s efforts at respectability from the very beginning the founder s own brother galba branson was a prominent member of the notorious vigilante gang the bald knobbers he died in a picnic shootout that originated in a church prank branson s transformation into a showbiz mecca brought quarrel and scandal in its wake from provoked orangutans to wire tapped dressing rooms three comedians and authors ed and karen underwood and john pinney offer this backstage pass to the seamier side of branson s history

in the land of beer cheese and muskies where the polka is danced and winter is unending and where lutherans and catholics predominate everybody is ethnic the politics are clean and the humor is plentiful this collection includes jokes humorous anecdotes and tall tales from ethnic groups woodland indians french cornish germans irish scandinavians finns and poles and working folk loggers miners farmers townsfolk hunters and fishers dig into the rich cultural context supplied by the notes and photographs or just laugh at the hundreds of jokes gathered at small town cafes farm tables job sites and church suppers this second edition includes an afterword and indexes of motifs and tale types

jokes on hunting religion marriage and ozark ways

presents brief entries covering the history significant artists styles and influence of country music

a popmatters best non fiction book of 2020 from the 1930s to the 1960s the booming popularity of country music threw a spotlight on a new generation of innovative women artists these individuals blazed trails as singers musicians and performers even as the industry hemmed in their potential popularity with labels like woman hillbilly singing cowgirl and honky tonk angel stephanie vander wel looks at the careers of artists like patsy montana rose maddox and kitty wells against the backdrop of country music s golden age analyzing recordings and appearances on radio film and television she connects performances to real and imagined places and examines how the music sparked new ways for women listeners to imagine the open range the honky tonk and the home the music also captured the tensions felt by women facing geographic disruption and economic uncertainty while classic songs and heartfelt performances might ease anxieties the subject matter underlined women s ambivalent relationships to industrialism middle class security and established notions of femininity

features a scholarly study of various societies hostile humor this book takes a serious look at humor drawing on the work of psychologists folklorists and philosophers but also is intended for those who are curious as to why we laugh at ethnic jokes

the dirty south examines the shifting significances of the south as a constructed fantasized region in the american psyche particularly its frequent association with tropes of dirt that emphasize soil garbage trash grit litter mud swamp water slime and pollution beginning with iconic works from the 1970s such as deliverance and the texas chainsaw massacre james a crank traces the image of a dirty south into the twenty first century to explore the social political and psychological effects of the region s hold on the imaginations of southerners and nonsoutherners alike with a focus on media forms through which southern identity gets articulated and questioned including horror movies swamp thing comics and

popular music by artists such as waylon jennings and outkast the dirty south probes the sustained fascination with southern dirtiness while reflecting on its causes and consequences since the end of the civil rights era highlighting the period from 1970 to 2020 during which the south began to represent several new possible identities for the nation as a whole and for the area itself crank considers the ways that southerners have used depictions of dirt to create and police boundaries and to contest those boundaries each chapter pairs prominent literary or cultural texts from the 1970s with more contemporary works such as jordan peele s film get out which recycle similar investments or critically challenge the inherent whiteness of the earlier images by historicizing fantasies of the region and connecting them to the first decades of the twenty first century the dirty south reveals that notions about southern dirtiness proliferate not because they lend authenticity or relevancy to the u s south but because they aid so conspicuously in the zombified work of tethering investors real and imagined to a graveyard of ideas

it s been years since skye elliot has seen her biological father he left when she was twelve breaking her heart and her life has not exactly been going uphill since a drug user and alcoholic skye is given a choice after a car accident jail or rehab it takes eight months to get clean but the day skye is released she has one plan to be a good mother to her four year old daughter gracie but first she has to find her as she sets out on her unsettling life changing quest she is joined by the last person in the world she ever expected to help her if you haven t discovered jo ann mapson yet you re in for the finest of treats her books will move you from out loud laughter to bittersweet tears jodi picoult

jokes anecdotes and tall talesleary s book serves as an amusing smorgasbord which embraces all and spares none native americans french cornish germans irish scandinavians finns and poles mount horeb mail

complete guide to branson and the ozark mountains

this illustrated a z guide covers more than 700 country music artists groups and bands articles also cover specific genres within country music as well as instruments used written in a lively engaging style the entries not only outline the careers of country music s greatest artists they provide an understanding of the artist s importance or failings and a feeling for his or her style select discographies are provided at the end of each entry while a bibliography and indexes by instrument musical style genre and song title round out the work for a full list of entries a generous selection of sample entries and more visit the country music a biographical dictionary website

becky bradway writes compellingly about the place where she was raised and still lives but she also knows that the hidden component of place is time and its ceaseless motion and the motion it spawns in all of us on these many stable planes we are always passing through from the foreword by michael martone much of what inspires pink houses and family taverns a collection of creative nonfiction by becky bradway is the author s upbringing in rural southern illinois coming of age among a family of carpenters housewives and factory workers bradway works to get an education and to build a different kind of life for herself in spite of social pressures to keep her in her place her dreams of becoming a writer and a professor often run head on with the hometown s expectations that she keep her mouth shut like a proper girl and with the university s expectations that she toe a more formal

conservative line the tension bradway feels about being from there permeates her memoir as she negotiates the transitions between childhood and adulthood rural life and urban life ignorance and sophistication she debates important life decisions and presents us with a vivid array of characters family friends students who have made an impression on her bradway writes in a conversational style that is often humorous and occasionally sardonic and she approaches her subjects with sincerity open mindedness and compassion the essays are complemented by a selection of black and white photographs of the region and its inhabitants

reviews and rates the best recordings of country artists and groups provides biographies of the artists and charts the evolution of country music

bret hart s honest perceptive startling account of his life in and out of the pro wrestling ring wrestling fans will eat up all the backstage drama publishers weekly the sixth born son of the pro wrestling dynasty founded by stu hart and his elegant wife helen bret hart is a canadian icon he achieved superstardom in pink tights and won multiple wrestling belts in multiple territories for both the wwf now the wwe and wcw but he also paid the price in betrayals most famously by vince memahon a man he had served loyally in tragic deaths including the loss of his brother owen who died when a stunt went terribly wrong and in his own massive stroke most likely resulting from a concussion he received in the ring and from which with the spirit of a true champion he has battled back widely considered by his peers as one of the business s best technicians and workers hart describes pro wrestling as part dancing part acting and part dangerous physical pursuit he is proud that in all his years in the ring he never seriously hurt a single wrestler yet did his utmost to deliver to his fans an experience as credible as it was exciting he also records the incredible toll the business takes on its workhorses he estimates that twenty or more of the wrestlers he was regularly matched with have died young weakened by their own coping mechanisms namely drugs alcohol and steroids that toll included his own brother in law davey boy smith no one has ever written about wrestling like bret hart no one has ever lived a life like bret hart s

documenting the history and development of bluegrass in and around the nation s capital since it emerged in the 1950s capital bluegrass hillbilly music meets washington d c is central to our understanding of bluegrass in the united states and its place in our nation s capital

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