The Joker A Visual History Of The Clown Prince Of Crime

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when a young boy s dream is to make the whole world happy there is no choice left but to become a clown his love for young children leads him to play for the rest of his life the nicest role he disguises himself and with his tricks he gives his friends laughter and love

this book discusses the tradition of clowning from an educational perspective highlighting the resonant philosophies between the two professions and asking what one can learn from the other modern day clowning follows an age old tradition with a set of principles and beliefs expounded by proponents of the profession throughout the principles of clowning themes of subversion inversion play and challenge recur these same ideas have a place in the classroom not as everyday practice but perhaps as a leitmotif the book is therefore a call for educators to consider their position within the learning environment and to embody the clown spirit by looking outside of traditional pedagogical thinking and training this book demonstrates ideas and techniques from which educators can borrow or learn allowing them to enhance their own methods and practices it offers an opportunity to revisit the dynamics of the classroom through the recognition of the important role that the clown can play in society

listen to the podcast about this book the joker both fascinates and repels us from his origin in detective comics in 1940 he has committed obscene crimes some of the worst the batman universe has ever known and conversely fans have made him the topic of erotic and pornographic fan fiction speculation about the joker abounds where some fans have even claimed that the joker is queer coded this work explores various popular claims about the joker and delves into the history of comic books and of other popular media from a semiotic viewpoint to understand the clown prince of crime in the contexts in which he existed to understand his evolution in the past from his roots as a typical hoodlum the joker even starred in his own eponymous comic book series and he was recently featured in a non canonical movie this work examines what it is about the joker which fascinates us

part clown manual part storytelling and part rant the clown manifesto covers the experiences philosophies and methods of the clown performer director teacher nalleslavski a book for clowns physical comedians actors musicians jugglers puppeteers magicians street performers and dancers whatever form your clowning takes theatre street theatre comedy burlesque magic circus the mischievously named nalleslavski method gives you practical tools to create comedy material that works universally across cultural and language barriers

this book is a practical guide for clowning it is filled with tools and techniques that will help you find your clown and become more open to your creative sources the author examines and makes use of the powerful qualities that children possess imagination innocence purity spontaneity and lust for life a clown is playful and optimistic from behind world s smallest mask the red nose he invites people to drop their own masks and show their true selves being very sensitive he is able to touch them deeply this so called contact clown wants to make a connection from heart to heart kurstjens is convinced that clowns can play a crucial role in our society they can bring people together through their open communication this richly illustrated book comes with 25 practical exercises and provides useful information about essential themes in life setting boundaries overcoming emotional blockades and daring to be vulnerable it is not only meant to inspire clowns and clowning instructors but also coaches communication trainers and everyone else who is interested in personal development ton kurstjens born in the netherlands 1959 started as an improvising clown in 1983 he played in duo het elftal and duo biek and currently he conducts clowning courses for individuals and workshops for businesspeople he also directs the clowning theatre performance met de neus op de planken literally with your nose on stage and he supports clowns and clowning groups

christopher bayes is a master an extraordinary visionary who has done more to liberate young american actors over the last two generations than i can possibly express his classes in clowning are philosophical manifestos the power of his laughter inextricable from the depth of his spirit this book is a treasure nothing can replace the experience of being in the room with a master teacher but this practical playful brilliant book is the next best thing read it it is indispensable oskar eustis artistic director the public theater discovering the clown or the funny book of good acting is a unique glimpse into the wild world of the clown unveiling the playful self the unsocialized self the naive self the big stupid who just wants to have some fun with the audience an essential guide for artists and actors wanting to set free the messy and hilarious clown within

the clown in you is a clowning manual for students teachers and practitioners it contains all kinds of valuable clown knowledge both practical and theoretical within its pages readers will find all the basic principles of clowning first hand clowning experiences tried and tested clown games and exercises quotes from interviews caroline held with professional clowns examples of clown improvisations and explanations of the clown philosophy underlying all the comic techniques used by clowns the book thus provides an unprecedented insight into the heart of clowning and throws a fresh light on all the skills audacity and dedication needed to encounter encourage and set free one s clown caroline has worked with clowning from the inside out and the outside in she writes from the perspective of a life spent investigating her art both as a professional clown and as an international clown teacher this is a must read for anyone wanting to learn more about the art and practice of clowning or for anyone simply interested in becoming a healthier happier and less inhibited person discovering your clown

and allowing yourself complete freedom of expression is an addictive experience an adventure sport whose only drawback is that when you re on your way home you feel an urgent desire to keep on practising it contents the first three chapters introduce the reader to the art and craft of clowning as practiced by professional clowns throughout the world today they also clarify all the misconceptions that have arisen around the clown that in reality hinder a student's ability to be funny chapters four to ten tackle specific areas of clown technique each chapter contains explanations of the reasons for and reasoning behind each element of the technique plus guidelines and examples of how it all works on a practical level chapter eleven explores one of the least discussed aspects of clowning the most common fears students face and how they can be dealt with the final chapter examines the necessary ingredients for clowning success it also covers the phenomenon of flying finding one s own unique comic wings what the professionals have said about this book the clown in you cuts past all the jargon and unhelpful generalizations about clowns and tackles the clown s creative process with the kind of insight that can only come from a seasoned performer highly recommended for both beginners and experienced clowns john towsen author of clowns director of the very physical comedy institute u s a caroline dream s superbly documented 30 years of experience as a performer and trainer is an invaluable source of reference for professionals hobbyists and teachers one of the most illuminating and insightful clown development guidebooks that i have read rob florence physical theatre teacher at the arts entertainment college nl every clown aspiring or professional should have this book in their library it s a great resource for helping clowns discover deeper layers of their character and creating powerful material packed with invaluable gems for understanding and creating in the art of clowning rob torres clown the big apple circus u s a in this book i ve found fantastic exercises and material which will inspire clowns to play and most importantly help keep their idiot present aitor basauri spymonkey uk this book is a shortcut to your inner clown a seductive invitation to joy and freedom a lodestar for highly effective human development andres aguilar clown founder of risaterapia org mex caroline offers us her 30 years of clowning experience disclosing a clown philosophy i fully concur with i wholeheartedly recommend this book anton valen clown with cirque du soleil alegria kurios esp

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