

'Chicken Poop' dumps a load of dim-witted humor

The 'Chicken Soup for the Soul' parody opus, 'Chicken Poop for the Soul,' could use a little satirical fertilizer

Possibly the best jewel of wisdom I've ever received was that "The best laid plans don't always get you laid the way you

REVIEW

Bret Jacobson

planned." Sage advice when you consider that execution is absolutely critical to carrying out good ideas. Such is the case in books.

Millions have come to love the "Chicken Soup for the Soul" book series, which has sought to inspire and uplift any who would pore through the tales of love, warmth and achievement. And then there's "Chicken Poop for the Soul II: More Droppings," a parody of the series which offers the bold guarantee to entertain the cynic in all of us.

Unfortunately, this Pocket Books release by author David Fisher won't get anybody what they were seeking because the humor is hackneyed, pedestrian and underachieving. And bad. Not good.

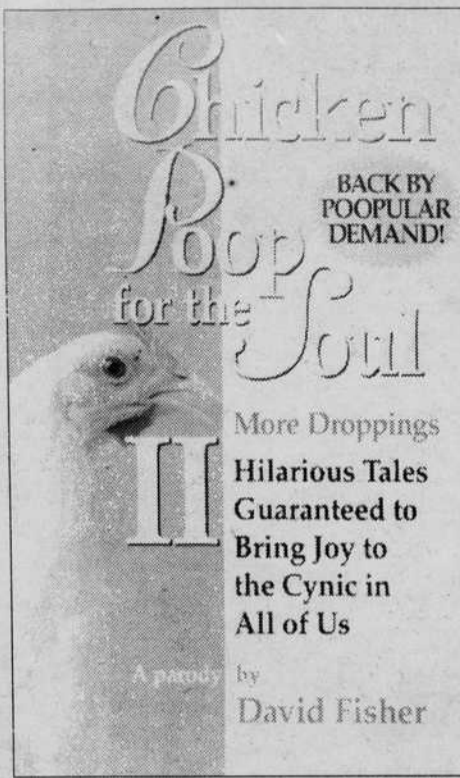
The book is split up into 50 vignettes theoretically designed to make the reader laugh due to sarcasm and today's brand of

misguided and uneducated irony.

For instance, the work entitled, "My First Date," is the story of a 16-year-old girl's first date and the overprotective father who questions the date's ability to take proper care of the girl. The story, in a pitiable attempt to mock the rite of passage, descends into a mangled mess of father posing such possible circumstances as terrorist hostage-takers, a fire in a movie theater with no escape and car-jackers stealing the young woman.

The far-fetched story is so far outside the realm of anything a normal person can relate to it loses its appeal. But the ill-fated date story was not the only egg laid by this chicken.

The recipe for the "Ultimate Fat-Free, Low-Cholesterol, Low-Sodium Diet," is so banal it makes a Louis L' Amour book look like "The Hunt for Red October." The prescription "was discovered thousands of years ago and has been proven to work through the annals of recorded history," including the ancient Egyptians. Obviously the book refers to starvation, which has its own place in comedy lore, but fails to pull off the



Fisher leaves the taste of rotten eggs in your mouth.

feat because the joke simply isn't funny, thought-provoking or new.

All this disappointed criticism is not to say the book doesn't have its moments. "The Sev-

en Secrets of Highly Rich People," is somewhat amusing. The simple methods of attaining riches apparently is as follows, in order: "1) Don't tell anybody anything about anything; 2) Especially don't tell the IRS anything; 3) Never respond to writers' questions for interviews about how you earned your money; 4) If the writers call, have your secretary tell them that you're out of the country and she doesn't know when you'll be back; 5) Don't let your relatives know anything about your financial situation; especially your husband or wife; 6) If Donald Trump wants to take credit for it, let him; and 7) Remember, there is no such thing as a secret if more than one person knows about it.

But in the end, "Chicken Poop for the Soul," is a sad attempt at a promising idea. No series deserves more mocking, parody or sarcasm directed at it — except, maybe Oprah's book club —

Excerpt from 'Chicken Poop for the Soul'

Have you ever wondered where your time goes? Well, if you're the average person, you spend about 15 hours a year, that's two and a half minutes per day, brushing your teeth. But you also spend slightly more than 106 days fast asleep. Those are only some of the surprising statistics contained in a recently issued report on time management issued by the U.S. Bureau of Waits and Measures.

As it turns out, Americans spend almost 1,000 hours annually on sex. That includes 600 hours thinking about it, 150 hours reading about it, 150 hours wishing we could get some, 26 hours making up phony descriptions to be used in answering personal ads like "Sophia Loren look-alike" or "ruggedly handsome" when it really it should be "still breathing." 13 hours lying to friends about getting it, 10 hours of phone sex, 41 hours in close personal relationships with ourselves, and 15 hours of real sex.

SOURCE: 'Chicken Poop for the Soul II: More Droppings'

than the "Chicken Soup for the Soul" series. But this just doesn't cut it.

The best laid plans? Perhaps, but you know the rest.

Student Groups. Advertise your upcoming events in the Oregon Daily Emerald. Special student rates. Call 346-3712

Classifieds

Call (541) 346-4343 or stop by Room 300, Erb Memorial Union to place your ad today. P.O. Box 3159, Eugene, OR 97403 E-mail: classads@oregon.uoregon.edu On-line edition: www.dailymerald.com

CLASSIFICATIONS	RATES/DEADLINES/POLICIES																																																																								
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">080 Greek Events</td> <td style="width: 33%;">145 Computers/Electronics</td> <td style="width: 33%;">210 Houses for Rent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>085 Greek Announcements</td> <td>150 Ty & Sound Systems</td> <td>213 Houses for Sale</td> </tr> <tr> <td>090 Birthdays</td> <td>155 Instruments/Music Equip</td> <td>215 Apartments (Furnished)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>095 Personals</td> <td>160 Pets & Supplies</td> <td>220 Apartments (Unfurnished)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100 Lost & Found</td> <td>165 Sport Equipment</td> <td>225 Quads</td> </tr> <tr> <td>105 Typing/Resume Services</td> <td>170 Photography Equip</td> <td>230 Rooms for Rent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>110 Instruction/Tutoring</td> <td>175 Wanted</td> <td>235 Duplexes for Rent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>115 Garage/Moving Sales</td> <td>180 Travel & Lodging</td> <td>238 Sublets</td> </tr> <tr> <td>120 Miscellaneous For Sale</td> <td>185 Business Opportunities</td> <td>240 Garage/Storage Space</td> </tr> <tr> <td>125 Furniture/Appliances</td> <td>190 Opportunities</td> <td>245 Roommates Wanted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>130 Cars/Trucks</td> <td>195 Recruiting</td> <td>250 Boarding Houses</td> </tr> <tr> <td>135 Motorcycles/Scooters</td> <td>200 Work Study Positions</td> <td>255 Housing Wanted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>140 Bicycles</td> <td>205 Help Wanted</td> <td>260 Announcements</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>265 Elections</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>270 Meetings</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>275 Club Sports</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>280 Counseling</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>285 Services</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>290 Health & Fitness</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>295 Food & Drink</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>300 Campus Ministry</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>305 Campus Events</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>310 Arts & Entertainment</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>315 What's Happening?</td> </tr> </table>	080 Greek Events	145 Computers/Electronics	210 Houses for Rent	085 Greek Announcements	150 Ty & Sound Systems	213 Houses for Sale	090 Birthdays	155 Instruments/Music Equip	215 Apartments (Furnished)	095 Personals	160 Pets & Supplies	220 Apartments (Unfurnished)	100 Lost & Found	165 Sport Equipment	225 Quads	105 Typing/Resume Services	170 Photography Equip	230 Rooms for Rent	110 Instruction/Tutoring	175 Wanted	235 Duplexes for Rent	115 Garage/Moving Sales	180 Travel & Lodging	238 Sublets	120 Miscellaneous For Sale	185 Business Opportunities	240 Garage/Storage Space	125 Furniture/Appliances	190 Opportunities	245 Roommates Wanted	130 Cars/Trucks	195 Recruiting	250 Boarding Houses	135 Motorcycles/Scooters	200 Work Study Positions	255 Housing Wanted	140 Bicycles	205 Help Wanted	260 Announcements			265 Elections			270 Meetings			275 Club Sports			280 Counseling			285 Services			290 Health & Fitness			295 Food & Drink			300 Campus Ministry			305 Campus Events			310 Arts & Entertainment			315 What's Happening?	<p>UNIVERSITY RATES (Must be an enrolled UO student or affiliated UO Group or Dept.) 3 line minimum \$3.00/day Additional lines \$1.00/line</p> <p>PRIVATE PARTY RATE (non-university/non-business related) 3 line minimum \$3.30/day Additional lines \$1.10/line (approximately 35 spaces or 5-6 words per line)</p> <p>Deadline: 1 p.m. ONE business day prior to publication Call (541) 346-4343 for BUSINESS RATES.</p> <p>PAYMENT: Prepayment is required unless billing has been established. We accept Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Discover. Receipts may be requested at the time of ad placement. A purchase order must accompany all university departmental and student association ads. Tear sheets provided upon request. ERRORS/REFUNDS: Please check your ad! The ODE will run a classified ad one additional day as a result of any typographical error that changes the meaning of the ad, if reported by 1PM. No cash refunds will be issued. ACCEPTANCE: The ODE reserves the right to revise, reclassify, reject or cancel any ad at any time.</p> <p>Political ads are payable in advance and must clearly identify the advertiser. All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal for any person to cause to be published any advertisement relating to the transfer, sale, rental, or lease of any housing which expresses limitations, specifications or discrimination of any kind. NOT ACCEPTED: Mail-order ads (unless a sample is supplied for review prior to publication); Adoption ads by anyone other than a licensed agency; Airline ticket sale ads by anyone other than authorized agents.</p>
080 Greek Events	145 Computers/Electronics	210 Houses for Rent																																																																							
085 Greek Announcements	150 Ty & Sound Systems	213 Houses for Sale																																																																							
090 Birthdays	155 Instruments/Music Equip	215 Apartments (Furnished)																																																																							
095 Personals	160 Pets & Supplies	220 Apartments (Unfurnished)																																																																							
100 Lost & Found	165 Sport Equipment	225 Quads																																																																							
105 Typing/Resume Services	170 Photography Equip	230 Rooms for Rent																																																																							
110 Instruction/Tutoring	175 Wanted	235 Duplexes for Rent																																																																							
115 Garage/Moving Sales	180 Travel & Lodging	238 Sublets																																																																							
120 Miscellaneous For Sale	185 Business Opportunities	240 Garage/Storage Space																																																																							
125 Furniture/Appliances	190 Opportunities	245 Roommates Wanted																																																																							
130 Cars/Trucks	195 Recruiting	250 Boarding Houses																																																																							
135 Motorcycles/Scooters	200 Work Study Positions	255 Housing Wanted																																																																							
140 Bicycles	205 Help Wanted	260 Announcements																																																																							
		265 Elections																																																																							
		270 Meetings																																																																							
		275 Club Sports																																																																							
		280 Counseling																																																																							
		285 Services																																																																							
		290 Health & Fitness																																																																							
		295 Food & Drink																																																																							
		300 Campus Ministry																																																																							
		305 Campus Events																																																																							
		310 Arts & Entertainment																																																																							
		315 What's Happening?																																																																							

Four easy ways to place an ad in the Oregon Daily Emerald Classifieds:
1) Stop by Suite 300 EMU, M-F 8a.m.-5p.m. 2) Visit our website: www.dailymerald.com 3) Call 346-4343, M-F 8a.m.-5p.m. 4) Fax 346-5578

<p>105 TYPING/RESUME SERVICES</p> <p>At 344-0759, ROBIN is GRAD SCHOOL APPROVED. 20-year thesis/dissertation background. Term papers. Full resume service. Editing. Laser pr. ON CAMPUS!</p>	<p>115 GARAGE/MOVING SALES</p> <p>SONY 21in TV w/built-in VCR, \$200; AIWA stereo 220W output, \$250 (still in box); One door refrigerator, \$50. obo. Must sell. Email teshima.gladstone.uoregon.edu</p>	<p>120 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE</p> <p>Betsy from Berlin says "shopping is more fun at the C.H."</p> <p>The Clothes Horse Buy, Sell, Trade 720 E. 13th • 345-5099</p>	<p>120 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE</p> <p>"Give Me Five!"</p> <p>Run your "FOR SALE" ad (items under \$1,000) for 5 days. If the item(s) doesn't sell, call us at 346-4343 and we'll run your ad again for another 5 days FREE! Student/Private Party Ads Only • No Refunds</p>
<p>150 TV & SOUND SYSTEMS</p> <p>CASH! We Buy, Sell & Service VHS VCR's & Stereos. Thompson Electronics, 1122 Oak, 343-9273</p>	<p>155 INSTRUMENTS/MUSIC EQUIP.</p> <p>Perfect time to play guitar, piano, or bass. Learn YOUR favorites! For lessons call. 342-9543.</p>	<p>185 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>BUYER BEWARE</p> <p>The Oregon Daily Emerald assumes no liability for ad content or response. Ads are screened for illegal content and mail order ads must provide a sample of item for sale. Otherwise, ads that appear too good to be true, probably are. Respond at your own risk.</p>	

Look for the Online Fall Moving Guide
Aug. 23 - Sept. 18
www.dailymerald.com

Faculty, Students & Staff You are invited!
August 3-4
184 Law School
Presentations of summer research by undergraduates

AUGUST 3, 2000	AUGUST 4, 2000
9:00 Carla Gary - keynote speaker	10:00 Education
10:00 Biology	10:45 Psychology
10:45 Biology	11:30 Political Science
11:30 Chemistry	1:30 Sociology
2:15 Mathematics	2:15 Philosophy
3:00 Ethnic Studies / History	3:00 Comparative Literature
4:15 Ethnic Studies	3:45 Anthropology
5:15 History / Honors College	4:30 Anthropology

130 CARS/TRUCKS

1988 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme, 2 door, perfect cond., runs great, 177,000 miles. Must sell, \$1200. See on campus; Alex 302-3158 evs. or fva91@hotmail.com

1987 Ford Bronco II, 4-wd, 71,000 original miles, looks & runs great. \$3650 obo. 345-7839 or 554-3234.

1988 Black BMW M3
Rebuilt, Excellent condition. Stereo system & sunroof. Best offer!
541-389-1968 • 12p-9p

Great Truck!
'73 K5 Blazer. Looks and runs good. This truck has been running longer than you've been alive! MANY years left in it. Own a classic tailgating truck for just \$2900.
Call 689-0138

Need a part-time job when summer's over?

Morning person?
Now hiring and training for fall term.

Newspaper Delivery
6:00-8:00 am Monday-Friday.
Requires your own RELIABLE vehicle.
Work study ok. Apply in person, Monday-Friday, 8-5, 300 EMU.
The Oregon Daily Emerald is an equal opportunity employer committed to a culturally diverse workplace.