

The Sitcom Reader: America Re-Viewed, Still Skewed



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This updated and expanded anthology offers an engaging overview of one of the oldest and most ubiquitous forms of television programming: the sitcom. Through an analysis of formulaic conventions, the contributors address critical identities such as race, gender, and sexuality, and overarching structures such as class and family. Organized by decade, chapters explore postwar domestic ideology and working-class masculinity in the 1950s, the competing messages of power and subordination in 1960s magicoms, liberated women and gender in 1970s workplace comedies and 1980s domestic comedies, liberal feminism in the 1990s, heteronormative narrative strategies in the 2000s, and unmasking myths of gender in the 2010s. From "I Love Lucy" and "The Honeymooners" to "Roseanne," "Cybill," and "Will & Grace" to "Transparent" and many others in between, "The Sitcom Reader" provides a comprehensive examination of this popular genre that will help readers think about the shows and themselves in new contexts.

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Ramon Hudson:

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