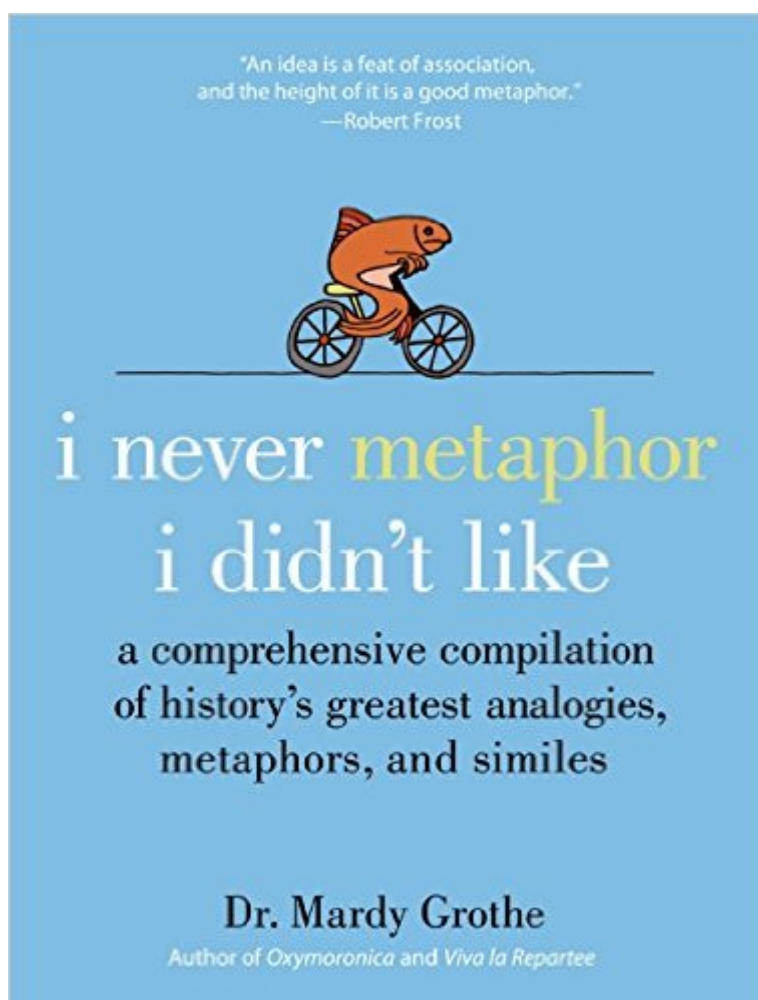


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I Never Metaphor I Didn't Like: A Comprehensive Compilation Of History's Greatest Analogies, Metaphors, And Similes



Synopsis

The murals in restaurants are on a par with the food in museums. America is an enormous frosted cupcake in the middle of millions of starving people. Critics are like pigs at the pastry cart. Describing something by relating it to another thing is the essence of metaphorical thought. It is one of the oldest activities of humankind "and one of the most impressive when done skillfully. Throughout history, many masters of metaphor have crafted observations that are so spectacular they have taken up a permanent residence in our minds. In *I Never Metaphor I Didn't Like*, quotation maven Dr. Mardy Grothe fixes his attention on the three superstars of figurative language "analogies, metaphors, and similes. The result is an extraordinary compilation of nearly 2,000 feats of association that will entertain, educate, and occasionally inspire quotation lovers everywhere. In this intellectual smorgasbord, the author of *Oxymoronica* and *Viva la Repartee* explains figurative language in a refreshingly down-to-earth way before taking readers on a tour of history's greatest word pictures. In chapters on wit, love, sex, stage and screen, insults, politics, sports, and more, you will find quotations from Aristotle and Maya Angelou to George Washington and Oprah Winfrey.

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Customer Reviews

I never met a Mardy Grothe book I didn't like. And "I Never Metaphor I Didn't Like" is certainly no exception. In his Introduction, the author describes himself as "a serious quotation collector," and in this newest of his four books, containing nearly 2,000 analogies, metaphors and similes, he provides indisputable evidence of that fact. He has indeed delivered what he promises in the book's subtitle: "A Comprehensive Compilation of History's Greatest Analogies, Metaphors, and

Similes. "However, "I Never Metaphor I Didn't Like" is far more than simply a collection of quotations. In his own highly readable, entertaining and informative style, the author tells often fascinating stories behind many of the entries. I can't imagine any word lover not wanting this delightful volume in his or her library. But be advised! This is not a book to be devoured in one, two or even in a dozen readings. In what he calls his attempt "to compile some of history's greatest word paintings," Mardy Grothe has succeeded beautifully. To fully admire and appreciate these "paintings" will take time, but it will indeed be time very well spent.

With "i never metaphor i didn't like" [sic] Dr. Mardy Grothe once again succeeds in deriving both amusement and plenty of food-for-thought from the nuances of figures of speech-this time from metaphor, simile, and analogy. This is another of his books worthy of multiple browsings for examples of linguistic wit, wisdom, pathos, and bathos thoughtfully arranged by subject. Dr. Grothe intersperses the quotations with background information, anecdotes, and reference linkages that enhance the reader's enjoyment and make the book more than just a list of quotations. I've thoroughly perused all of his figure-of-speech books, and I'm sure this one will wind up as well thumbed as his others on my shelf. His introduction provides a quick brush-up on the characteristics of analogies, metaphors, and similes that is bright and readable without being tedious. And his index by author will be appreciated by anyone seeking specific who-said-whats that are scattered among various topics. Mardy triumphs again in showing the feedback loop by which our language influences our thoughts and our thoughts influence our language.

There are certain kinds of books that are simply fun. They do not have any great thesis or argument. They offer the reader a selection of very varied fare and suggest sampling it. So this collection of Metaphors, Similes, and Analogies. Some will make you smile, some will make you think again. Some you will have to squint a bit to puzzle out. But it will all be enjoyment. For me a book like this is of special value. As a writer I am always studying (which does not mean- learning) how other writers did truly good things. This book is rich in examples. As Henny Youngman might have said " One man's metaphor is another man's corned-beef sandwich."

I hate writing reviews, much less bad reviews, but I felt an obligation to provide at least one review that does not follow suite with all the other misleading reviews posted--clearly written by Mardy Grothe sycophants. I assume they are Mardy Grothe sycophants because no one mentions that this book is a misnomer and is unusually bad. The metaphors are obscure and barely relevant. The

categories are equally obscure, maybe even esoteric. I set out to learn, arm myself, and educate myself with witty metaphors and profound analogies. The title reads "a comprehensive compilation of history's greatest analogies, metaphors and similes." I did not walk away even several useful metaphors, etc. It seems like the author selected far-out, hazy, clear-as-mud metaphors and analogies that were relevant to only to Mardy. Just so you know that I am not completely alone in my opinion, my fiancée, who minored in English, also picked up this book out of curiosity and quickly put it down. But what drove me to write this review was that all the reviews, sang the book's praises, hallelujah, as if they knew the author personally. They were misleading. It does not have to be masterpiece but please some resemblance to the truth would suffice. But clearly, what was of least importance to the other reviewers was YOU. The person at home shopping for a GOOD book on "history's greatest analogies, metaphors and similes." Because let me tell you, this book, was not even close.

Mardy Grothe is a national treasure and so are his books. *I Never Metaphor I Didn't Like* lives up to Mardy Grothe's platinum standard of wit, wisdom and insight. It is absolutely amazing that one man has such a comprehensive collections of quotes. It is even more amazing that he has them well-organized into topics. However, the presentation of each quote, painted into a context and story is nothing short of sheer delight. I am a big fan of Mardy, his books and his "Dr. Mardy's Quotes of the Week" e-newsletter (drmardy.com). If it seems that I might be overstating and exaggerating, then I welcome the reader to purchase a copy in a failed attempt to prove me wrong!

I love this one and ALL of Dr. Mardy Grothe's clever books! His exhaustive research, his witty chapter introductions, and his delight in words and word play are all evident and a joy to read! His other books include, "Never Let a Fool Kiss You, or a Kiss Fool You," "Oxymoronica," and "Viva la Repartee," and they are so much fun, you will chuckle as you read them. As a fellow fan of word play, I adore reading his books and I'm eagerly awaiting his next, entitled, "Ifferisms." Sign up for his weekly newsletter for even more interesting literary information and a puzzler, which I love solving!--Linnda Durre', Ph.D. Author, psychotherapist, and columnist

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