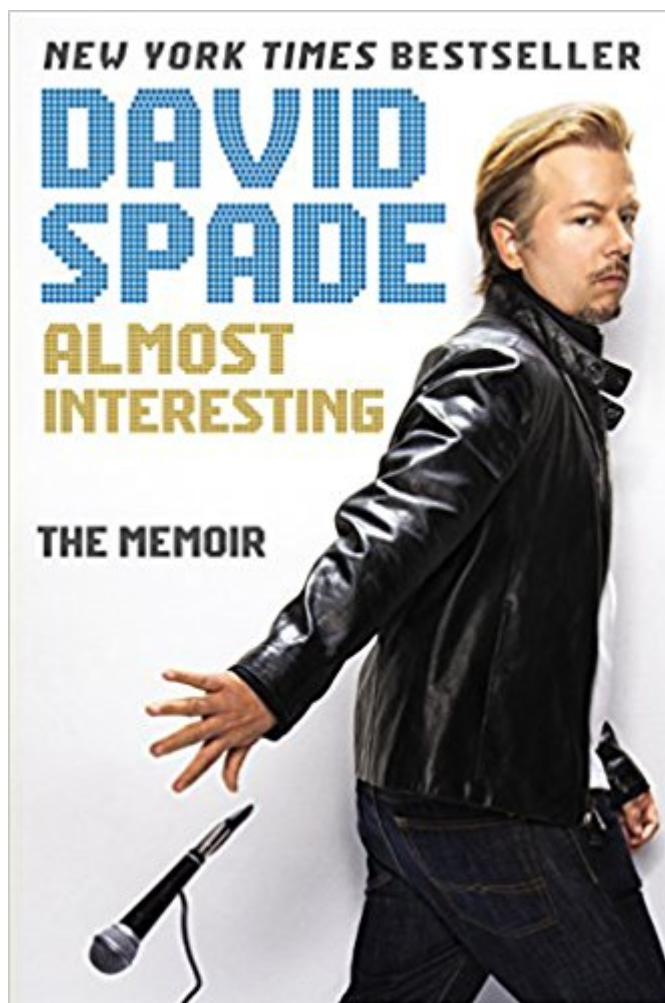




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# Almost Interesting



## Synopsis

A hilarious and biting memoir from the actor, comedian and *Saturday Night Live* alumni David Spade. David Spade is best known for his harsh *“Hollywood Minute Sketches”* on *SNL*, his starring roles in movies like *Joe Dirt* and *Tommy Boy*, and his seven-year stint as Dennis Finch on the series *Just Shoot Me*. Now, with a wit as dry as the weather in his home state of Arizona, the *“comic brat extraordinaire”* tells his story in *Almost Interesting*. First Taking fans back to his childhood as a wannabe cool younger brother and recounting his excruciating road-tour to fame “when he was regularly mistaken for a ten year-old, Spade then dishes about his time crisscrossing the country as a comedian, for low-paying gigs and dragging along his mother’s old suitcase full of props. He also covers his years on *SNL* during the beloved Rock/Sandler/Farley era of the 1990s, including his close working relationship and friendship with Chris Farley and brags about the ridiculous perks that fame has brought into his life, including the constant fear of being fired, a crazy ex-assistant who attacked him while he was sleeping, a run-in with Eddie Murphy on the mean streets of Beverly Hills, and of course an endless supply of hot chicks. Sometimes dirty, always funny, and as sharp as a tack, *Almost Interesting* reminds you why David Spade is one of our generation’s favorite funny guys.

## Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Dey Street Books; Reprint edition (April 12, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0062376993

ISBN-13: 978-0062376992

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.6 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 381 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #91,105 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #114 in Books > Humor &

Entertainment > Humor > Comedy #525 in Books > Literature & Fiction > United States > Humor

#696 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Satire

## Customer Reviews

Books are a lot harder to write than Twitter posts. @davidspade (free plug) David Spade is *Almost Interesting* This is my memoir . . . . It’s me telling you about my fake problems in life and a few real ones. It’s a book about comedy, and how I came up from the dusty roads of Arizona with my

OP shorts and my blond fluffy hair, to the mean streets of Beverly Hills, with nothing but a few props in my mom's old honeymoon suitcase and a couple of dry jokes. These are the stories I tell my friends at dinner when I'm drunk, and they dart their eyes around hoping a waiter will interrupt me. Me blabbering on about how I lost my virginity, how I got into stand-up, meeting Johnny Carson, making Tommy Boy with Farley, and getting beat up while wearing a Coneheads T-shirt. Sound stupid? Maybe! Read and find out.

David Spade is an actor, comedian, and writer. A former cast member of Saturday Night Live, Spade has also starred in the films Tommy Boy, Black Sheep, and the Joe Dirt and Grown Ups franchises. He was nominated for an Emmy, two Golden Globes, and an American Comedy Award for his role on NBC's Just Shoot Me! He also won a participation award for being in show business. That's the one he's most proud of. He lives in Los Angeles, California.

This was a funny and casually well-written book, a good read But it's a little frustrating because it abandons the "narrative," if you will, without finishing it. The first 2/3 of the book deal with Spade's upbringing, his grind through the comedy club scene, and his slow climb from SNL writer to SNL performer. Even though it's written with a light touch, that stuff is all pretty compelling. But it drops that thread after he's made it as an SNL cast member. It doesn't tell the story of what prompted him to leave SNL, or his movie career (except for Tommy Boy), or his experience on sitcoms. Instead, the last 1/3 of the book morphs into more of a George Carlin "Brain Droppings" type thing -- little observational essays on miscellaneous topics ranging from doing cocaine to his thoughts on dating tricks that women pull. I would have been really interested to hear why he made the jump from SNL when he did (given how hard his climb there was) and whether he's happy or not with his sitcom and movie work. The guy writes so well and so honestly about his career that I certainly could have read a lot more of it. But still, this is an entertaining read and I'd recommend it for anyone who likes a fun, self-aware memoir.

Growing up loving/idolizing Farley, Spade, Sandler, and Rock on SNL, I knew I had to read this book. If you're like me and can recite Tommy Boy, line-by-line, this book's for you. Spade's sense of humor translates very well (no ghostwriter, just Spade). If you're not a fan of his dry, somewhat silly, sense of humor, this book isn't for you as much of its charm is how Spade manages to deliver his trademark humor throughout. I loved hearing about his years on SNL, and the inner-workings of that machine, including the intense schedules, politics with guest hosts and cast members and writers,

etc. The majority of the book is his early life growing up in Arizona, starting in stand-up comedy, getting his start in LA, and SNL. It's almost like this is part one because so much is seemingly left out. While I loved the Chris Farley/Tommy Boy/Black Sheep chapters (check out the book, *The Chris Farley Show*, if you want an excellent read), I knew he wouldn't get too deep into that. Spade was deeply affected by Chris's death and I respect that he wants to keep private moments private. Also, it would have brought the book down too much to dwell. I was very surprised there weren't any chapters devoted to his tv shows like *8 Simple Rules...*, *Just Shoot Me*, or *Rules of Engagement*. I also wanted to know more about his daughter. Other than a brief mention in the acknowledgements, there was nothing. We hear about how he loses his virginity, does too much coke (such a randomly-placed chapter, by the way), Twitter and Instagram shenanigans, and dating how-to's, yet no mention of her. There aren't any great revelations made, though he's lived a very colorful life and worked hard to obtain his level of fame. I found myself laughing out loud several times. Check out this book for a good laugh and several good stories, including the "deets" on the infamous Eddie Murphy "sitch".

As a Gen Xer going to college during much of David Spade's SNL stint and loving the entire cast and every sketch during those early 90's, I became a fan of his a long time ago. I love his standup, so funny to watch. This book is not written by a professional writer which makes this better...he writes this book like he's doing standup which works perfectly for his story and his personality. As was mentioned previously a million times, I hope he comes out with another book picking up where he left off and talking more about the rest of his professional life (and personal). Dennis Finch is one of the best TV characters of the last few decades....would love to read more about that. This book gives a really fascinating insider's look at how the SNL sausage was made during that time. I have read several books by comedians but this one gets more personal than other's I've read. After you read this, you come to the understanding that he was a regular schlub, just like the rest of us, who worked his butt off to get where he is...and he must be a really charming guy.

Lots of interesting and comical situations. The sacrifices and hard work he has done shows why he has the success he has. While he doesn't have what most would consider a great writing style, I got quite a few laughs out of it. He seems to be honest and straightforward because his prose is self-deprecating yet doesn't have to be. The ending was weird, though. He stops somewhat abruptly and we miss out on his current events. The book primarily covers his childhood, his early stand-up, SNL, and Tommy Boy with Chris Farley. After that, not so much. The ending oddly detailed several

bits of advice about relationships, which, I have to admit, was somewhat educational, surprisingly funny, and shamefully accurate. Don't expect the whole book to be an autobiography and don't expect the book to cover his life up to the publish date of the book. Still a great read that earns 5 stars.

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