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In Such Good Company: Eleven Years Of Laughter, Mayhem, And Fun In The Sandbox (Random House Large Print)



Synopsis

Comedy legend Carol Burnett tells the hilarious behind-the-scenes story of her iconic weekly variety series, *The Carol Burnett Show*. Who but Carol Burnett herself has the timing, talent, and wit to pull back the curtain on the Emmy-Award winning show that made television history for eleven glorious seasons? *In Such Good Company* delves into little-known stories of the guests, sketches and antics that made the show legendary, as well as some favorite tales too good not to relive again. Carol lays it all out for us, from the show's original conception to its evolution into one of the most beloved primetime programs of its generation. Written with all the charm and humor fans expect from a masterful entertainer like Carol Burnett, *In Such Good Company* skillfully highlights the elements that made the show so successful in a competitive period when TV variety shows ruled the air waves. Putting the spotlight on everyone from her talented costars to her amazing guest stars—the most celebrated and popular entertainers of their day—Carol crafts a lively portrait of the talent and creativity that went into every episode. Here are all the topics readers want to know more about, including: how the show almost didn't air due to the misgivings of certain CBS vice presidents; how she discovered and hired Harvey Korman, Vicki Lawrence, Lyle Waggoner, and Tim Conway; anecdotes about guest stars and her close friendships with many of them, including Lucille Ball, Roddy McDowell, Jim Nabors, Bernadette Peters, Betty Grable, Steve Lawrence, Eydie Gorme, Gloria Swanson, Rita Hayworth, and Betty White; the people behind the scenes from Bob Mackie, her costume designer and partner in crime, to the wickedly funny cameraman who became a fixture during the show's opening Q&A; and Carol's takes on her favorite sketches and the unpredictable moments that took both the cast and viewers by surprise. This book is Carol's love letter to a golden era in television history through the lens of her brilliant show which won no less than 25 Emmy Awards! Get the best seat in the house as she reminisces about the outrageous tales that made working on the show as much fun as watching it.

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Customer Reviews

"In Such Good Company," by Carol Burnett, is the legendary comedienne's look back at her variety show, which ran for eleven years, from 1967-1978. Burnett enjoyed singing, dancing, performing sketch comedy (her movie parodies were often laugh-out-loud funny), and cavorting with such guest stars as Bernadette Peters, Rock Hudson, Bing Crosby, and Lucille Ball. Burnett gives high praise to her ex-husband/producer, Joe Hamilton, her cast, crew, costume designer, choreographer, writers, and others who made it possible to create 276 hour-long shows. Remarkably, she informs us, "We could tape our entire show [before a live audience], with all the sketches, musical numbers, scenery, and costume changes, plus special effects, in less than two hours." She adds, "We did very few retakes because I wanted our show to have a spontaneous feel." Baby boomers will fondly recall settling down to a night of merriment and music with Carol Burnett. The author chats with us like a close friend sitting in our living rooms, recapping her favorite segments, bemoaning bits that flopped, and regaling us with numerous behind-the-scenes anecdotes. In addition, she discusses her cast of regulars (Korman, Conway, Waggoner, and Lawrence), with whom she performed zany sketches and stunts. Carol describes what it was like to portray such iconic and off-the-wall characters as Zelda, Eunice, "Mildred Fierce," and Scarlett O'Hara in "Gone with the Wind." Readers will admire Burnett's self-deprecating humor, passion for her work, and affection for her colleagues. Unfortunately, she reprises too many segments from her shows, at times quoting the scripts word-for-word.

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