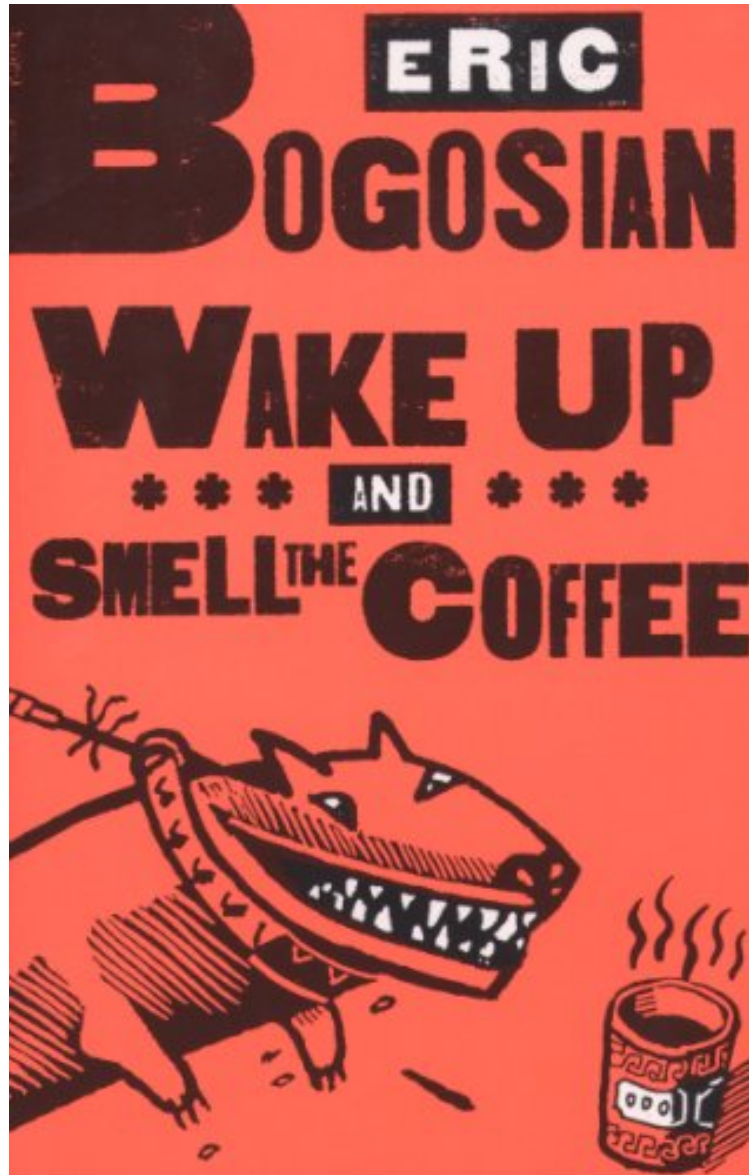


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Wake Up and Smell the Coffee: 1

Eric Bogosian

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Eric Bogosian : Wake Up and Smell the Coffee: 1 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wake Up and Smell the Coffee: 1:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Humor is a weapon, and Bogosian is a talented marksman. By C. Mclemore Bogosian proves with Wake Up and Smell the Coffee that he is one of the funniest, smartest, and angriest writers around. Wake Up is a collection of monologues designed to be performed as a one-man (or one-woman) show, but the monologues could stand on their own as comedic vignettes good enough to work as audition pieces or stand-up

routines. Most of the monologues are piercing in their accuracy. Bogosian takes on pop culture, religion, families, and he does so with sarcasm that never lets up and almost never misses the mark. His take on the carnival at airports is just one example: Standing in ticket lines, sitting in the departure lounge, crowded around the baggage carousel watching the luggage coming out as if awaiting the birth of your first child. The book is separated into three parts. The main portion of this book is the collection of monologues that form the one-man show. The second part of the book contains what Bogosian calls Orphans monologues that don't really fit in with the rest of the work. The final piece of the book is an essay on how Bogosian develops his monologues (or solos, as he refers to them). He explains how he locks himself in a room with a tape recorder and lets his inner characters loose. The essay is interesting, but you get the feeling that it was added to give some more bulk to the book, and not because it was intended to accompany the monologues. Bogosian admits in the introduction that after 9/11 he told his agent to shelve the book altogether. Some of the material in *Wake Up* takes on terrorism, plane crashes, the Oklahoma City bombing, and Arabic immigrants, and Bogosian was worried that this book would come across as offensive. In truth, some of the pieces do ring with a clarity that might not have existed in the pre-9/11 world. That insight makes the jokes funnier and the truth more bitter. The fact that some of his monologues dealt with subjects that would be forced into the public consciousness after 9/11 just shows how insightful Bogosian has become. It's not just jokes anymore.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. As someone in the coffee business I thought this was an excellent book. By Bobby Kerr: *Wake up and sell the coffee* is a fascinating read for anyone who is thinking of starting their own business. In a very honest way Martyn tracks the highs and lows of the journey from having to completely change the model to reflect changes in the coffee consumer market to the early successes with Spar and welcome Break. Subjects such as protecting your brand to protecting your business when you only have 3 major customers are explored and analysed. I thoroughly enjoyed the read and read it from cover to cover over a 24 hour period.

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. **OUT AND OUT ROCK AND ROLL!!!** By D. Fine: This guy just keeps getting better and sharper. The book, like the performance, is fast, furious, angry, and doesn't care what you think, just as long as you think. I'd have to say that half of it could be perceived as more of the same, but it would be shortsighted to dismiss it as such. This is intensely focused on the mentality of the public at large like a magnifying glass in the sun torching an ant. It's more than a dissection of the follies of materialism and fame. He spoons out the heartless soul of it and puts on display for all to witness like an audience holding court for a lynching. It's the out and out truth. And through his 10 or so monologues, he hurls that brick through the glass houses of smoke and mirror. Knock yourself out. You decide. Love him. Hate him. He'll kick your [butt] either way.

100% pure high octane Bogosian. Bogosian's latest and greatest monologue. "His wit is as venomous as ever, his material even more devastating and polished than before." — *New York Daily News* "Bogosian hasn't simply crossed the line of good taste, he has snorted it." — *The Daily Texan* *Wake Up* is Bogosian's meditation on making it to the top of the ladder, on falling off the ladder and on the exhilarating thrill of the ultimate crash and burn. Once again the author offers a blisteringly funny and dead-on take of the chaos and alienation of post-modern life in the U. S. of the year 2000. As Michael Feingold so ably offered in his *Village Voice* review — "Bogosian is there, watching out for the downtrodden, ridiculing the arrogant rich, defending battered wives and neo-hippie hitchhikers and never losing sight of his own capacity for being classed among the batters and bullies. But his 95 minutes is as fast and exciting a read as the theatre community offers. In our time, the stage has almost been what classical thinkers saw it as, a medium for criticizing life. How perfect that a solo performer should rediscover its roots, by choosing his own life as the object of his criticism." Eric Bogosian, born in Woburn, Massachusetts, has performed his plays and monologues at venues nationwide. Winner of Obie and Drama Desk Awards, he has made four films of his work, most notably *Talk Radio* and *Suburbia*. His novel *Mall* was recently published by Simon and Schuster.

Brilliant as ever! — *The Boston Globe* "Daring. Breathtaking." — Michael Feingold, *Village Voice* "His wit is as venomous as ever, his material even more devastating and polished than before." — *New York Daily News*