

Notes of a Dirty Old Man

By Charles Bukowski

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A compilation of Charles Bukowski's underground articles from his column "Notes of a Dirty Old Man" appears here in book form. Bukowski's reasoning for self-describing himself as a 'dirty old man' rings true in this book.


"People come to my door—too many of them really—and knock to tell me *Notes of a Dirty Old Man* turns them on. A bum off the road brings in a gypsy and his wife and we talk . . . drink half the night. A long distance operator from Newburgh, N.Y. sends me money. She wants me to give up drinking beer and to eat well. I hear from a madman who calls himself 'King Arthur' and lives on Vine Street in Hollywood and wants to help me write my column. A doctor comes to my door: 'I read your column and think I can help you. I used to be a psychiatrist.' I send him away . . ."

"Bukowski writes like a latter-day Celine, a wise fool talking straight from the gut about the futility and beauty of life . . ." —*Publishers Weekly*

"These disjointed stories gives us a glimpse into the brilliant and highly disturbed mind of a man who will drink anything, hump anything and say anything without the slightest tinge of embarrassment, shame or remorse. It's actually pretty hard not to like the guy after reading a few of these semi-ranting short stories."
—Greg Davidson, curriculummag.com

Charles Bukowski was born in Andernach, Germany on August 16, 1920, the only child of an American soldier and a German mother. Bukowski published his first story when he was twenty-four and began writing poetry at the age of thirty-five. His first book of poetry was published in 1959; he went on to publish more than forty-five books of poetry and prose, including *Pulp* (Black Sparrow, 1994), *Screams from the Balcony: Selected Letters 1960-1970* (1993), and *The Last Night of the Earth Poems* (1992). Other Bukowski books published by City Lights Publishers include *More Notes of a Dirty Old Man*, *The Most Beautiful Woman in Town*, *Tales of Ordinary Madness*, *Portions from a Wine-Stained Notebook*, and *Absence of the Hero*. He died of leukemia in San Pedro on March 9, 1994.

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Notes of a Dirty Old Man By Charles Bukowski Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #57278 in Books
- Brand: Brand: City Lights Publishers
- Published on: 2001-01-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .60" w x 5.50" l, .56 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 204 pages

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Charles Bukowski was born in Andernach, Germany in 1920 and brought to Los Angeles at age three. Using the city as a backdrop for his work, Bukowski wrote prolifically, publishing over fifty volumes of poetry and prose. He died in San Pedro, California on March 9, 1994. His books are widely translated and posthumous volumes continue to appear.

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