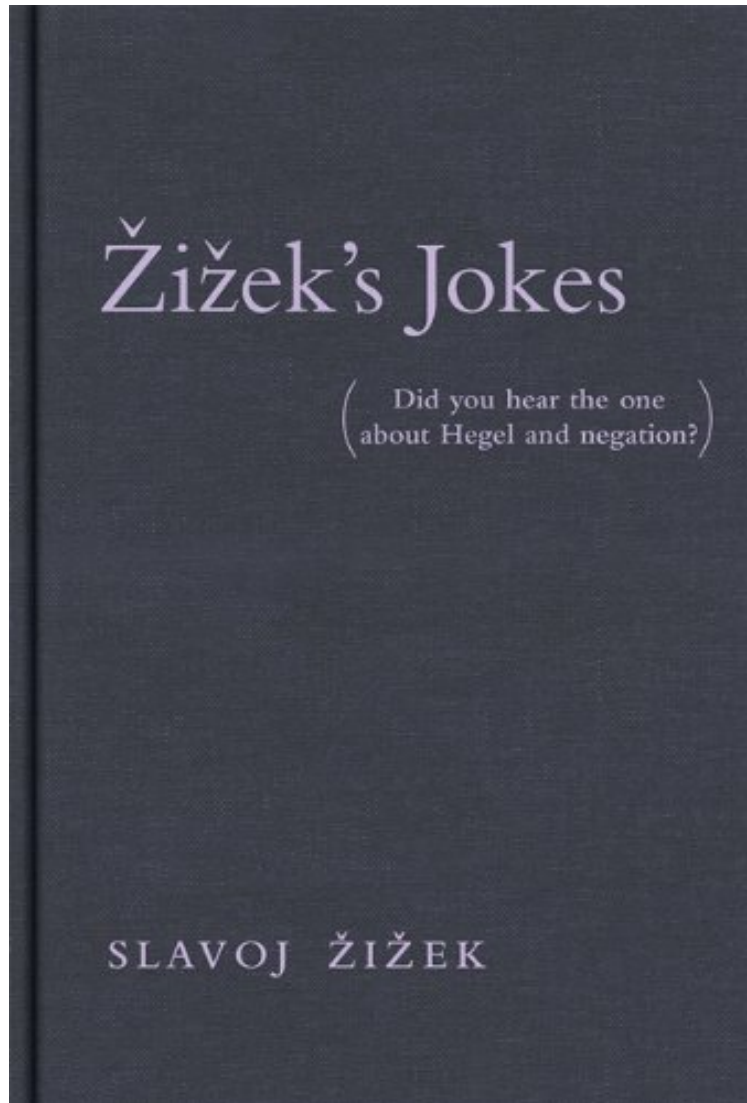


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## Zizek's Jokes: Did You Hear the One about Hegel and Negation? (MIT Press)

Slavoj Žižek

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**Slavoj Žižek : Zizek's Jokes: Did You Hear the One about Hegel and Negation? (MIT Press)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Zizek's Jokes: Did You Hear the One about Hegel and Negation? (MIT Press):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great bathroom/coffee table book for someone already familiar with his ...By Jacqueline M EdwardsGreat bathroom/coffee table book for someone already familiar with his (and those he

refers to) philosophy. Perhaps wouldn't be good for someone new to him or philosophy in general. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant analogies throughout  
By RTZizek is a philosopher whose ideas I wish I could further understand. For every point he makes that fully registers with me and makes me really believe something, there are three or four that are just completely over my head. Still, his ability to turn jokes into legitimate philosophical notions is remarkable and his writing is extremely entertaining.  
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. it is best suited to those with a decent understanding of philosophy ...  
By Derek CarterDefinitely crude humour throughout, it is best suited to those with a decent understanding of philosophy which I don't have but I am trying. I did enjoy it though and it raised a few interesting questions and was entertaining so I recommend it.

Žižek as comedian: jokes in the service of philosophy." A serious and good philosophical work could be written consisting entirely of jokes." -- Ludwig Wittgenstein  
The good news is that this book offers an entertaining but enlightening compilation of Žižekisms. Unlike any other book by Slavoj Žižek, this compact arrangement of jokes culled from his writings provides an index to certain philosophical, political, and sexual themes that preoccupy him. Žižek's Jokes contains the set-ups and punch lines -- as well as the offenses and insults -- that Žižek is famous for, all in less than 200 pages.  
So what's the bad news? There is no bad news. There's just the inimitable Slavoj Žižek, disguised as an impossibly erudite, politically incorrect uncle, beginning a sentence, "There is an old Jewish joke, loved by Derrida..." For Žižek, jokes are amusing stories that offer a shortcut to philosophical insight. He illustrates the logic of the Hegelian triad, for example, with three variations of the "Not tonight, dear, I have a headache" classic: first the wife claims a migraine; then the husband does; then the wife exclaims, "Darling, I have a terrible migraine, so let's have some sex to refresh me!" A punch line about a beer bottle provides a Lacanian lesson about one signifier. And a "truly obscene" version of the famous "aristocrats" joke has the family offering a short course in Hegelian thought rather than a display of unspeakables. Žižek's Jokes contains every joke cited, paraphrased, or narrated in Žižek's work in English (including some in unpublished manuscripts), including different versions of the same joke that make different points in different contexts. The larger point being that comedy is central to Žižek's seriousness.

About the Author  
Slavoj Žižek is a philosopher and cultural critic. He is the author of more than thirty books, including *Looking Awry: An Introduction to Jacques Lacan through Popular Culture*, *The Puppet and the Dwarf: The Perverse Core of Christianity*, *The Parallax View*, and (with John Milbank) *The Monstrosity of Christ: Paradox or Dialect*, these four published by the MIT Press.