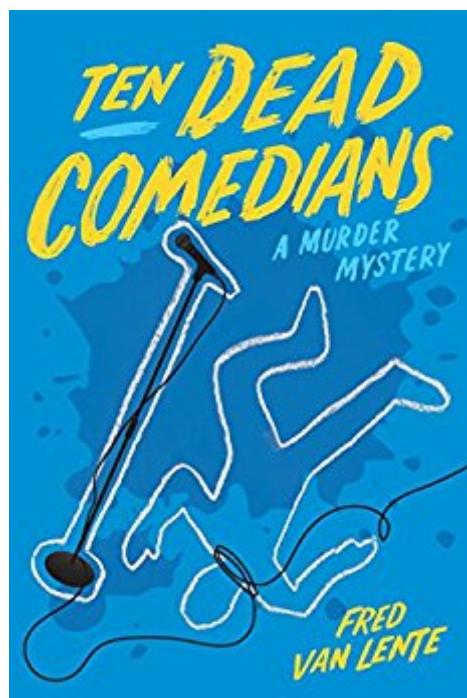


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# Ten Dead Comedians: A Murder Mystery



## Synopsis

Fred Van Lente's brilliant debut is both an homage to the Golden Age of Mystery and a thoroughly contemporary show-business satire. As the story opens, nine comedians of various acclaim are summoned to the island retreat of legendary Hollywood funnyman Dustin Walker. The group includes a former late-night TV host, a washed-up improv instructor, a ridiculously wealthy "blue collar" comic, and a past-her-prime Vegas icon. All nine arrive via boat to find that every building on the island is completely deserted. Marooned without cell phone service or wifi signals, they soon find themselves being murdered one by one. But who is doing the killing, and why? A darkly clever take on Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None* and other classics of the genre, *Ten Dead Comedians* is a marvel of literary ventriloquism, with hilarious comic monologues in the voice of every suspect. It's also an ingeniously plotted puzzler with a twist you'll never see coming!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Ten Dead Comedians is an homage to Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None*, but with 100% more jokes. This is the rare book that will appeal equally to fans of Ms. Christie, or murder

mysteries in general, comedy lovers, and those who just really, really hate comedians and all that they stand for. (After all, it's a book about comedians being murdered). Mr. Van Lente's writing is detailed without being heavy-handed, humorous without being un-serious and charming without being cute. While keeping track of ten characters can be a bit tricky, Van Lente writes each one fully, creating ten distinct individuals. You'll recognize the types, if not specific comics, who serve as the inspiration for the characters, but these are not generic archetypes, but rather, living, breathing people, and while you may not miss them all when they're picked off one by one (it's called Ten Dead Comedians, not Ten Dead Perfect People), you will certainly feel their absence. There is a bit of gore, which may not be for the faint of heart, but despite being a story of murder, it never feels heavy or even depressing. If you're looking for a tale of murder with an ending you won't see coming, check out *Ten Dead Comedians*!

Very good book. Clever, funny and suspenseful with a surprise ending. I'll buy more of his books and hope they're as good.

A great iteration on *Ten Little Indians*. I couldn't put the book down. I feared that having to read about so many characters in such a short amount of pages would make for a lot of stereotypical or too simple characters. But overall, I felt that each character got enough of a spotlight to really make this a fun mystery.

A brisk, engrossing caper with sharp teeth and something to say about celebrity, creativity, and comedy. Well-drawn characters and an exotic locale pull you in to a savage game of survival where every laugh is laced with fear and each memorably brutal death hits with ironic precision worthy of William Gaines.

I've known the author since he was "in utero". Smart as a youngster and no surprise he has written a witty, hip and ingenious first novel. Enjoyed all of it and I am truly not prejudiced. Look forward to his next novel about the foibles of the entertainment world.

A really fun and breezy riff on the classic *And Then There Were None* story. It's a blast.

Loved it! Laugh out loud funny, an intelligent foray by Mr Van Lente into the world of comedians. Oh, spoiler alert, some die.

This is a fast, fun read. Even if you figure out What's Going On pretty quickly, as i did, there are still plenty of fun twists and turns between the start and the end. It tries to be meta at times (comedy about comedians, etc), and it sometimes works. I might have given it five stars if the end were more in keeping with the rest of the book, but it's still a good read. Needless (i hope) to say, there's a great deal of violence in this book, but very little gore. There is also a great deal of profanity. But really, if those aren't something you can put up with you probably wouldn't be looking at this book in the first place.

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