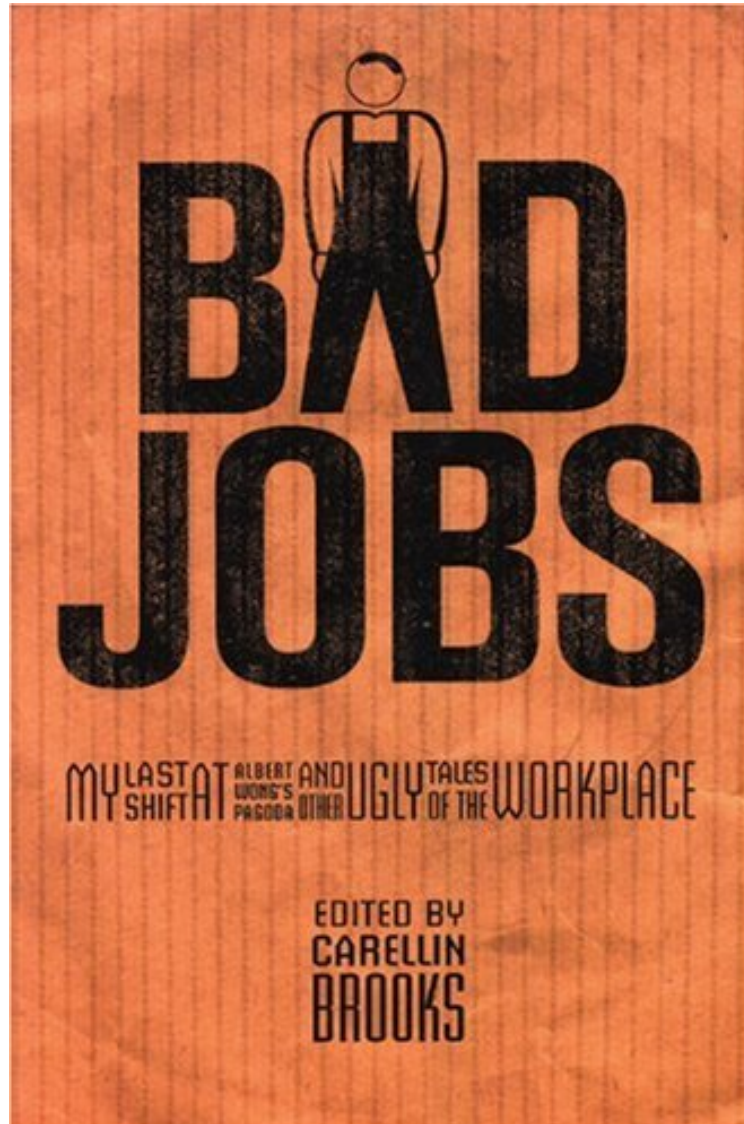


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Bad Jobs: My Last Shift at Albert Wong's Pagoda and Other Ugly Tales of the Workplace

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From Brand: Arsenal Pulp Press : Bad Jobs: My Last Shift at Albert Wong's Pagoda and Other Ugly Tales of the Workplace before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bad Jobs: My Last Shift at Albert Wong's Pagoda and Other Ugly Tales of the Workplace:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A Vital New Literary Form By A Customer This is a very cool collection of stories, comics, and photographs depict, in gory true-life detail, examples of bad jobs. Included is the tale

of a phone sex operator who routinely brings men to orgasm while reading Ms Magazine, the stripper who performs her first-and last-routine to Aretha Franklin's "R-E-S-P-E-C-T", and the factory worker who knows firsthand what goes into "Crushed Party Ice." Truth is alternately more irritating and stranger than fiction as with the story of the applicant whose interviewers end up breathing real hard through their noses, until she points out that half of their interview questions are illegal or an environmental canvasser who turns up in the local paper's "Crimewatch" column - and considers turning himself in for the reward money. By turns beautiful, surreal, hilarious, and awful, BAD JOBS brings together a plurality to the aesthetic responses to each author's 'true stories' just as some forms of badness require different remedies. The stories in this collection mix subversive laughter at absurdity with the sadness, frustrations and failed hopes that makeup many workplace experience. Perhaps best of all Bad Jobs is a vital and welcomed new model for complaint and renewal in storytelling from the rare perspective of the bottom up.0 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Not one of my favorite 'real-world' books...By A CustomerSome of the employment horror stories are funny but several chapters were quite honestly, vulgar. This book is loaded with graphic, sexual content and strong language. When reading the chapters I felt that some of the supposed "real-life experiences" were exaggerated or even fabricated. I have heard better "on-the-job-horror-stories" from my co-workers than what I read in this book.

Wry, acerbic, and utterly painful, these strange-yet-true stories about working life answer the proverbial question: how bad can a bad job be?

About the AuthorCarellin Brooks teaches at UBC. She is the co-editor, with Brett Josef Grubisic, of Carnal Nation: Brave New Sex Fictions (Arsenal Pulp Press) and editor of Bad Jobs (Arsenal Pulp Press). She is also the author of Every Inch a Woman: Phallic Possession, Femininity and the Text (UBC Press) and Wreck Beach (New Star Books). She lives in Vancouver.