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## Big Trouble

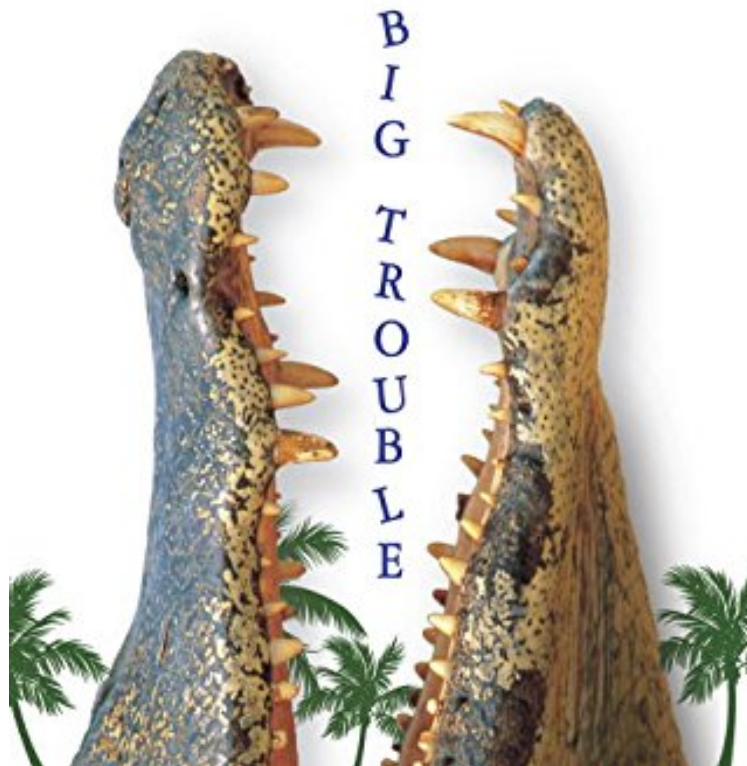
Dave Barry

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THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER



"Dave Barry has gone completely—and delightfully—bonkers." —People



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**Dave Barry : Big Trouble** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Big Trouble:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. combined with a love story, and a book on modern parentingBy jaimeshawnDave manages to combined Russian mafia, a hit team from New Jersey, a dog with the IQ of celery, irresponsible teenagers, sacrificial goats, rogue FBI agents and other petty criminals, and a nuclear bomb to explain

just one day's worth of 5 o'clock news for Miami. You could think of it as a travelogue for those not familiar with the customs of the people of Miami, combined with a love story, and a book on modern parenting....0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Dry and Slapstick humor all bundled togetherBy NikkiThis has been one of my all-time favorite books since I first read it 17 years ago. I own the hardcover, e-book, and Audible editions, plus the DVD. The story line is absolutely ridiculous and that's what makes it so funny. The humor manages to be slapstick and dry at the same time, which makes it difficult for some people to get it. I also recommend Dave Barry's books (in this order): Lunatics, Insane City, and Deep Trouble.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A good read but not exactly the same as the movie version.By L. GandyI like Dave Barry's work. That being said, if you have watched the movie starring Tim Allen, Rene Russo, Dennis Farina and Tom Sizemore, it was taken from this book but it has more of a comedic edge than this story. Of the two I like the movie version better but this book is still a good read.

Dave Barry makes his fiction debut with a ferociously funny novel of love and mayhem in south Florida.In his career, Dave Barry has done just about everything--written bestselling nonfiction, won a Pulitzer Prize, seen his life turned into a television series. And now, at last, he has joined the long list of literary figures from Jane Austen to Tolstoy who have made the transition from humor columnist to novelist...and done it with a style and inventiveness that establishes that, yes, he is very good at that, too.In the city of Coconut Grove, Florida, these things happen: A struggling adman named Eliot Arnold drives home from a meeting with the Client From Hell. His teenage son, Matt, fills a Squirtmaster 9000 for his turn at a high school game called Killer. Matt's intended victim, Jenny Herk, sits down in front of the TV with her mom for what she hopes will be a peaceful evening for once. Jenny's alcoholic and secretly embezzling stepfather, Arthur, emerges from the maid's room, angry at being rebuffed. Henry and Leonard, two hit men from New Jersey, pull up to the Herks' house for a real game of Killer, Arthur's embezzlement apparently not having been quite so secret to his employers after all. And a homeless man named Puggy settles down for the night in a treehouse just inside the Herks' yard.In a few minutes, a chain of events that will change the lives of each and every one of them will begin, and will leave some of them wiser, some of them dead, and some of them definitely looking for a new line of work. With a wicked wit, razor-sharp observations, rich characters, and a plot with more twists than the Inland Waterway, Dave Barry makes his debut a complete and utter triumph.

.com Dave Barry, the only newsman to win a Pulitzer for exemplary use of words like booger, will please humor and crime-fiction fans alike with this racy debut novel. The scene is Miami. In ritzy Coconut Grove, the teen son of Eliot, a newsman turned adman, sneaks up to spritz a cute girl with a Squirtmaster 9000 to win a high school game called Killer. Meanwhile, two hit men sneak up to kill the girl's abusive stepdad, Arthur. Arthur cheated his bosses at corrupt Penultimate, Inc., which equipped a Florida jail with automatic garage-opener gates that accidentally freed prisoners in a lightning storm. Farcical confusion ensues, witnessed by a saintly bum named Puggy, camped in a tree in Arthur's yard. Puggy works at the Jolly Jackal Bar Grill, which has no grill and actually sells guns and bombs to an offshoot of the Crips and Bloods called the Cruds, and to Penultimate (which plans to conquer Cuba). But when dim thugs Eddie and Snake rob the Jolly Jackal and Arthur tells them it's a Russian mob front selling bombs, the proprietor snorts, "Bombs, pfft! No bombs! Is bar." Can Snake and Eddie spirit a suitcase nuke through Miami, "where most motorists obeyed the traffic and customs of their individual countries of origin"? Can Eliot and cop Monica Rodriguez save the day? And how do the 300-pound hallucinogenic Enemy Toad, the 13-foot-long python Daphne, highway goats, and the Denture Adventure seniors' theme park fit in? Everything fits perfectly, including a few dark passages new to Barry's work. But one warning: if you read this book while drinking milk, at some point it will spurt out of your nostrils. --Tim AppeloFrom Publishers WeeklyIn writing a comic thriller set in South Florida, the Pulitzer-winning Miami Herald columnist and author of 20 books of satirical nonfiction (most recently, Dave Barry Turns 50) risks the inevitable comparison to Carl Hiaasen. The good news is that he acquits himself well in this slapstick caper. Barry's cast of familiar South Florida oddballs populate what might best be described as a Garry Trudeau (Doonesbury) sendup of the hard-boiled crime novels of Elmore Leonard. Featuring a homeless drifter who sleeps in a tree and tends bar for two illegal arms-dealing Russian hoods, a pair of two-bit losers who hustle tourists at parking meters, an ex-journalist (now a failing ad-man), a pretty illegal alien, a boozy embezzler and his ill-used wife and daughter, a teen with a water pistol playing a game of Killer, a retarded dog, a psychedelic South American toad, two klutzy New Jersey hit men and a virtual army of local and Federal law enforcement, the novel's quirky players bounce off each other like popcorn in a microwave, chasing after a mysterious suitcase containing a nuclear bomb in an unlikely race against certain death. The zany plot has more twists than the I-95 Miami airport interchange and more pratfalls than a Three Stooges comedy. Despite an occasional stiffness and tendency to strain for one-liners, the narrative moves at a breezy pace. Barry is indisputably one of the funniest humorists writing today, and his fiction debut will not disappoint a legion of fans. Agent, Al Hart. 150,000 first printing; \$150,000 ad/promo; Literary Guild featured alternate; 12-city author tour. (Sept.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Library JournalThose who admire the comic gifts of humorist Barry will find their appreciation rewarded with his first venture into fiction writing. He has concocted an utterly screw-wacky farce set in Miami that involves a homeless man who takes up residence in an

abandoned tree house; a foul-mouthed, spouse-abusing embezzler; a dumb-cluck advertising man; two plug-ugly hitmen; and a passel of assorted psychotics. It would be virtually impossible to try to outline the complex twists and turns of the plot, and the reader has to be pretty sharp not to get confused while Barry puts his characters through their several paces. But it becomes obvious that his hand is firmly on the throttle when the action slips into high gear. To reveal the climax would be unpardonable, but the novel ends with a bang. As usual with Barry, the narrative is shot through with keen, ironic humor and subtle mockery. Highly recommended.-AA.J. Anderson, GSLIS, Simmons Coll., Boston Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.