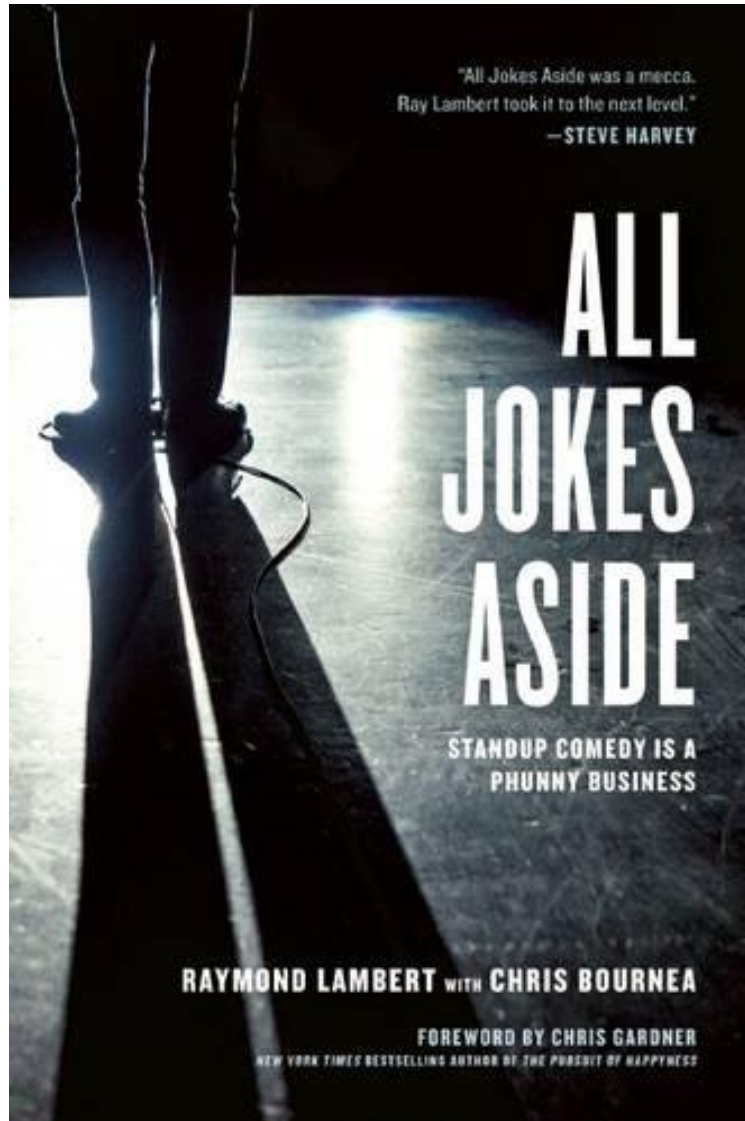


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All Jokes Aside: Standup Comedy Is a Phunny Business

Raymond Lambert, Chris Bournea

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Funny and enlighteningBy Andrew P MillerExcellent book that goes beyond just memories of an ex club owner and delves deeper into the social realities of doing business in two fairly corruption prone cities as a black entrepreneur determined to stay clean. This is eye opening both from the societal context and for any young (or young at heart) entrepreneurs looking to dive head first into their own dreams. A funny

and enlightening read for sure.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. All Jokes Aside was a Chicago treasure.By Miss JonesAll Jokes Aside is insightful, entertaining, and recommended reading for all potential entrepreneurs. The book gives a behind the scene look at the owner, Raymond Lambert, and all the effort it took to make the club a success. Sometimes we see the end product and don't realize what it actually cost to get there. Raymond Lambert reveals that being an entrepreneur is not for the faint of heart!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I enjoyed it a great dealBy CustomerGives the full context of the birth of Mr. Lambert's dream, "All Jokes Aside," by allowing the reader "in on" his upbringing. The book is thoughtfully written and with humor. I enjoyed it a great deal. **10 stars**

Chris Rock. Jamie Foxx. Steve Harvey. Dave Chappelle. Some of the biggest names in American entertainment today all appeared at Raymond Lambert's club All Jokes Aside, the legendary Chicago showcase for African-American comedy, early in their careers. This insightful memoir follows up on Lambert's critically acclaimed 2012 Showtime documentary, Phunny Business, and tells the story of his life as seen through the lens of All Jokes Aside—its successes, failures, and lessons learned.By the late 1980s, Lambert was earning a six-figure salary as an investment banker on Wall Street, but dreamed of starting his own company. With zero experience, an equally committed partner, and a little borrowed money, he opened All Jokes Aside, and before long was helping to launch some of the biggest names in comedy.This is story of Lambert's journey, a behind-the-scenes look at the world of show business, and an inspiring tale for any would-be entrepreneur. Chock-full of cautionary tales both humorous and dramatic, revealing details on the early careers of top performers, and tangible guidance on how to build a business from the ground up, this book is a much-needed recent history of black entertainment and a powerful memoir of entrepreneurial ups and downs.

Praise for Raymond Lambert's award-winning documentary "Phunny Business:""Full of history and context and has a sense of humor befitting its subject matter." —Neil Genzlinger, New York Times"[One of] the best documentaries of the year." —Roger Ebert"A wonderfully entertaining documentary about the club where it all began for many of today's top comic talents. " —Todd McCarthy, The Hollywood Reporter"This is one documentary that comedy fans won't want to miss." —Huffington Post