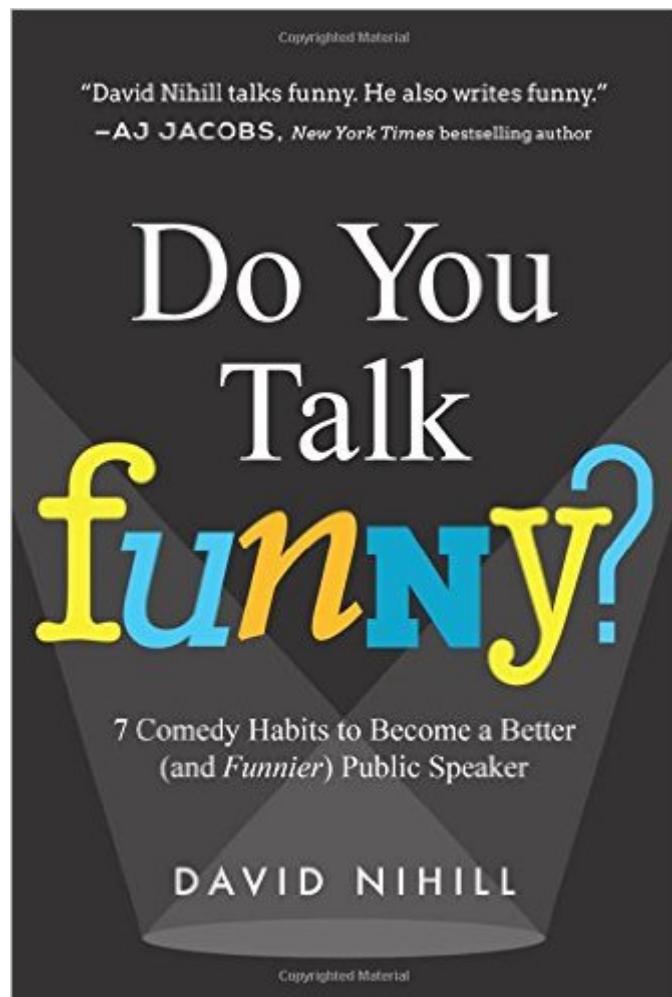


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# Do You Talk Funny?: 7 Comedy Habits To Become A Better (and Funnier) Public Speaker



## Synopsis

Public speaking can be terrifying. For David Nihill, the idea of standing in front of an audience was scarier than cliff jumping into a thorny pit of spiders and mothers-in-law. Without a parachute or advanced weaponry. Something had to change. In what doesn't sound like the best plan ever, David decided to overcome his fears by pretending to be an accomplished comedian called "Irish Dave" for one full year, crashing as many comedy clubs, festivals, and shows as possible. One part of the plan was at least logical: he was already Irish and already called Dave. In one year, David went from being deathly afraid of public speaking to hosting a business conference, regularly performing stand-up comedy and winning storytelling competitions in front of packed houses. And he did it by learning from some of the best public speakers in the world: stand-up comedians. *Do You Talk Funny?: 7 Comedy Habits to Become a Better (and Funnier) Public Speaker* shows how the key principles of stand-up comedy can be applied to your speaking engagements and presentations to make you funnier, more interesting, and better looking. (Or at least two of the three.) Whether you are preparing for a business presentation, giving a wedding toast, defending your thesis, raising money from investors, or simply want to take on something you're afraid of, this book will take you from sweaty to stage-ready. You'll learn how to:- Craft a story and content that your audience will want to listen to- Find the funniest parts of your material and how to get to them faster- Deal with stage fright- Master the two most important parts of your performance: timing and deliveryTen percent of the author's proceeds from this book will go to Arash Bayatmakou via Help Hope Live until he is fully back on his feet and thereafter to one of the many facing the same challenges after suffering a severe spinal cord injury.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As a stay-at-home mom and writer, I am definitely not the target audience for *Do You Talk Funny*. But I still somehow, amazingly, found this book to be relevant to my life, and I ended up really enjoying it. I think a big part of the book's appeal is that it is written with the novice in mind. I am pretty much terrified of public speaking, as Nihill was, so I could easily identify with his situation. Moreover, I absolutely appreciated his willingness to put himself out there so he could overcome his fear. I thought that was admirable. Right off the bat, I wanted to listen to him, because I felt like he was not only speaking from personal experience, but that he was genuinely interested in helping others to become better speakers and feel more comfortable in front of crowds. His tips are pretty straightforward, and other reviewers have outlined most of them. So, for the sake of brevity, I'll just list some of the points that I found helpful. In general, I really liked the chapters on how to write with humor and how to deliver your message/speech/whatever effectively.

- » Work in references to the local area whenever possible.
- » Use words with attitude.
- » Give clear takeaways.
- » Reference items that got a good reaction earlier.
- » Use different voices when possible.
- » Always write in the present tense.
- » Start strong, since the first 30 seconds make or break you with the audience.
- » Try and get a quick laugh.
- » Call the room, i.e., acknowledge the obvious (e.g., a sneeze, room temp).
- » Make sure you are fully visible.
- » Talk with your hands.
- » Record your performances so you can analyze them later.
- » Rehearse and practice; all the best performers do.
- » Plan for audience laughter or participation.

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