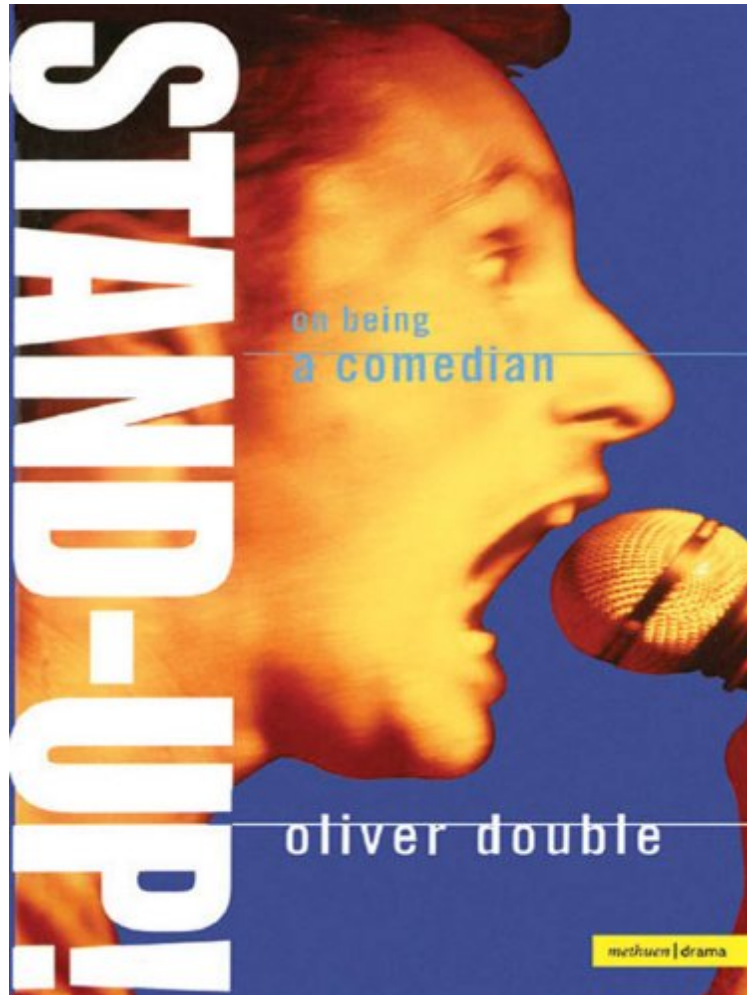


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## Stand Up: On Being a Comedian (Performance Books)

*Oliver Double*

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**Oliver Double : Stand Up: On Being a Comedian (Performance Books)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stand Up: On Being a Comedian (Performance Books):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent! I couldn't put it down  
By Jeremy Double  
The subject of this book is not one that would normally have attracted me: I had to read it, because the author is my brother. However, I found it an excellent and enjoyable read: in fact I couldn't put it down. The book is a history and analysis of stand-up comedy in Britain, enlivened and illustrated by the author's own experiences of performing as a stand-up comedian. You might expect a book of history and analysis to be dry and uninteresting, but the style is easy and informal, so it kept my interest throughout. The personal reminiscences are used to shed light on the story of the development of stand-up. They give another perspective to the historical facts, and add an extra dimension to the analyses. To conclude, I really enjoyed this book, and I would recommend anyone to read it.  
0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. THIS BOOK IS A 'DOUBLE' WHAMMY  
By brink1@arsenalfc.net  
WOW! This is not a

book that I would have read in a million years- not in terms of content, but because the cover reminded me of Ecstasy by Irving Welsh. This is definitely the best read on entertainment since the autobiography of Bud Flanagan! Seriously, the book makes you want to keep on reading and you just do NOT want to put it down, so I wouldn't recommend it for honeymooners. It is true comic talent, and apart from being a 'smiling book' which makes you want to grin, it is one of those rare books that once you have put it down, you keep thinking about and laughing. I have sat on the train merely thinking over what I have just read and cannot help but laugh. The book is also a useful reference for anybody interested in pursuing or improving their knowledge on Comedy, or simply reading about the humorous endeavours of Dr Double. TRUE TO LIFE AND WITTY WITH IT...LOVED IT. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is an extremely good book. By A Customer True to form, honest, informative and an interesting read if not fabulous research material. Would inspire people in the industry to learn more about their art and, on a more personal note, saved my graduation project from the shredding machine.

Stand-Up! is the first book to both analyse the background of stand-up comedy and take us inside the world of being a solo comedian. Oliver Double writes a lively history of the traditions of British stand-up comedy - from its roots in music hall and variety to today's club and alternative comedy scene - and also engages in a serious exploration of what it is like to be a comedian onstage in front of a sometimes adoring and sometimes hostile audience. He looks critically at the work of such stand-up stars as Frankie Howerd, Les Dawson, Billy Connolly, Victoria Wood, Ben Elton and Eddie Izzard. And he looks at himself as a performer.