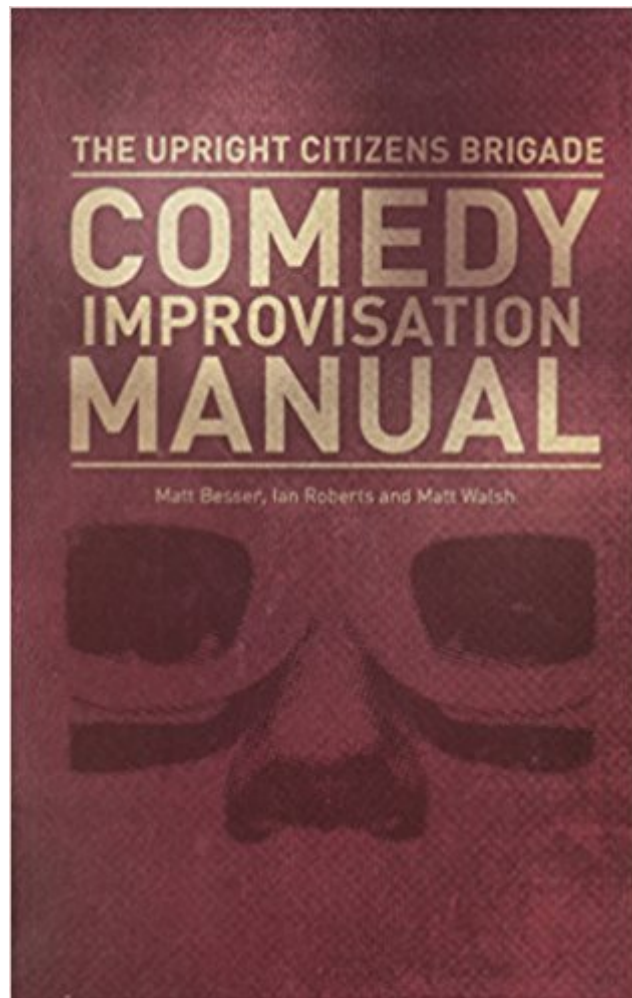




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# Upright Citizens Brigade Comedy Improvisation Manual



## Synopsis

The Upright Citizens Brigade Comedy Improvisation Manual is a comprehensive guide to the UCB style of long form comedy improvisation. Written by UCB founding members Matt Besser, Ian Roberts, and Matt Walsh, the manual covers everything from the basics of two person scene work (with a heavy emphasis on finding "the game" of the scene), to the complexities of working within an ensemble to perform long form structures, such as "The Harold" and "The Movie". A practical "how to" book, the guide provides exercises throughout to help the reader master each new concept and technique introduced. While the manual is written to be understood by beginners with no previous exposure to improvisational comedy, experienced improvisors will find it to be an excellent resource for honing their skills, clarifying concepts, and generally taking their work to a higher level.

## Book Information

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Comedy Council of Nicea (2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0989387801

ISBN-13: 978-0989387804

Package Dimensions: 9 x 6 x 0.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 178 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #9,953 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in [Books > Arts &](#)

[Photography > Performing Arts > Theater > Acting & Auditioning](#) #27 in [Books > Humor &](#)

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## Customer Reviews

The Upright Citizens Brigade Comedy Improvisation Manual is a comprehensive guide to the UCB style of long form comedy improvisation. Written by UCB founding members Matt Besser, Ian Roberts, and Matt Walsh, the manual covers everything from the basics of two person scene work (with a heavy emphasis on finding "the game" of the scene), to the complexities of working within an ensemble to perform long form structures, such as "The Harold" and "The Movie". A practical "how to" book, the guide provides exercises throughout to help the reader master each new concept and technique introduced. While the manual is written to be understood by beginners with no previous exposure to improvisational comedy, experienced improvisors will find it to be an excellent resource for honing their skills, clarifying concepts, and generally taking their work to a higher level.

I ordered this from UCB improv for a gift. Unfortunately the book shows signs of wear, including a bent corner on the back cover and several scratches and indentations on the front. The spine seems intact and the pages seem well preserved, though, so I'm not going to return it. It's not a huge deal, and I'm sure the recipient will still love the gift.... I just wish that my significant other would be the first one to break the book in, because it kind of looks like I am gifting someone a used book. Whatever, who cares, here's 5 stars.

Great book on Improv. I have taken classes at UCB and this book does a great job summarizing and teaching you the basis of UCB's Style of GAME. Once you get the Game you can make anything funny by heightening and exploring what the first funny thing is. After reading this book you can clearly see and map out how TV shows are written. Many of the Comedy writers of today are coming out of UCB, Why? Because they clearly teach you Game. Buy this book you won't be disappointed!

This has actually helped me confuse people that annoy me at work very good read

Don't let the clever and cute book layout design (and concept-reinforcing drawings) fool you, every bit of this book is comedic gold. Really boils down tons of comedic acting theory into quickly understood and applied techniques and exercises that'll make just about any willing soul more authentically and more automatically clever under stress. Most essentially, this book will benefit anyone willing to look foolish and give all the spotlight to his/her teammates, which of course, is the golden ingredient that makes performances sizzle. Only wish I had bought this years ago.

Its amazing to me how many games, ideas, and 'rules' of improv are covered in this book. As I take classes from a completely different institution, I can now say that this book is the ultimate companion to any aspiring improviser. The practice game examples are all staples of any theater, and every idea is laid out with ample examples including some from real UCB teams. Even if you aren't attending UCB or plan to learn at another theater, this is your book. Beautiful graphics and full color pages throughout!

I am currently studying this for the following reasons: 1) loosen up my own conversational skills, 2) listen better, 3) better understand creative thinking and how to trigger it, and 4) be funny . . . I'm only

on the first section, but already I understand its power. Someday I hope to find a "Skype-based group" of people interested in practicing improve over the web. My immediate family isn't all that into it.

Taking classes at UCB was one of the best decisions I've ever made. Even if you don't want to be an improv artist or performer, the concepts laid out in this book and classes at UCB will prove to be useful for anything.

Great book for Improv

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