



Skinny Legs and All

By Tom Robbins

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Skinny Legs and All By Tom Robbins

An Arab and a Jew open a restaurant together across the street from the United Nations...

It sounds like the beginning of an ethnic joke, but it's the axis around which spins Tom Robbins's gutsy, fun-loving, and alarmingly provocative new novel, in which a bean can philosophize, a dessert spoon mystifies, a young waitress takes on the New York art world, and a rowdy redneck welder discovers the lost god of Palestine—while the illusions that obscure humanity's view of the true universe fall away, one by one, like Salome's veils.

Skinny Legs and All deals, in Robbins's audacious manner, with today's most sensitive issues: race, politics, marriage, art, religion, money, and lust. It weaves lyrically through what some call the "end days of our planet. Refusing to avert its gaze from the horrors of the apocalypse, it also refuses to let the alleged end of the world spoil its mood. And its mood is defiantly upbeat.

In the gloriously inventive Tom Robbins style, here are characters, phrases, stories, and ideas that dance together on the page, wild and sexy, like Salome herself.

Or was it Jezebel?

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Skinny Legs and All By Tom Robbins Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In a phantasmagorical, politically charged tale you wish would never end, Robbins holds forth--through a variety of ingenious, off-beat mouthpieces--on art (with and without caps), the Middle East, religious fanaticism of many stripes, and the seven veils of self-deception. Salome, skinny legs and all, belly-dances rapturously at Isaac & Ishmael's, a much-molested restaurant located across the street from the U.N., founded by an Arab and a Jew as an example of happy, peaceful and mutually beneficial coexistence. Ellen Cherry Charles, artist and waitress, heir to the most positive legacy of Jezebel, works at the same joint, nursing a broken heart inflicted by Boomer Petway, redneck welder/bemused darling of the New York art scene. Meanwhile, Can o' Beans, Dirty Sock, Spoon, Painted Stick and Conch Shell traverse half the world on a hejira to Jerusalem--where Conch and Painted Stick will resume religious duties in the Third Temple, dedicated (of course) to Astarte. Unless, mind you, Ellen Cherry's boil-encrusted uncle Buddy, a radio evangelist who gets turned on by Tammy Faye Bakker, manages to start WW III first. . . . Robbins's (Jitterbug Perfume) lust for laughs is undiminished; this prescription for sanity couldn't be better. 125,000 first printing; first serial to Esquire; BOMC and QPB selections; author tour.

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From Library Journal

A painter's struggle with her art, a restaurant opened as an experiment in brotherhood, the journey of several inanimate objects to Jerusalem, a preacher's scheme to hasten Armageddon, and a performance of a legendary dance: these are the diverse elements around which Robbins has built this wild, controversial novel. Ellen Cherry Charles, one of the "Daughters of the Daily Special" in Jitterbug Perfume (LJ 1/85), takes center stage. She has married Boomer Petway and moved to New York, hoping to make it as a painter. Instead, she winds up a waitress at the Isaac and Ishmael, a restaurant co-owned by an Arab and a Jew. Robbins's primary concern is Middle Eastern politics, supplemented along the way with observations on art, religion, sex, and money. Few contemporary novelists mix tomfoolery and philosophy so well. This is Robbins at his best. Previewed in Prepub Alert, LJ 1/90.

- Lawrence Rungren, Bedford Free P.L., Mass.

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Review

"Tom Robbins is a vital national treasure."—*The Oregonian*

"Robbins possesses magnet-like power."—*USA Today*

"Funny and tough...Robbins is an American Original."—*Washington Magazine*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Elizabeth Parker:

Inside other case, little folks like to read book Skinny Legs and All. You can choose the best book if you like reading a book. So long as we know about how is important some sort of book Skinny Legs and All. You can add understanding and of course you can around the world by way of a book. Absolutely right, mainly

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Richard Simpson:

As people who live in often the modest era should be change about what going on or info even knowledge to make these keep up with the era that is certainly always change and advance. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice for you personally but the problems coming to you is you don't know which you should start with. This Skinny Legs and All is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and need in this era.

Catherine Stoltenberg:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. Just one activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition info. Even you love Skinny Legs and All, you can enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout men. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

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