

HECKLER!

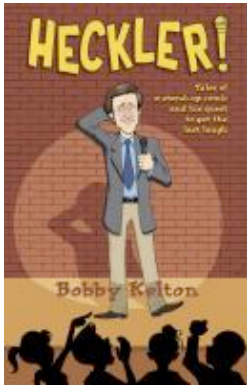


Tales of
a stand-up comic
and his quest
to get the
last laugh



Bobby Kelton





***Heckler!** chronicles the odyssey of comedian Bobby Kelton, who morphed from a shy kid to a comedy star on "The Tonight Show." Bobby shares stories of hecklers and stage-rushers, along with tales from backstage at "The Tonight Show," touring with Tom Jones, befriending Mickey Mantle, and causing havoc with Larry David. **Heckler!** is a funny and poignant look at a comedian's journey and the challenges of making people laugh for a living.*

Heckler!

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*TALES OF A STAND-UP COMIC AND HIS QUEST
TO GET THE LAST LAUGH*

BOBBY KELTON

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ISBN 978-1-62646-718-7

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Published by BookLocker.com, Inc., Bradenton, Florida.

Printed in the United States of America.

BookLocker.com, Inc.
2014

First Edition

Cover Illustration by Chennon Roberts

HOW LARRY DAVID AND I ALMOST GOT ARRESTED

By age 27 I had begun to establish myself on the east coast club circuit and was getting booked as a headliner. My best friend was Larry David, who although brilliantly funny (at least to all his fellow comics), didn't translate as well to audiences. He thus didn't get many paid comedy club jobs outside of the New York City area.

I got myself booked at a Philadelphia comedy room called *Grandma Minnie's*. Because the owner liked and respected me, he honored my request to bring Larry to open for me. During the days we knocked around the city, sightseeing and hanging out. We decided to go to Constitution Hall, the revered shrine where the Declaration of Independence was signed.

Oddly enough, Larry and I were the only tourists there that day. We went down a hallway and came upon a room...THE room...where the actual Declaration was signed. Upon entering we saw that the chamber was cordoned off with a plush velvet rope; on the other side were about 25 rows of ornate 18th century chairs. There was a raised stage with about eight more chairs and a podium. This was the podium at which our founding fathers gave their speeches and signed the Declaration of Independence.

Larry and I looked at each other and marveled how right there, thirty feet away from where we stood, Franklin, Jefferson, Hancock et al spoke and led their brethren to independence. We were in awe. Suddenly, to my surprise, Larry climbed over the

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velvet rope and romped up to the podium. He began to bellow in a British accent.

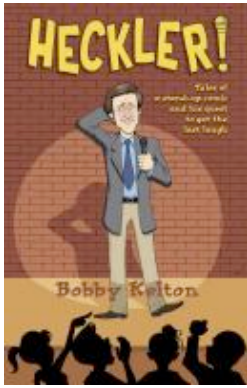
"My fellow compatriots, we will not allow the British to refuse us our liberty, we must sign our document of independence..."

I was laughing uncontrollably at crazy Larry, incredulous and shocked at his nerve. Suddenly a security guard ran into the room and upon seeing Larry started screaming.

"You two get the hell out of here before you are put under arrest!" he yelled.

Larry bolted down from the stage and we ran up a staircase and out a door, laughing like kids, with the security guard in hot pursuit. When we got outside we kept on running. We were lucky we didn't end up in jail.

It was such a good idea to get Larry on the show with me. As they say, no good deed goes unpunished.



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