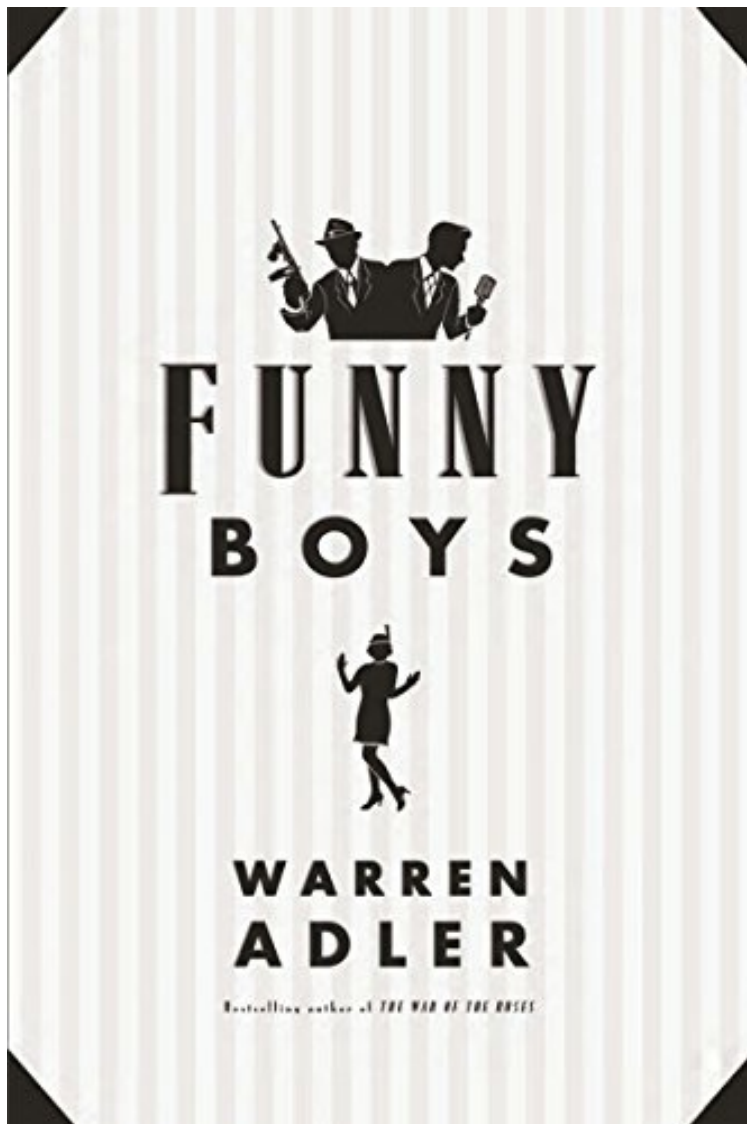


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Funny Boys

Warren Adler

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Warren Adler : Funny Boys before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Funny Boys:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Brosht Belt KitchBy M. S. FentonLight and interesting reading about a time and place that holds some nostalgia for me. Kind of cheesy and shtick filled, but I don't regret reading it. I heard Adler speak at some function and he was interesting so i bought his book. I don't regret doing so.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Funny BoysBy jaybirdEnjoyed the book very much. Love reading about

Characters from *Murder Inc.* and the Catskills. Well done, light reading based on History. 1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. I love the book! By Seymour R. Rabens
The book arrived much sooner than I expected. It was in perfect condition. The price was unbelievably low, and I could not put the book down once I started to read it. I received a wonderful value with great service.

Even when murderous gangsters are shoving his head into a toilet, Mickey Fine can't stop making jokes. He wants a career in comedy so badly that he takes a job as a Tumbler, a comedian and host for a hotel in the Catskills; a hotel where he knows the very gangsters who abused him are staying. An already dangerous situation escalates when Mickey falls for Mutzie, the "number one girl" of Pep who is arguably the most violent thug in the hotel. Betrayals and politics within the mob play out behind the scenes while Mutzie joins Mickey on stage and the pair inevitably find themselves marked for death. But Mickey is naive to the more sinister side of his audience made up of mobsters and other power players of New York's underbelly. But as their circumstances start catching up with them and the body counts start mounting, Mickey and Mutzie start angling for a way out. That, of course, isn't as easy as it sounds. A dark comedy of errors about success, the mob, and finding true love.

From Publishers Weekly
Set mostly in the Borscht Belt, Adler's satiric take on 1930s New York gangsters falls short of the mark set by such other novels of his as *The War of the Roses*. Mickey Fine, an itinerant entertainer known as a tumbler, has landed a gig at a Catskill hotel frequented by some of the leading thugs of the day. He falls for Mutzie Feder, a frustrated young woman from Brooklyn who's ended up as the girlfriend of Pittsburgh Phil Strauss (aka Pep) after a makeover so she looks like Jean Harlow. As Fine's feelings for Mutzie grow, he runs afoul of the jealous Pep and must develop a plan to free her from the life of prostitution the gangster has planned for her. At times Adler overdoes the Brooklynese dialogue (Certain tings make me crazy. Like sweet liddle canaries who can't keep der lips clamped shut), while some readers may find the parodic element makes it hard to engage emotionally with the characters. (Mar.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.
From Booklist
Two naïfs meet at a resort in the Catskills in the 1930s. Mickey is looking for a summer job as a comic-cum-social director, and Mutzie is hoping to escape her humdrum existence to experience a more glamorous life that she sees in the movies. Innocently, she becomes a girlfriend of a big-time hood. The evidence is soon undeniable that Mickey and Mutzie are getting more deeply involved with mobsters, their lives are in danger, and they need to escape. Despite the 1930's gangster movie-like (though raunchier) text, Weiner manages a credible reading. He easily imitates New York mobsters and usually, but not always, avoids exaggeration. Overall, his reading skills deserve better material; the plot is somewhat predictable and the characters stereotypical. Optioned for a film, the story should find an audience. --Karen Harris
About the Author
Warren Adler is best known for *The War of the Roses*, his masterpiece fictionalization of a macabre divorce turned into the Golden Globe and BAFTA nominated dark comedy hit starring Michael Douglas, Kathleen Turner, and Danny DeVito. In addition to the success of the stage adaptation of his iconic novel on the perils of divorce, Adler has optioned and sold film rights to more than a dozen of his novels and short stories to Hollywood and major television networks. *Random Hears* (starring Harrison Ford and Kirsten Scott Thomas), *The Sunset Gang* (starring Jerry Stiller, Uta Hagen, Harold Gould, and Doris Roberts), *Private Lies*, *Funny Boys*, *Madeline's Miracles*, *Trans-Siberian Express*, and his Fiona Fitzgerald mystery series are only a few titles that have forever left Adler's mark on contemporary American authorship from page to stage to screen.