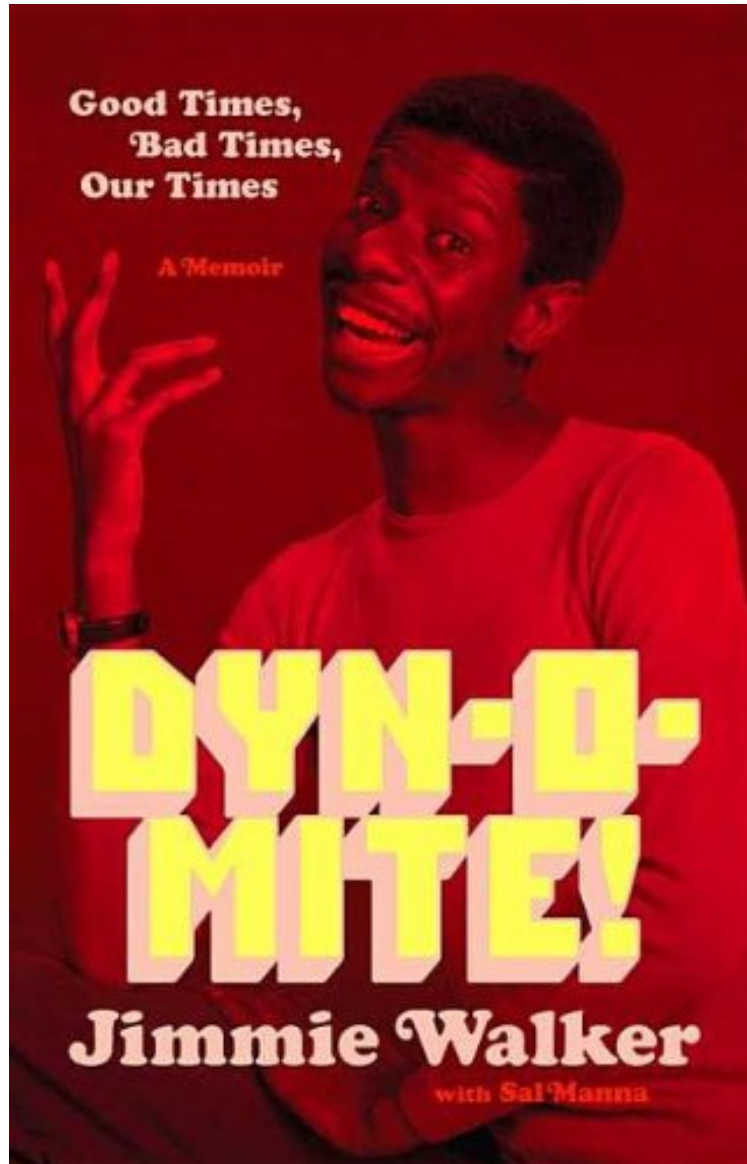


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Dyn-O-Mite!: Good Times, Bad Times, Our Times--A Memoir

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3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great bookBy Paula C MartinJimmie Walker is a great comedian. I loved him on Good Times, when I was little I had J.J's blue hat. This book was written well.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Loved it!By Ms. Brenda J. CammonJ. J. was a character on television and in real life. There were things about J. J. that I had no idea had happened. You will be so shocked to learn things about him. This was such a great book. I enjoyed it very much. Yes, purchase it.3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Dyn-O-

Mite Story! By Kiwes OUTSTANDING! Did I say OUTSTANDING? Let me just say I laughed my a*s off reading this book! Who couldn't remember Jimmie Walker's famous character on the popular 70s sitcom, J.J. Evans on Good Times and his favorite word that put him on the map--DYN-O-MITE! I tuned in every week to hear that word come from the skinny, wild and crazy artist, struggling along with his family in the projects (loosely based on the Cabrini-Green projects in Chicago)! As many of you may or may not know, Jimmie was a stand-up comedian well before he became J.J. on Good Times. What I learned about his life was incredible. From growing up with an abusive father, to having a passive and submissive mother, a sister he wasn't that close to, alcohol induced uncles, etc., Mr. Walker has been through it all and that's no joke. In fact, laughter is what brought him through his pain. There are so many shockers in this book, and never-before-told-stories that Jimmie felt was time to set the record straight and I'll say he went above and beyond. From his long-time friends Dave Letterman and Jay Leno, what you learn about their relationships in the early days of comedy is golden. I was so impressed with Jimmie's story telling and his honesty as only a comedian can deliver. Some may not agree with his political views and may even be surprised as to where he stands on "politically correctness" as he mentions throughout the book. I could not put this put down. There are so many jokes he writes in the book, I couldn't stop laughing. Every so many paragraphs he'd speak to you seriously, and then turn around and slap you with a joke that you'd bust a gut. I so enjoyed reading this and I am positive you will too. I learned a lot about this comedian and I'm happy to see he's still with us and doing his thing as only Jimmie Walker can. Great job! FIVE STAR READ!!!! Get ready for the laughter!

Raised in the South Bronx projects, Jimmie Walker made his way out of the perilous ghetto thanks to an ability to make people laugh. Performing in small clubs alongside friends such as Richard Pryor, Freddie Prinze, David Brenner, and Richard Lewis; opening for Black Panther rallies; and emceeding at the Apollo and for Motown tours, he was a young, brash stand-up comedian for a new generation. By landing the role of J.J. Evans on Good Times, Walker became an icon of the 70s and beyond. The first young black sitcom star dubbed the black Fonzie his catchphrase Dyn-o-mite! remains an often-quoted indicator of the era. As the shows breakout star, he navigated the pressures of a pop culture popularity that rendered J.J. into a talking doll (pull the string!). At the same time, he was the epicenter of a major controversy over black stereotypes. Walker candidly remembers the communication breakdowns on the set that contradicted the shows image of a close-knit, blue-collar family. Meanwhile, he worked at his craft, including hiring then-unknowns David Letterman and Jay Leno to write jokes for him. When the Late Night War erupted, Walker had a uniquely personal perspective that he writes about here for the first time. In Dyn-o-mite! he also reveals, in characteristic bemused if lacerating fashion, the lessons he's learned along the way about self-reliance, freedom of speech (the n-word and more), and belief in the individual subjects he frequently talks about on talk radio and television. Imparting a vivid, insiders look at the edgy scene of the 70s and 80s, perhaps the most groundbreaking and vibrant era in comedy history, Walker paints a portrait of the life and times of a quintessential road comic.

Kirkus s, 4/15/12A fast, funny and informative stand-up routine/memoir from one of the major comic stars of the 1970sA unique perspective on the perils of modern comedy from a survivor with a long memory.