I DON'T KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE COMPLAINING
ABOUT. BUD WARNED
YOU THAT THIS WOULD
BE A COLLECTION OF
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"Leave Us Grass - A Reveiw"

Phillip Miksad

Before I begin this review, I would like to dedicate it to Walt Whitman and Leaves of Grass, without whom the following book would be title-less.

Leave Us Grass, a new book by Bud Grossmann, is hot off the presses. It is also hot on 1) cigarette smokers, 2) male chauvanists, 3) some chapel services, and 4) you name it! In short, the book is delightfully irreverant and terribly humorous. Of course, this depends on whether or not we are still able to laugh at ourselves as well as we laugh at others. The book is a collection of cartoons (several of which you may have seen on the opinion board), poems, multiple guess tests, news flashes (not related to hot flashes), and select comments on every topic which is near and often dear to us, first as pesons and then especially as members of a peculiar campus community.

In this sense, it offers the reader a bit of "pre-nostalgia", and presents to us memories that haven't had a chance to set yet. I can see the reader in 10 to 20 years from now, in his study (or hers) of The 1st Lutheran Church of Broken Donut, Arizona, LC-NS (Lutheran Church-New Synod) picking up Mr. Grossmann's book and saying to his-her child: "Ah yes, those were the good old days, when it didn't hurt to be cynical, as long as you kindly kept the Church out of it." This may be the one shortcoming of the book, in that it caters to a particular

audience, one which is limited in scope. The humor which is in Leave Us Grass is very relevant to us, here at the Senior College, but I feel that it may be a bit too parochial. Still, one cannot help but feel that there is a gleam of genius in this book. Bud Grossmann is able to look at a situation and find humor in it, even if it seems to be hopeless. This is a gift. With this book, he passes the gift on to you and me and all readers.

I suppose it would be proper to cite good points of the book and to try to give a sampling of the goodies to be found in it, but this is a somewhat difficult task: There is so much good stuff here that it would in a sense be unfair to the rest of the material. I especially enjoyed "A Mostly True Adventure at a Blood Bank" for its comment on society's view of non-conformity. Shots are taken, (mostly in self-defense), at everyone from Adlai Stevenson to Paul Harms, but no one suffers from them.

So listen! This is an unsolicited plug for Bud Grossmann's book, and its for your own good. Pick up

a copy! The book Leave Us Grass is a masterpiece, if it is a little parochial, is delightful even if slightly cynical. It is well worth reading even if you are not into reading. The talents of Bud Grossmann are many, and they are gathered for you on paper. take advantage of them, so that one day in the distant future you can say "I knew him when." LEAVE US GRASS by Bud Grossmann (Only two n's) 1974 – 63 pages.

Cartoon from *Leave Us Grass* © 1974 by Bud Grossmann

Review from CSC *Spire* © 1974 by Phillip Miksad