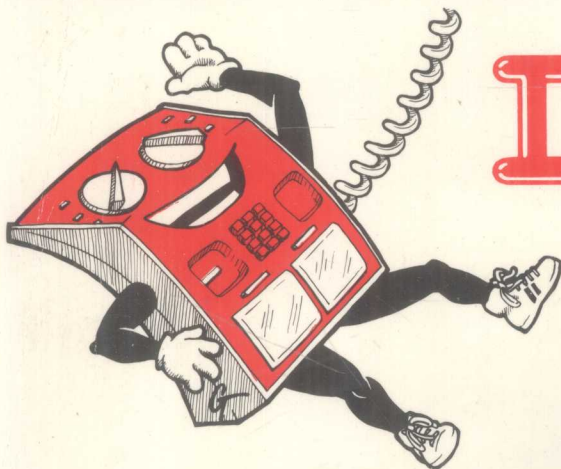




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NO HANG-UPS



II

FUNNY
ANSWERING MACHINE
MESSAGES

by

FF CARLE

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OF **NO HANG-UPS**
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NO HANG-UPS II

CLIFF CARLE

Illustrated by Greg Tenorio

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A special thanks to everyone who sent in a "Richer & Famous" coupon from the first book. Due to space limitations, we were only able to use but a few of the many funny and clever submissions we received.

*Asterisks throughout the book denote contributed messages

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to my second book of funny and clever answering machine messages!

I first want to thank the “multitudes” out there who made the first book a national best-seller—thus giving me the green light for this sequel.

Over the past year, I received “tons” of mail from many concerned answering machine owners (and a few “carefree” machine owners). Along with some very flattering accolades, the letters contained numerous suggestions for NO HANG-UPS II. Of course, I ignored them all. It is merely a *coincidence* that a lot of people asked, “How about some messages for *two* people who share a machine?”—and I just happen to have a chapter for “Roommates & Couples.” Other people asked, “How about some very short messages (under 15 seconds) for machines with a limited outgoing tape?”—and so what if I also have a chapter entitled, “Short & Sour”?

But seriously, folks, your many comments were very helpful in both the writing and ‘chapterization’ of this new batch of messages. Thanks!

INSTRUCTIONS: As in the first book, I have used arbitrary names (“JAN” and “JOE”) and the surname “DOE”. With a few exceptions, most messages will work for either a male or female by simply inserting your own name and/or switching the gender of the pronouns (e.g. “he” to “she”).

On some messages, I've omitted the standard line, "leave your name, your number and a message. . ." because, by now, almost everyone has reached a machine and knows what is expected of them after the beep.

Also, from some of the mail, it appears that certain people are under the impression that to alter in any way the wording of a printed message is *illegal*. Please, by any and all means, edit or personalize or reword these messages till your pencil runs out of lead (which, personally, I've *never* seen happen). You have my word the *Answering Machine Police* won't come knocking on your door with a warrant for "message tampering"!

Whatever you do, be sure of one thing—and this is what NO HANG-UPS II is all about—have fun!

—Cliff Carle

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PHONEY EXCUSES

Hi. JOE here. We had a pretty wild party last night, so I'm sleepin' in. I gotta tell ya, some people are so rude! The neighbor below us was poundin' on his ceiling all night! We hadda keep turning the stereo up to drown him out!

BEEP...

Hi. It's my day off and I decided that today I'm going to do *absolutely nothing*. Leave a message and I'll call back when I'm finished.

BEEP...

Hi. Sorry I can't pick up the phone. I'll be studying all night. I wanna be sure and get an "A" on my urine test tomorrow!

BEEP...

Hi. I'm home, but won't be picking up the phone. It's my lunchtime, so I'm relaxing here and having some Alphabet Soup. But, I should be able to get back to you soon—I'm already up to the "M's".

BEEP...

*

Hello. This is JOE. I can't come to the phone. I'm at the Police Station. There seems to be a mix-up here. I was at the grocery store a couple of hours ago and I saw this sign that said, "Pepsi Free", so I took a six-pack and left. Oh well, leave a name and number. . .

BEEP. . .

(LOW VOICE)

Yo. I think I'm being followed. I know they're on to me, so I'd better speak in code:

Leave your ame-nay and umber-nay at the one-tay!

(WHISPER)

And don't forget to wipe your fingerprints off your receiver!

BEEP. . .

*

(SNOBBY VOICE)

Hello. There is no one available to accept your call at this time. The maid is upstairs dusting, and since the chauffeur quit, the butler is out waxing the Rolls Royce. You just can't find good help these days!

BEEP...

*

Hello. This is JOE's machine. Thanks to a merciless ex-wife, JOE is down on the corner in his shabby clothes with a tin cup. Leave a message at the tone and just as soon as he can beg a quarter, he'll return your call.

BEEP...

Hi. It's my lunchtime, so you'll have to leave a message. You know, I gotta say I'm kinda proud of myself 'cuz lately I've been careful about what I eat. Like, I've really cut down on salt—now I only have it with my meals!

BEEP...

Hi. Leave a message. As usual, I'll be browsing around at the bookstore. Yesterday I almost bought this new dictionary—but I think I'm gonna wait until the movie comes out.

BEEP...

Hi. Please leave a message. I'm outside working on my tan. I tell ya, I really love tanning! I could lay out in the sun day and night!

BEEP...

(EXCITED)

Hi. I'm going over to my new girlfriend's. Yesterday, I gave her a rose and she kissed me. So today, I'm giving her two dozen!

BEEP...

*

BIRTHDAY

Hello. Today is JOE's birthday—which makes him one year older and a little more slower. So, if he can't get to the phone in time, have a heart and leave a message.

BEEP...

Hi. Please leave your number, even if I already have it in my address book. I can't see a thing without my glasses, which I lost and can't look for until I find where I put 'em.

BEEP...

(SNOBBISH UPPER CLASS / OR
"HICK" ATTITUDE)

Good day. We're truly sorry you missed us, but we're off on another European vacation—first class, of course. You know, last month we went to Venice, Italy and just our luck—the trip cost over ten grand and when we got there, the whole place was flooded!

BEEP...

*

Hi. This is JAN. I'm in the bath tub right now with (*YOUR FAVORITE STAR*). But leave a message and I'll get back to you—if the water ever gets cold!

BEEP...

Hi. This is JAN. I had to go to the doctor. I think I'm losing my mind! Everytime I ask someone what time it is, I get a different answer!

BEEP...

Hi. I'm not home. I'm out on a date with this real *sexy* librarian—when she reads, she moves her *hips*.

BEEP...

*

Hi. This is Rover, the DOE family's dog. They're all taking a shower together to conserve energy. You could give your message to me, but since I'm illiterate, you better leave it on this machine.

BEEP...

*

Hi. This is JAN. Please leave a message. I went over to my neighbor's house to give him some ice cubes. He ran out and, unfortunately, he lost the recipe.

BEEP...

Hi. This is JOE. Sorry you missed me this morning, but I ran out of gas as I got home last night—so I had to get up extra early this morning and go to a filling station. Boy, I sure hope it doesn't hurt my car to drive on an empty tank!

BEEP...

*

Hi. I can't take your call right now, 'cuz I'm teaching my pet goldfish how to talk. But leave your name and number and either he or I will get back to you.

(ASIDE)

Okay, say "Guppy wanna cracker!"

BEEP...