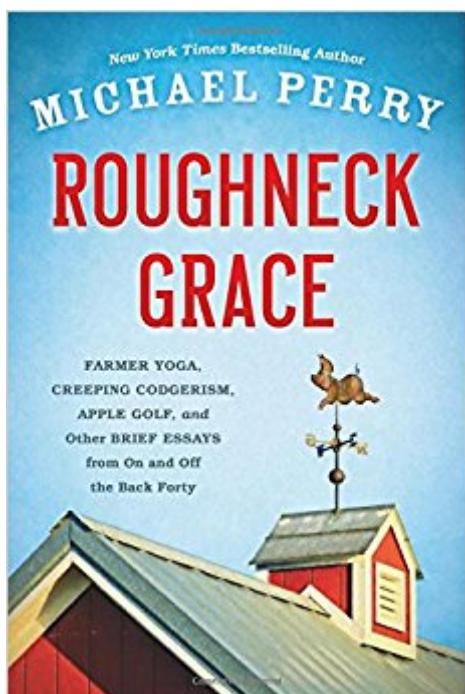


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# **Roughneck Grace: Farmer Yoga, Creeping Codgerism, Apple Golf, And Other Brief Essays From On And Off The Back Forty**



## Synopsis

New York TimesÃ  Â bestselling author, humorist, and newspaper columnist Michael Perry returns with a new collection of bite-sized essays from his SundayÃ  Â Wisconsin State JournalÃ  Â column, Ã¢â ¬Â“Roughneck Grace.Ã¢â ¬Â• PerryÃ¢â ¬â„cs perspectives on everything from cleaning the chicken coop to sharing a New York City elevator with supermodels will have you snorting with laughter on one page, blinking back tears on the next, and--no matter your zip code--nodding in recognition throughout.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Michael Perry is, of course, a treasure. His memoirs, essays, and now fiction ("The Jesus Cow")Ã  Â too, all use his hard-earned perceptiveness and gift for colorful clarity in chronicling modern midwestern life, with its messes and chaos, yes, but its quiet reflections as well.Ã  Â "Roughneck Grace" collects his newspaper columns of the same name - each a little nugget of thoughtfulness, humor, and the occasional stumble into wisdom.Ã  Â Mike mines his own incompetence (which runs "rich, wide, and deep" according to one column), but most often you'll be reminded that you'd be lucky to have such a decent fellow as your neighbor or friend, and that Grace, received or given is what matters most." (John Christensen, Arcadia Books, Spring Green,WI) [PerryÃ¢â ¬â„cs] essays inspire a lot of collective noddingÃ¢â ¬âœ like the first time he saw the Packers on a flat-screenÃ¢â ¬âœ and also many laughs. You can't help but chuckle when he describes a yoga studio that caters to farmers or misses a deer while hunting because heÃ¢â ¬â„cs reading Poets & Writers.Ã¢â ¬Â“Writing is a privilege,Ã¢â ¬Â• Perry says,

and he uses his column “as a mirror to see how I’m measuring up.” Our only grievance: These two-page stories will leave you wanting more. (Kristine Hansen, Milwaukee Magazine, Oct. 19, 2016) “The pieces chosen for his new essay collection, “Roughneck Grace: Farmer Yoga, Creeping Codgerism, Apple Golf and Other Brief Essays from On and Off the Back Forty” (Wisconsin Historical Society Press), serve as a compelling reminder of Perry’s subtle wit, charm and predilection for nature, family and friends. That may sound a bit sappy, but that’s okay. In a world in which 140 characters count as “writing,” Perry’s thoughtful and sensitive prose provides the authentic perspective of a 50-something man with one steel-toed boot planted firmly in nostalgia and the other in an ever-changing present. (Michael Popke, Isthmus, Oct. 6, 2016)

Michael Perry is the author of numerous books including Population: 485 and the New York Times bestseller Visiting Tom. His live humor recordings include Never Stand behind a Sneezing Cow and The Clodhopper Monologues. He lives in rural Wisconsin with his wife and daughters and is privileged to serve as a first responder with the local fire department. He can be found online at [www.sneezingcow.com](http://www.sneezingcow.com).

A Michael Perry read is always a good read...and these essay collections are no exception. Quick-witted, good-natured...the real deal...sprinkle in some heartfelt here and there, and there you go! Mike is in a class of his own...he can take a simple situation and expand on it to make the reader chuckle or ruminate...in addition, first-class verbal skills and prose are not seen very often in this day and age. How about his ideas on what to do with a mole infestation on his acreage? Winter undertakings in Wisconsin? Traffic tickets? Revisiting Tom? Resurrecting Grandpa’s voice? So many...Thanks Mike.

I considered giving 5 stars, but Mr. Perry’s work improves with each collection or new book. Somehow his writing becomes more alive each time because of how naturally he weaves words into sentences and sentences into paragraphs that easily mesh into the hopes, dreams, and fears we all carry inside. Now that I am done with this book I once again feel that I am a bit better for discovering Michael Perry as I am reminded to cherish what I have, whether good or bad because life does not go on forever and to be grateful for successes and even mistakes as we learn from falling down if we get back up again.

I heard Michael Perry do a reading at a book fair in Tucson recently, and he was hilarious and charming and humble. His books are like that too--fairly simple short essays about his family and friends in the small Wisconsin town where he grew up. I thoroughly enjoyed this one and will be reading more of his books.

I bought this book for my son--also a fan of Michael Perry. He liked it.

Michael Perry is one of my favorite authors. Another excellent read and short essays about life in Wisconsin. Enjoyable read!

I am thoroughly enjoying this book. The stories are both entertaining and heartwarming.

Always enjoy Mr. Perry's works. Your a creative and keenly observant fella!

Once again, Michael Perry amazes me with his wisdom. Couched in an "ah-shucks, who me" lingo, he imparts more meaning in his observations than most authors can only dream of. Amazing!

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