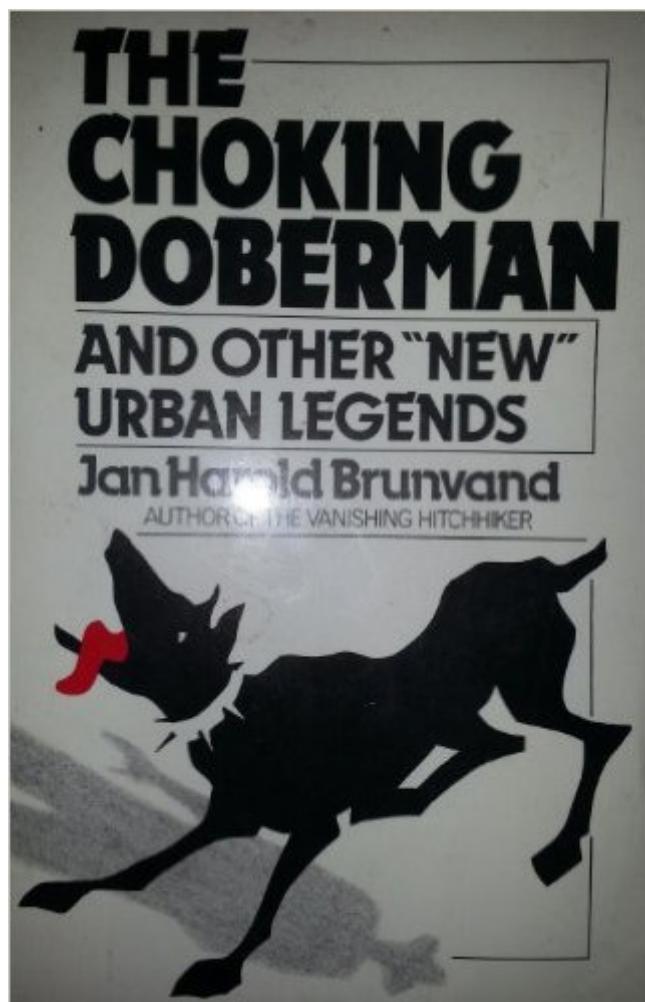


The book was found

# Choking Doberman: And Other New Urban Legends



## Synopsis

"A wonderfully entertaining book of American folklore and humor."•Elaine Kendall, Los Angeles Times Book Review Professor Jan Harold Brunvand expands his examination of the phenomenon of urban legends, those improbable, believable stories that always happen to a "friend of a friend."--This text refers to the Paperback edition.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: W W Norton & Co Inc; 1st edition (June 1984)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 039301844X

ISBN-13: 978-0393018448

Product Dimensions: 1 x 1 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,558,713 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 inÂ Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Urban Legends #1516 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > Mythology & Folk Tales > Mythology #7136 inÂ Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Folklore & Mythology

## Customer Reviews

The Choking Doberman (1984) is folklorist Jan Harold Brunvand's follow-up to The Vanishing Hitchhiker. Unlike that previous work, however, The Choking Doberman is less didactic and more just plain fun, with newer stories, a wider variety of legends, and less academic analysis. Highly recommended for general audiences.

The Choking Doberman, the second in a series of books examining urban legend and folklore, is a rare find not only for its attention to the friend-of-a-friend stories that we've all heard, but also for its perhaps unintended window into the evolution of modern legends. Written in 1986, the myths and legends regarding computers and other modern inventions reviewed in the book, as well as the means by which such stories were disseminated, reflect the growing influence of information technology -- old legends about "cable lice" proliferating in phone or power cables have given way to doomsday viruses and other computer-age legends. I also was amused to discover so many legends being integrated into movies and television, such as the "baby on the car roof" (Raising

Arizona), the woman who punishes her philandering husband with superglue (Reservoir Dogs), etc. Just goes to show that a good story always deserves a retelling.

I bought this book because the title was too strange to pass up. I found it to be thought-provoking and very well written. Although it's not a scary-story book, and the author proved all the legends weren't true, I didn't get any sleep the night after I read it! If you like spooky books, I highly recommend "The Choking Doberman."

When the author claims that no girl was ever date raped from a spiked drink EVER, I the average modern reader may agree that old folklorists are probably as naive as storytelling teenagers. It is certainly annoying that people will believe even the most obvious yarns, and most of the stories here are obviously just legend. But a scholar should perhaps not categorically deny that no such stories could have any sort of true origin. We don't know if there was once a killer in someone's back seat, or in their medieval wagon of hay. Probably there wasn't but we don't know. I came to this book looking for a specific tale that my friends claim happened to a friend and found it.\* Very satisfying. But after reading this and the previous book I am perhaps no longer the world's biggest skeptic after all.\* elevator scene, Norwegian girl goes abroad for the first time to NYC, enters an elevator with what will later prove to be Eddie Murphy and two big friends or bodyguards with sunglasses. No dog in this version. "Hit the floor" in reference to floor buttons, at which point she ducks.

I read this book first for a college course, and bought a copy when one of my kids came home with a story beginning "My friend has this friend who..." It's great for teaching your kids (8 and up!) not to be gullible, and to appreciate folklore for what it is. A good "feel" for these kinds of stories can help identify slick sales pitches as well as the urban folklore that circulates in school and camp. Also a thoroughly enjoyable read for adults

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Choking Doberman: And Other New Urban Legends The Choking Doberman: And Other Urban Legends Alligators in the Sewer and 222 Other Urban Legends: Absolutely True Stories that Happened to a Friend...of a Friend...of a Friend Baby on the Car Roof and 222 Other Urban Legends: Absolutely True Stories That Happened to a Friend of a Friend of a Friend Phantom Hitchhikers and Other Urban Legends: The Strange Stories Behind Tall Tales The Baby Train: And Other Lusty Urban Legends The Cat in the Dryer: And 222 Other Urban Legends Too Good To Be

True: The Colossal Book of Urban Legends (Revised and with a new chapter) The Mexican Pet: More "New" Urban Legends and Some Old Favorites The Urban Sketching Handbook: People and Motion: Tips and Techniques for Drawing on Location (Urban Sketching Handbooks) The Urban Sketching Handbook: Reportage and Documentary Drawing: Tips and Techniques for Drawing on Location (Urban Sketching Handbooks) Becoming an Urban Planner: A Guide to Careers in Planning and Urban Design Urban Forestry: Planning and Managing Urban Greenspaces, Third Edition The Urban Sketching Handbook: Understanding Perspective: Easy Techniques for Mastering Perspective Drawing on Location (Urban Sketching Handbooks) The Urban Politics Reader (Routledge Urban Reader Series) The Urban Design Reader (Routledge Urban Reader Series) The Urban Sociology Reader (Routledge Urban Reader Series) Urban Sketching For Beginners: A Beginner's Guide to Urban Sketching, Including Sustainable Urban Development Reader (Routledge Urban Reader Series) Integrating Geology in Urban Planning (Atlas of Urban Geology)

[Dmca](#)