
BOOK
of the
MONK



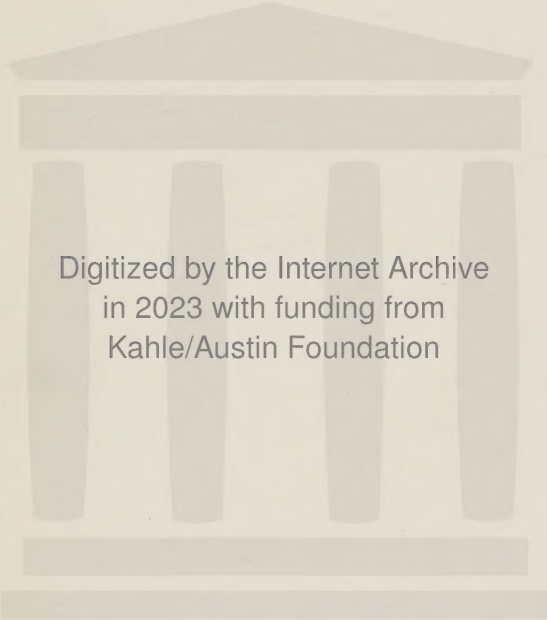
HUGH BURNETT

“HUGH BURNETT’s dreadful monks are as risible as ever. A monk receiving the Chalice from another at Mass says ‘Cheers!’; a monk rests on his cot with travel pen-nants all round him on the wall: *Rome, Florence, Pisa, Padua*; a monk saying to another: ‘For Christmas my hair shirt’s stuffed with holly’; a cook-monk in the monastery bakehouse putting a pie in the oven, saying to another: ‘Three days in a hot oven and it’ll rise again’; a sinning monk being told from the confessional box: ‘You’re about to be at the receiving end of a remarkable new penance’; an irate monk saying to a monk-waiter at table: ‘What do you mean, fish is off?’

No doubt about it, *Book of the Monk* will be the year’s most irreverent Christmas Card-Book. I suppose one day it’ll be a case of Burnett at the stake: meanwhile, let’s thoroughly enjoy his enormous talent for ribald fun.”

— **Whitefriar**

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BOOK OF THE MONK

ALSO BY HUGH BURNETT:

Top Sacred

Sacred and Confidential

Nothing Sacred

Beware of the Abbot

Adam and Eve

BOOK of the MONK

HUGH BURNETT



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'It's the new miracle cake-mix—!'



'Terribly sorry, no—This is a mosque—!'



'Cheers—!'



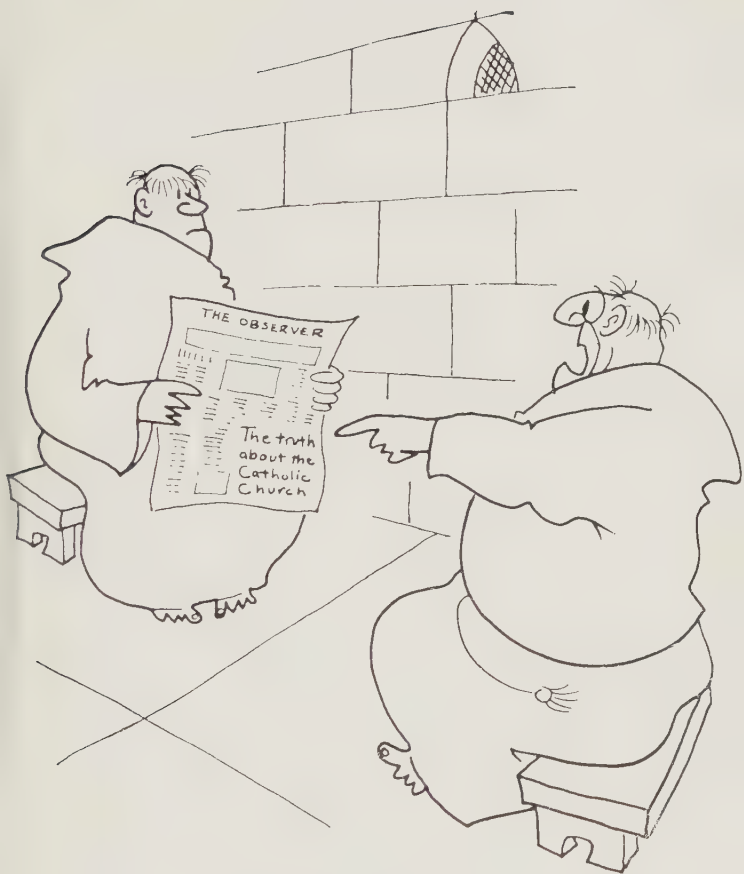
'Buzz off—I'm considering the lilies of the field.—!'



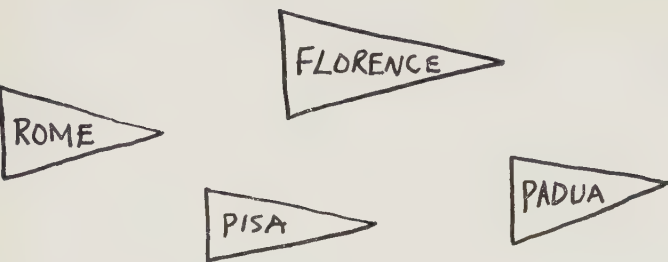
'It has to be admitted—Truth never was one of his strong points—!'



'I caught one this big—!'



'My God, they've found out!'



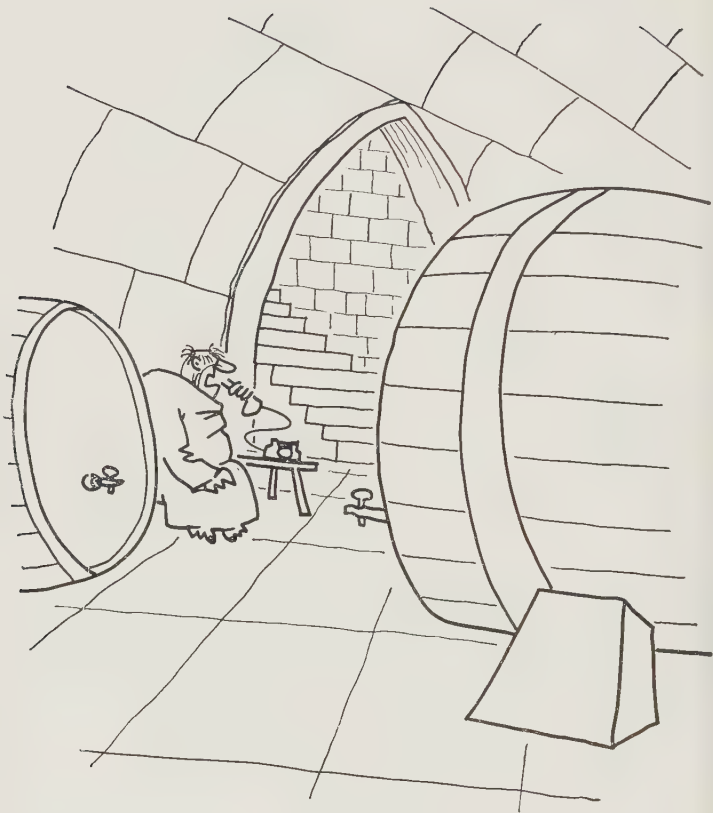


'I suddenly realised monastic life was separating me from God—!'



'Well, that's as maybe, but I'm a fisher of fish—!'





'Is that Alcoholics Anonymous—?'



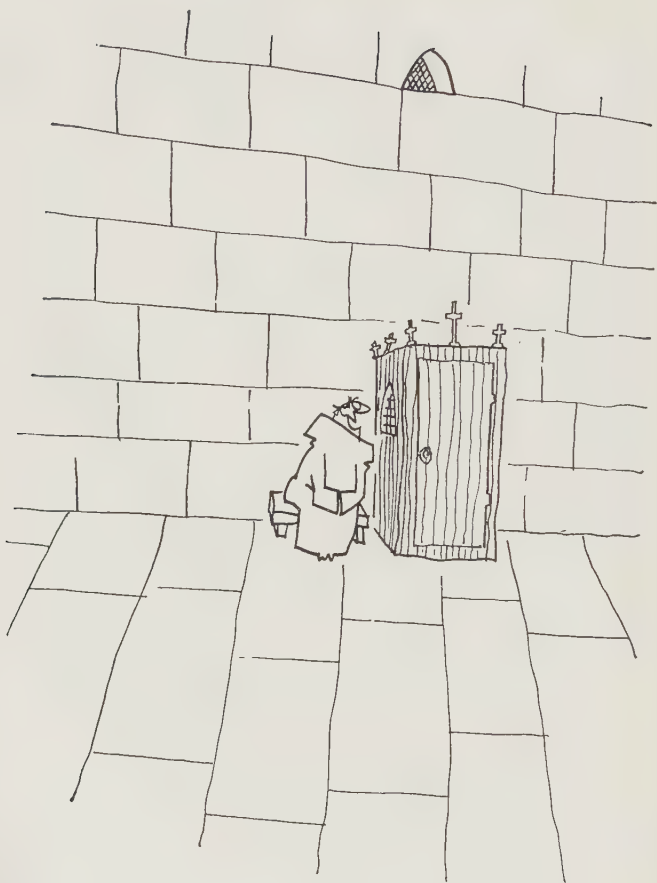
'Where is that bit about mouth-to-mouth resuscitation—?'



'For Christmas my hair shirt's stuffed with holly—!'



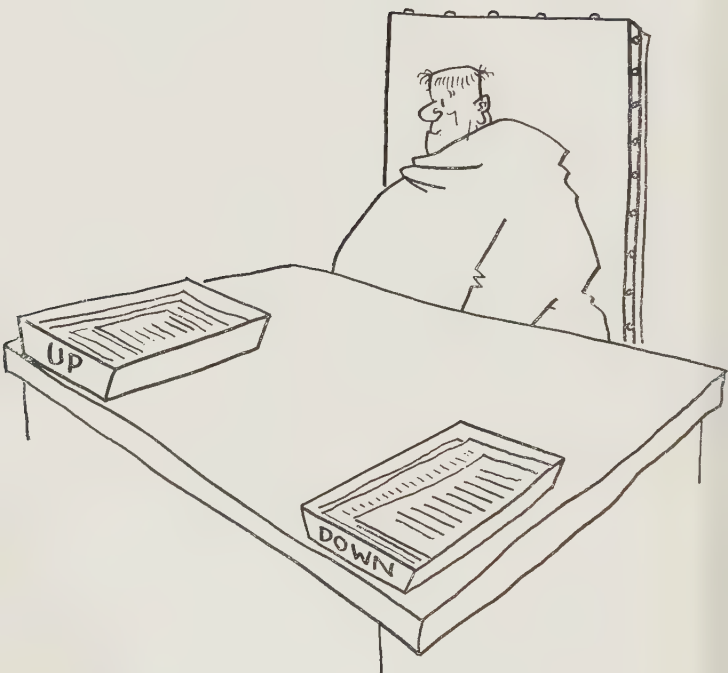
'Three days in a hot oven and it'll rise again—!'



'Promise you won't tell—!'



'It's part of the new spring collections—!'





'Well, there's one road that doesn't lead to Rome—!'



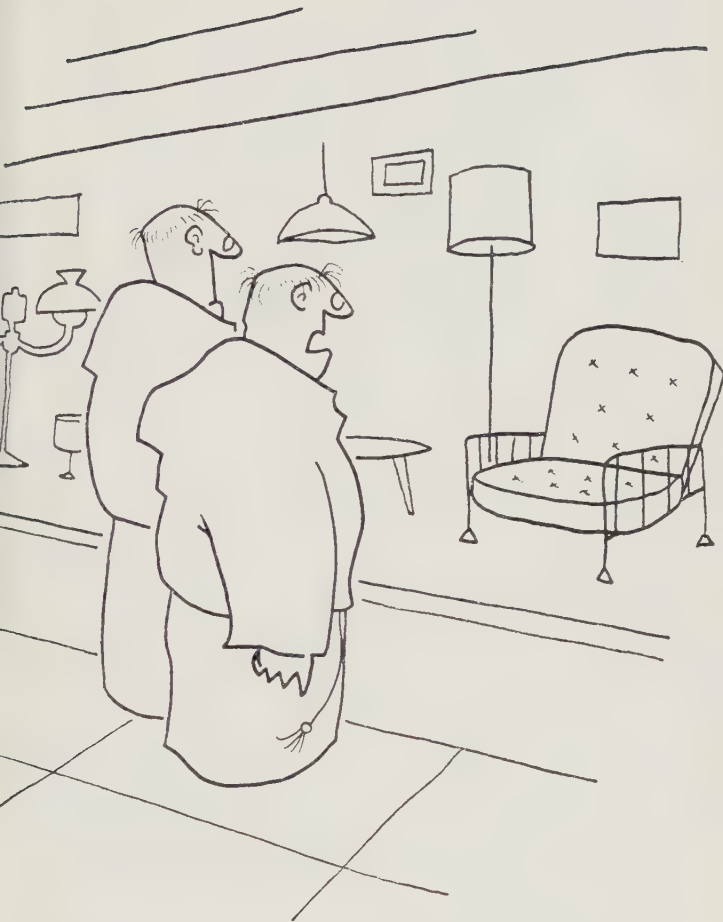
'You think your decision to drop in for a chat was an act of free will, don't you?'



'Mother—!'



'You must remember God sent you indigestion for a reason—!'



'Well, we're one up not having to endow with worldly goods—!'



'Could we cut out the vivid details and get down to the actual sins—?'



'You're about to be at the receiving end of a very remarkable new penance—!'



'Yes, well—bully for Solomon.'



'That's very interesting—I also prefer meditating on sin—!'

REPENT





'My theory is that there was a second Judas on a grassy knoll—!'



'Let's face it—one does envy them their fancy dress—!'



'If I can get really addicted, it will be something new to give up—!'



'I see a fantastic future—tape-recorded plain chant, computerised masses, while we all get a good night's sleep—!'



'Wafer or cornet?'



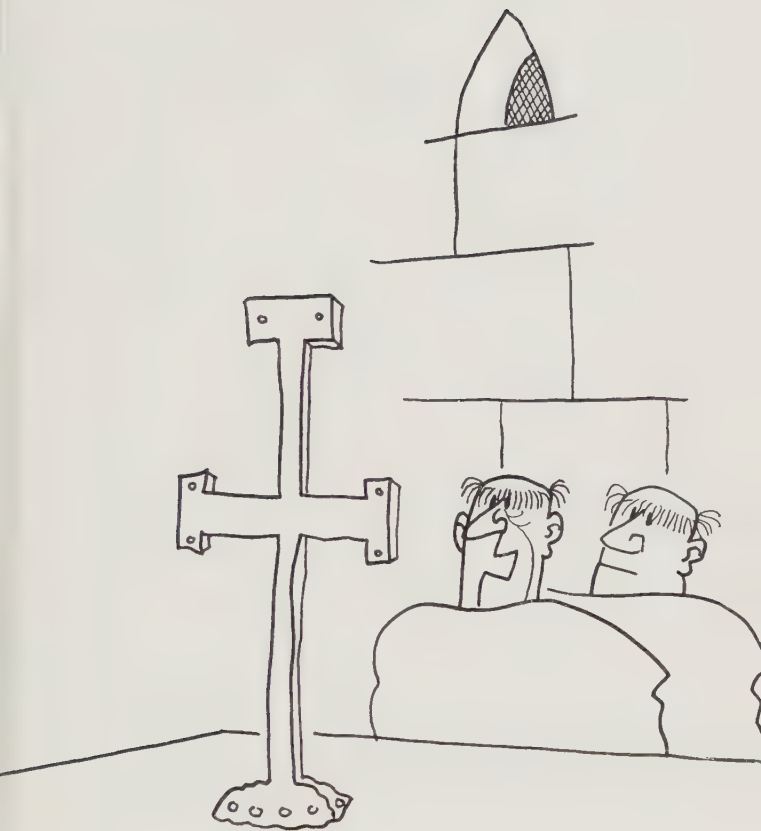
'Designing intestines must have been pretty bizarre —!'



'What do you mean "fish is off"—?'



'I wonder if one could conjure up a psychedelic experience with incense—!'



'It's pretty—but plastic hasn't that intangible charm of good old English oak—!'



'What I'd like to confess most of all would be throwing her unresisting body down on to the couch—!'



'I know it's illogical, but prayer hasn't the slightest effect on mosquitoes—!'

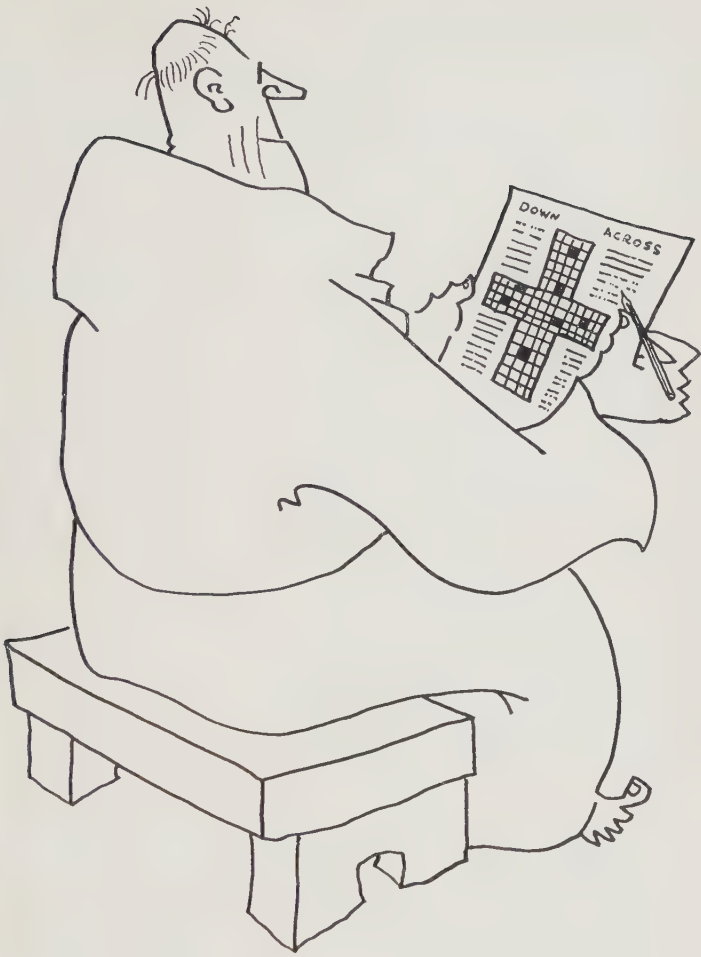


'No—there's nobody here—!'



'He isn't prostrating himself, he's just tired!'







HUGH BURNETT has recently been filming in South Africa, where he has made the TV documentary 'South Africa through White Eyes'. Before that he was producing documentaries on Heaven and Hell. This is his sixth book of cartoons.



“Hugh Burnett’s monks, like every-
he does, including his brilliant televi-
documentaries, are very much his
One might almost say (though he
never forgive me for saying it) that he
monk – if a highly idiosyncratic one.
monks are funny, outrageous and o-
touching – just like their gifted, mix-
and most lovable creator.”

Malcolm Mugger

