

Five Reassuring Facts About: Being Fired

Who Knew?

The average American will hold nine jobs by the time she's 32, and Annabelle Gurwitch figures a good number of them will end in pink slips. In her new book, *Fired!: Tales of the Canned, Cancelled, Downsized, & Dismissed*, the comedian and former host of TBS's popular *Dinner and a Movie* serves up stats and anecdotes that will console the recently sacked, and—bonus!—offer a nice bit of Schadenfreude to the gainfully employed. A few highlights:

1. Rude Awakening When director Morgan Spurlock (*Super Size Me*) fell asleep on the movie set where he was an intern, the producer asked him to leave. "I'm not paying you to sleep," he said. Spurlock's reply: "You're not paying me at all."

2. 'Tis Worse to Give Than to Receive Employers have a 100 percent increased risk of heart attack in the week after firing an employee.

3. And I'll Be Replacing You with Hitler While comedian Tim Allen was working at a disco, his manager told him, "I'm going to let you go. You're talented, you've got creative ideas, and people like you. I hate popular people."

4. Only 20? Twenty percent of Americans would like to fire their boss.

5. One Way to Shake Up The Apprentice Years ago Woody Allen fired Gurwitch from a play with the words, "You look retarded."

—RACHEL BERTSCHE *A-LIST* > 56

Otherwise employed: *Fired!* editor Annabelle Gurwitch.

